

President of Council
MICHAEL KLINE
Vice President of Council
TANYA TAYLOR DRAPER
Council Clerk
NICHOLAS AIELLO

Council
JULIE A. BELICH
JOE JARMUSZKIEWICZ
DANIEL KNECHT
VICKI MILLER
KATHLEEN SIVO

City of Willoughby Hills

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order on March 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. **Council President Kline** presided.

Call to Order 7:00 p.m. (0:03)

Cell Phone Reminder to Turn off Devices

***Pledge of Allegiance* (Audio: 0:13)**

ROLL CALL (Audio: 0:35)

Members: Councilwoman Vicki Miller, Councilwoman Sivo, Council Vice President Tanya Taylor Draper, and Councilwoman Belich, Councilman Joe Jarmuszkiewicz, Council President Michael Kline, and Councilman Dan Knecht

In Attendance: City Engineer Pete DiFranco and Finance Director Bruce Scott

Absent: Mayor Hallum and Law Director Michael Lucas

DISPOSITION OF THE JOURNAL (Audio: 1:15)

- **Motion** made by **Councilman Knecht** seconded by **Councilwoman Miller** to approve the **March 10, 2025** Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation Minutes.

Discussion on the Motion:

No discussion.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS: None

Motion passed to approve the **March 10, 2025** Working Committee of Council and Rules & Legislation Minutes.

- **Motion made by Councilwoman Miller, seconded by Council Vice President Taylor Draper to approve the March 13, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council Minutes.**

Discussion on the Motion:

No discussion.

**Roll Call: AYES: Miller, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Sivo**

Vote: 6/0/1

- **Motion passed to approve the March 13, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council Minutes.**

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE (Audio 2:40)

Email dated 3/10/2025 from Lloyd, Katherine WH PCABR Meeting 3/20/25
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from O'Donnell, Laura March 7 Senior Board Meeting Transcription
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from Scott, Bruce 2024 LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST REPORTING
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from Naegele, Matthew Surplus Ordinance
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from Fink, Sandra Request form Wickliffe
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from Mehollin, Karen Mail 03/12/2025
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from Marybeth Betsa RE: Request form Wickliffe
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from Danielson, Samantha A. Re: Request form Wickliffe
 Email dated 3/12/2025 from Michael C. Lucas Additional Legislation
 Email dated 3/13/2025 from Mehollin, Karen Ordinance formatting for bulletproof vest legislation
 Email dated 3/13/2025 from Michney, Sharen 3/13/25 MAIL HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED!!!
 Email dated 3/13/2025 from Michael Patchett Re: Left a voicemail - Agenda and Meeting Management
 Email dated 3/13/2025 from Sivo, Kathleen Tonight's Meeting
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Grubiss, Mark RE: new truck
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Mehollin, Karen Re: Emerald Glen
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Mehollin, Karen Re: Resolution No. 2025-006
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Mehollin, Karen State Fire Marshall Equipment Grant Agreement
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Grubiss, Mark RE: Surplus
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Taylor Draper, Tanya Re: Special Meeting
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Michney, Sharen RE: Bid Sheet - Sample from last year
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Hallum, Chris Mayor's Report 3-13-2025
 Email dated 3/14/2025 from Grubiss, Mark Re: Limestone and Asphalt legislation
 Email dated 3/17/2025 from Grubiss, Mark RE: Ordinance for the Unfit
 Email dated 3/17/2025 from Taylor Draper, Tanya Re: Special Meeting
 Email dated 3/17/2025 from Pietro DiFranco Draft Plans - CDBG Chardon-West Sidewalks
 Email dated 3/17/2025 from Michael C. Lucas RE: Ordinances for Wednesday's Meeting
 Email dated 3/17/2025 from Grubiss, Mark Upfit from Ascendance for the 2026 Mack truck
 Email dated 3/17/2025 from Gloria Majeski Ordinance 2025-15 and 2025-16 missing exhibits
 Email dated 3/18/2025 from Kline, Mike Re: Agenda 3-19-25
 Email dated 3/18/2025 from John Bertosa Re: Civil Service Meeting News Herald Notification
 Email dated 3/18/2025 from Lloyd, Katherine WH PCABR Meeting 3/20/25 Thursday
 Email dated 3/18/2025 from Lloyd, Katherine RE: Draft of Agenda for 3/21/25 CSC Meeting
 Email dated 3/18/2025 from O'Donnell, Laura Re: Senior Board Minutes

