

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 6/10/2025

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. Council members present at Roll call: Sheri Theis, President Pro Tempore, At Large Members Katie Logan-Hedges, and Tom Klitzka, Second Ward John Moats, Third Ward Audrey Lukasak, Fourth Ward Tom Duvall, and Clerks, Melissa Burns and Sarah Kolesar. Absent Members: President Barry Keller, First Ward Jeff Hallinin. Invited guests present: Mayor Michelle Blanton.

Theis called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and invocation was given by all.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned to dispense with items 4-9 on the agenda. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried.

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING:

a) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE SO AS TO INCREASE THE CITY INCOME TAX RATE FROM THE CURRENT RATE OF TWO PERCENT (2.00%) TO A RATE OF TWO AND A HALF PERCENT (2.50%) TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 WITH ONE TENTH OF ONE PERCENT (0.1%) OF THE INCREASE TO BE ALLOCATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, RESURFACING, AND REPAIR OF THE STREETS, ROADS AND BRIDGES NECESSARY IN THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND FOUR TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.4%) TO BE ALLOCATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING FIRE APPARATUS, MECHANICAL RESUSCITATORS, UNDERWATER RESCUE AND RECOVERY EQUIPMENT, OR OTHER FIRE EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES, BUILDINGS AND SITES THEREFOR, OR SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY AND MATERIALS THEREFOR, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LINES OF FIRE-ALARM COMMUNICATIONS, FOR THE PAYMENT OF FIREFIGHTING COMPANIES OR PERMANENT, PART-TIME, OR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTING, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OR COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL TO OPERATE THE SAME, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF ANY EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED FOR SUCH PERSONNEL UNDER SECTION 145.48 OR 742.34 OF THE REVISED CODE, FOR THE PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT, FOR THE PROVISION OF AMBULANCE, PARAMEDIC, OR OTHER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OPERATED BY A FIRE DEPARTMENT OR FIREFIGHTING COMPANY, OR FOR THE PAYMENT OF OTHER RELATED COSTS TO DIRECT THE PICKAWAY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT THIS ORDINANCE TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hedges stated this Ordinance originated from the Finance Committee meeting on May 27, 2025, from the Mayor's Office with recommendation for this Levy to be on the ballot this fall, in response to losing Levy funding this year. Hedges noted that Duvall's follow-up questions regarding ambulance runs were addressed. Mayor Blanton proposed allocating 0.4% to Fire/EMS to fund equipment, apparatus, personnel, stations, and training, and 0.1% to street improvements, including resurfacing, reconstruction, pothole repairs, curb and gutter maintenance. Mayor Blanton reiterated that she submitted a proposal to increase the City of Circleville's Municipal Income Tax rate from 2.0% to 2.5%, to sustain essential City services. Blanton emphasized a substantial increase in emergency call volumes and on-going infrastructure needs, stating that from 2019 to 2024 there has been a 57% increase in emergency call volume. Blanton highlighted that the expired 2019 Tax Levy had enabled the hiring of five police officers, two communication officers, and three firefighters. However, this funding will expire in March 2026. Mayor Blanton stated there is 75-80 miles of roadway in the City, with repaving a quarter-mile costing approximately \$110,000 and rebuilding a road from base to surface