Email dated 3/18/2025 from Katherine D. Lloyd Re: Civil Service Meeting Friday March 21, 2025
Email dated 3/19/2025 from Hallum, Chris Asphalt & Limestone Bid Acceptance
Email dated 3/19/2025 from Lloyd, Katherine WH BZA Meeting 4/8/25 - TUESDAY
Email dated 3/19/2025 from Naegele, Matthew RE: Weapons Ordinance
Email dated 3/19/2025 from Grubiss, Mark MEMO
Email dated 3/19/2025 from Michael Tobin Re: Minutes from September 13
Email dated 3/19/2025 from Katherine D. Lloyd Re: WH PCABR Meeting 3/20/25
Email dated 3/20/2025 from Michney, Sharen FW: Updated Proposal - Fire Station Sprinklers
PROJECT# 202500
Email dated 3/20/2025 from Michney, Sharen RE: Updated Proposal - Fire Station Sprinkler
Email dated 3/20/2025 from Naegele, Matthew RE: PT Raises
Email dated 3/20/2025 from Rentz, Stacey TRUCKS
Email dated 3/20/2025 from Naegele, Matthew RE: Police Legislation
Email dated 3/20/2025 from Pietro DiFranco Willoughby Hills City Engineer Report 250320
Email dated 3/20/2025 from Naegele, Matthew RE: Estimated Value of the Surplus Vehicle
Email dated 3/21/2025 from Lucas, Mike FW: 3 Surplus Ordinances
Email dated 3/21/2025 from Michael C. Lucas RE: Legislation
Email dated 3/21/2025 from Naegele, Matthew RE: Part-time Non-Union Raise Ordinance
Email dated 3/21/2025 from Pietro DiFranco RE: Legislation, Agenda, and Minutes
Email dated 3/24/2025 from Thomas Lobe Smith Cemetery on Chardon Rd. behind Local Tavern----
Email dated 3/24/2025 from MONEY FOR RESORATION???
Email dated 3/24/2025 from Michael C. Lucas Re: PO Approval - Council President
Email dated 3/24/2025 from Belich, Julie Re: Legislation, Agenda, and Minutes
Email dated 3/24/2025 from Thomas Lobe Re: CT Ordinances
Email dated 3/24/2025 from Kline, Mike Motion for Thursday.

PUBLIC PORTION #1 (Audio: 3:00)

An opportunity for the public to address Council concerning anything pertaining to tonight's agenda.

Public Portion #1 opened at 7:03 p.m.

- **Ken Hart 7383 South Raccoon, Kirtland Ohio:** I got a ticket in the mail yesterday and the date for the expiration was March 26, 2025. I got it yesterday and it was due yesterday. We called because I like to pay my tickets in advance. They said I couldn't pay it because it is not in the system. When my wife was speaking to them, I realized we were on a plane going to Florida at the time, so we were not even in the car. We decided to contest the ticket, but he said that we cannot do so because this ticket is not in the system. He said I will be receiving another ticket because there was a bad batch of tickets that went out. This was also confirmed by the Police Chief and the Finance Director. He said when I get another ticket, I cannot contest this because it is past 30 days. How could I contest the ticket? He also said there is going to be a late fee on it. I got this ticket yesterday; how could I get a late fee? I don't know what to do because I cannot pay it or contest it and I am going to get charged a late fee on the next one. It seems there is a lot of negligence in this ticket and on the processing involved with this ticket. I am not sure what to do. I do not know what to do with this ticket. I don't understand how I am going to get a late fee when

this was given to me yesterday. I should have 30 days at least. I just think this whole process is negligent. I shouldn't even have to pay it.

Public Portion #1 closed at 7:06 p.m.

- **Council President Kline:** I know there is a phone number on the ticket. I know the standard response from the Police Department on these photo enforcement tickets is to call the number on the ticket because the company that handles this whole system is the one responsible for it. The other suggestion I have is to ask the Police Chief to get further involved in this.
- **Ken Hart:** I don't understand why I have to pay this ticket... *Inaudible*
- **Council President Kline:** From what you described, you shouldn't have to. When the program got started, it was off to a slow start. It has been operating smoothly since. If there has been a bad batch of tickets somewhere in their system, then this company, Genoptic, needs to resolve it for you. If you have been contacting them and it has been getting you nowhere, I would suggest you go back to the Police Chief and ask him to get involved in it. He is the contact the City has with the company.
- **Ken Hart:** *Inaudible*
- **Council President Kline:** Under the circumstances, with Genoptic not doing anything, I would say you should go back to him.
- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** Would the Law Director be involved with this?
- **Council President Kline:** I would say no. I personally have gotten calls from residents who have gotten tickets and have had problems with the timing of the ticket going through the system. The Police Chief said that this had to go through Genoptic and they were eventually able to resolve it. In a case like this, the Police Chief is the main contact and should be able to push on Genoptic.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** This is the first time I have really heard about any real problems with Genoptic. I would suggest you try again. Send an email with your information and I will also try to speak to people on your behalf.
- **Finance Director Scott:** As Mr. Hart mentioned, Chief Naegele and I did speak to him. There was a bad batch of tickets and Genoptic is reissuing all the tickets with a revised due date. There should be no late fee. That was either bad information or mishearing. You should have 30 days to pay the revised tickets. If you do want to contest, I would recommend sending in the paperwork for the contesting and we can get a hold of our prosecutor Mike Kenny to help make sure that the contested ticket does go through.
- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** What is meant by a "bad batch of tickets?"
- **Finance Director Scott:** There are a number of tickets that the due date and the issue date did not align correctly. Typically, when the ticket is issued, there are 30 days from the issuance of the ticket to pay the ticket. For whatever reason, there was a group of tickets where it was an

abbreviated date.

- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** So, not that residents were sent tickets erroneously, rather, the dates did not match with each other.
- **-Finance Director Scott:** That is correct.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- No report.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- No report.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Audio: 11:10)

- **Finance Director Scott:** I do not have much to report, but I am open for questions.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT (Audio: 11:23)

- **City Engineer DiFranco:** We accepted bids for three projects today including the street, sewer, and pavement markings. The bids came in well and very competitive. For the streets and pavement markings, the low bid was slightly under our estimate. For the sewer project, it was slightly over our estimate but still within the range for accepting. We are going through the bids now and qualifying them. We will have our recommendation for your next Council Meeting. I had a conversation with Don Akins today. He is a resident on Dodd's Hill. He wanted me to relay his appreciation that you are discussing the cell tower regulations and he looks forward to future discussions. I am open for questions.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** Are we still on track for April 1st for the Chardon Road bridge and the road closing?
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** I do not know, the project is run by ODOT.
- **Councilwoman Miller:** Okay, I just didn't know whether they made any confirmations of that in the City.
- **City Engineer DiFranco:** They rarely communicate with me.
- **Council President Kline:** Council will be having a representative from a cell tower in our next Working Committee. He was supposed to be here a couple of Mondays ago, but he came down ill. He is going to give us an update of what the current state of the industry is and safety standards regarding the construction of towers so we can incorporate that into the work we are doing for a new cell tower.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS REPORTS / COMMITTEE REPORTS (Audio: 13:50)

PC-ABR reported by Council Vice President Taylor Draper

- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** The group met last Thursday, March 20. During the Architectural Board of Review portion of the meeting, the Zoning Administrator approved an in-ground pool at 2450 Pine Valley Drive. We did not have a quorum with our meeting group. The Zoning Administrator approved the in-ground pool. During the planning portion of the meeting, we entered into a discussion with a Willoughby Hills resident who wants to bring a golf simulator to the City. He calls it back 9. There are similar projects around the City. I have never heard of it, but it is a golfing simulator. He is looking to put it possibly at the shops or perhaps down by 91 and Chardon to see what area would best suit it. I am very excited for him. He is looking at other cities too, but since he is a Willoughby Hills resident, he wanted to bring this to our City. This was just a working session where we ask questions back and forth about the project so I am looking forward to hearing more about that. I stand for questions.

Beautification Committee reported by Council Vice President Taylor Draper

No report.

Recreation Commission reported by Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I spoke to Laura and she said the Spring Craft show this weekend was a good success. She was thankful for all the residents and volunteers. A new grill has been ordered for Campbell Park and should be installed before the season begins. Fences are up at the baseball fields at Roemisch and the pickleball courts and tennis courts back by Campbell Park. We will be having a pickleball meeting shortly in the next few weeks to establish getting the courts fixed up and repaired.

Finance Committee Report by Council President Kline

No report.

WHISPER reported by Councilwoman Miller

- **Councilwoman Miller:** I would like to report on the Willoughby Hills Senior's Inc. There was talk presented at the last luncheon about whether the City wants to keep Senior's Inc. as a separate entity in the 501C3 and whether this will stay intact and allow the City to help run it. Currently as it is, we have had many wonderful people who are retired still active and able to do a lot with our Senior Center in the past with Willoughby Hills Seniors Inc. The case is not the same anymore. More and more seniors are having to work longer and longer in their years and not retiring at 65. Retirement age has gone up as far as being able to draw full Social Security. There are other pension issues as well. The number of people who are able to dedicate the time and effort to put into this is minimal and the ones that are working on it don't have the drive to want to go in and do the work necessary. With our Recreation Coordinator leaving, we don't know what it is going to look like with a new Recreation Coordinator coming in and what their ability to work with the seniors is going to be. You are going to see a couple things come through the mail if you are on the membership list. What we would like to stress as far as getting County funding, is that if you are over age 60 please join the Senior Center. If we have an uptick in membership showing that we are driven and able to do more work, maybe we can get more money from the County. We did receive some

this year but not all that we wanted. In the mail, you will see a ballot of what will be voted on in the next luncheon. There will also be another piece of literature sent from a private individual. Not everything on this is fully accurate. We want to stress, as this made it seem like the City is going to walk away from our senior citizens, that is not the case. Not this Council and not this administration. We will not be walking away from our senior citizens. If you have any questions, please reach out to anybody on Senior Inc. You can also contact me, but you are going to see the information come out in several different forms. We will not let our seniors down regardless of the vote from the seniors next month.

Deer Management Committee reported by Councilwoman Belich

No report.

Business Subcommittee – reported by Councilwoman Sivo

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (Audio: 20:13)

- No unfinished business.

LEGISLATION: (Audio: 20:20)

ORDINANCE 2025-009-SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 3-TRAFFIC CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, CHAPTER 339 CAPTIONED “COMMERCIAL AND HEAVY VEHICLES,” SPECIFICALLY, SECTION 339.02 TITLED “USE OF LOCAL STREETS; LOCAL PERMIT AND CONDITIONS,” AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Motion** made by **Councilwoman Miller**, seconded by **Council Vice President Taylor Draper** to adopt Ordinance 2025-009.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** I am personally not in favor of this ordinance being changed right now until we do more investigation into it. I do not feel comfortable with the residents on that street. When this Ordinance was adopted in 1989, it was done because of the safety of the citizens and today it is probably even more crowded. I appreciate the statements from the Police Chief and the Road Superintendent but to just outright open it up is not safe. There hasn't been a traffic study since before Weger's term which had to have been at least 10 years ago. Since then, there has been a lot more construction, houses, and businesses ultimately making more traffic. I think we need to look into this more before we just arbitrarily lift it.
- **Council Vice President:** I agree. There have been too many residents coming with issues and concerns. I personally respect the Chief and Road Superintendent's viewpoint; however, I also believe the residents who live on this street are afraid and they see this as adding to a problem that is already a problem. I personally will not be voting for this. I hope that we can look into further ways to deal with the problem. One of the residents suggested that better signage is needed, and perhaps if we attach a fine, that would make trucks not come down the

roads. There are just too many issues for me and I respect the residents who are very nervous and don't want this. I will not be voting for this.

- **Councilwoman Miller:** I made a motion on this ordinance to bring this to discussion. I am not in favor of passing this ordinance tonight. I understand that it is hard to enforce and there are going to be people that are going to break the rules. However, I think that the rules are in place for the safety of our residents down in that area. One of the questions I got was "isn't it a state route? Isn't Bishop Road State Route 84?" The point where we are talking about the traffic with this new bridge is not the State Route anymore. State Route 84 comes across Ridge Road onto Bishop, and it takes a right-hand turn onto Route 6 and continues down to Euclid Avenue onto Route 20. This is not a State Route; it is one of our City streets. I am not in favor with the speed limit there and the houses close to the road. I do not feel it is in the best interest to allow any of these larger commercial vehicles up and down. Can we possibly put some signage there and attach fines to it? Not everyone is going to get caught, that is just the way it is. We have a lot of people breaking laws on a lot of our streets. That is just the way it is. This would be a way to make people realize there will be penalties if they do get caught.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** The original ordinance in November of 1989 says that the concern for this change was that it "compromises the safety of the traveling public and the residents of the City..." "It can significantly increase the deterioration of the road surface." There is a lot of factors as to what this ordinance was originally about. We can see where they were heading and the mindset that Council had at the time. At this point, this transcends forward and we can see how it continues to play into specifically what it is that our residents are concerned over. I agree that there is no reason to remove this. I did call the Police Chief and ask him about his concerns because his concerns are valid. How can we enforce this? He spoke to the scale issue because we cannot weigh trucks. We do not have a weigh station anymore in Willoughby Hills, so how do we do it? We also do not have an officer that is dedicated to that. Perhaps we can keep track of the number of axels that are on the vehicle that is moving through. My hope is that we will be able to work with the Police Department and help them with their dilemma.
- **Council President Kline:** On the ordinance that was created, the feeling of the Council back in 1989, was, "This Council deems it to be in the best interest of the public health, safety, and general welfare to prohibit the operation of commercial tractors, trailers, and semi-trailers on Bishop Road."

Roll Call: **AYES: None**

NAYS: Sivo, Knecht, Miller, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht

Vote: 7/0

- Ordinance 2025-009 has **not** been adopted.

ORDINANCE 2025-012-SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART NINE – STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE, TITLE THREE – UTILITIES, CHAPTER 925 – SEWERAGE SYSTEM REGULATIONS, SECTION 925.06 – FEES, SUB-SECTION (C) OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OHIO AND REPEALING ANY AND ALL CONFLICTING LEGISLATION.

- Ordinance 2025-012 remains on Second Reading.

ORDINANCE 2025-018-FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE ONE (1) CITY VEHICLE AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO SELL SAID SURPLUS VEHICLE ON THE OPEN MARKET UPON SUCH TERMS AND AT SUCH PRICES AS ARE DEEMED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Motion** made by **Council Vice President Taylor Draper** seconded by **Councilwoman Belich** to wave the Three Reading Rule on ordinance 2025-018.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** This is a 2011 Lincoln that was seized by the Police Department. The judge awarded this vehicle to our Police Department and they have no use for it. They have no use for it so they want to get it on the market and get some value for it.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:

Vote: 7/0

The Three Reading Rule has been waved on Ordinance 2025-018.

- **Motion** made by **Council Vice President Taylor Draper** seconded by **Councilwoman Belich** to adopt Ordinance 2025-018.

Discussion on the Motion:

- No discussion.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:

Vote: 7/0

- Ordinance 2025-018 has been adopted.

ORDINANCE 2025-019-FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE FIREARMS AND WEAPONS AS SURPLUS PROPERTY PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VI – LEGISLATION, SECTION 6.01 – GENERAL ORDINANCES, SUBSECTION (E) OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Motion made by Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** seconded by **Councilwoman Miller** to wave the Three Reading Rule on ordinance 2025-019.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** These are surplus firearms from our old weapons from the police that we trade in to get a better deal on when we buy the newer weapons for our officers.

**Roll Call: AYES: Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0**

The Three Reading Rule has been waved on Ordinance 2025-019.

- **Motion made by Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz** seconded by **Councilwoman Miller** to adopt Ordinance 2025-019.

Discussion on the Motion:

- No discussion.

**Roll Call: AYES: Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0**

- Ordinance 2025-019 has been adopted.

ORDINANCE 2025-020-FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE CITY SERVICE EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO SELL SAID SURPLUS ON THE OPEN MARKET UPON SUCH TERMS AND AT SUCH PRICES AS ARE DEEMED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Motion made by Councilman Knecht** seconded by **Councilwoman Sivo** to wave the Three Reading Rule on Ordinance 2025-020.

Discussion on the Motion:

- No discussion.

**Roll Call: AYES: Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0**

The Three Reading Rule has been waved on Ordinance 2025-020.

- **Motion** made by **Councilman Knecht** seconded by **Councilwoman Sivo** to adopt Ordinance 2025-020.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Councilman Jarmuszkiewicz:** The backhoe that we were trying to surplus is a 2010 backhoe. This is replaced with our new 420 cat, so it is no longer needed. It wasn't in very good shape to begin with.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0

- Ordinance 2025-020 has been adopted.

ORDINANCE 2025-021-FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE TO DECLARE (2) TWO CITY VEHICLES AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO SELL SAID SURPLUS VEHICLES ON THE OPEN MARKET UPON SUCH TERMS AND AT SUCH PRICES AS ARE DEEMED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Motion** made by **Councilwoman Miller** seconded by **Councilwoman Belich** to wave the Three Reading Rule on Ordinance 2025-021.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Councilwoman Miller:** This is just to be able dispose of the 2009 Chevy Silverado half-ton pickup truck and the Chevy Silverado 2008 pickup truck which is no longer needed by our city.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0

The Three Reading Rule has been waved on Ordinance 2025-021.

- **Motion** made by **Councilwoman Miller** seconded by **Councilwoman Belich** to adopt Ordinance 2025-021.

Discussion on the Motion:

- No discussion.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0

- Ordinance 2025-021 has been adopted.

ORDINANCE 2025-022-FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION AS OF JANUARY 1, 2025 FOR CERTAIN PART-TIME NON-UNION CITY EMPLOYEES NOT COVERED BY ANY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR SPECIFIC INCREMENT PAY INCREASES THEREAFTER, AND EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1, 2025, TO THESE EMPLOYEES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- **Motion** made by **Council Vice President Taylor Draper** seconded by **Councilwoman Belich** to wave the Three Reading Rule on Ordinance 2025-022.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** If I understand correctly, we are trying to maintain our paramedics and make sure that we keep them versus losing them to other cities who offered them more dollars. I am in favor of keeping folks who are familiar with our City and who are familiar with our residents that could offer their expertise to our residents and our City.
- **Councilwoman Belich:** This isn't just for retention but also to gain residents. By doing this, this is also a recruitment effort as we try to compete with other communities for good candidates.
- **Fire Chief Gandee:** Mr. President and members of Council, I want to thank you for your continued support for the Fire Department. Our membership, both part-time and career workers, are very hard workers and they do their very best to make the Fire Department shine and make all of you proud. This is definitely an element that has been a big challenge for our organization because, unfortunately, we are experiencing more of a wage war with a lot of other fire departments. I never thought in my career that we would be having a hard time finding candidates to fill firefighting EMT and paramedic roles. Thankfully we're not having as difficult of a time as some other public safety agencies, but we are very fortunate. We are hiring smart kids, and they want to make sure they have the best compensation. This does not put us at the highest, but we are no longer in the lower end. Thank you very much for your support. This definitely does help with retention. Unfortunately, we have lost some members in the midst of this change. The department is constantly changing and evolving year to year, but this allows us to attract other members. We had two members go to a neighboring department and hopefully this will allow us to bring them back and continue to support protecting the City.

**Roll Call: AYES: Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0**

The Three Reading Rule has been waved on Ordinance 2025-022.

- **Motion** made by **Council Vice President Taylor Draper** seconded by **Councilwoman Belich** to adopt Ordinance 2025-022.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Councilwoman Miller:** I want to thank our City safety forces for our paramedics and those that respond. They do so quickly, and they are always pleasant. I have had the opportunity to be there when they have come to aid somebody, and they have always been pleasant and very professional. We need to continue to attract and retain these young men and women who come in here and need to meet their bills.

Roll Call: AYES: Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0

- Ordinance 2025-022 has been adopted.

NEW BUSINESS (Audio 42:58)

- **Motion made by Council Vice President Taylor Draper** seconded by **Councilwoman Miller** authorizing bidding of the CDBG Chardon-West Sidewalk project.

Discussion on the Motion:

- **Council Vice President Taylor Draper:** I am looking forward to this project. It will not only enhance the area where all the new things are going but it will also make it a little safer for those in wheelchairs to not have to worry about dodging traffic.

Roll Call: AYES: Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0

- Motion has passed.

PUBLIC PORTION #2 (Audio: 44:25)

An opportunity for the public to address Council with any comments, issues or concerns.

Public Portion #2 opened at 7:44 p.m.

No one spoke.

Public Portion #2 closed at 7:45 p.m.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER/FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY (Audio: 44:25)

- **Councilwoman Miller:** Regarding the safety on Bishop Road, please watch your speeds and watch for kids that are now playing outside and people walking their dogs. The speeds have been way too high. There's been just too many close calls and too much of a rush. Even tonight, I had somebody going left to the center on a double yellow to get around another car coming towards me and I had to slow down. So please, we don't want anything tragic happening in our roads.
- **Council President Kline:** The closing of the Route 6 bridge may or may not occur on April 1. At the same time, the Pleasant Valley Bridge is also going to be shut down. There is no

repair work that is going to be done on that bridge, but with the Route 6 bridge closing, the City doesn't want the extra traffic that would cross on a daily basis. Both of these have been down for about 6 months.

- We have completed the transition over the City's waste contract. I have seen some questions on gotten some calls regarding Republic's billing they sent out for the next quarter. If you are sitting there with this bill, don't pay it. Republic is removing it from their system. If you did pay it, they will be refunding you your money. The transition is complete and over and I think everybody will see that the new service will work out for everyone's benefit.

ADJOURNMENT (Audio: 47:16)

Motion made by **Councilwoman Belich**, seconded by **Councilwoman Miller** to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: **AYES:** Miller, Sivo, Taylor Draper, Belich, Jarmuszkiewicz, Kline, Knecht
NAYS:
Vote: 7/0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

APPROVED: APRIL 10, 2025
Date


Michael Kline
President of Council

ATTEST: Mik Aiello
Nicholas Aiello
Clerk of Council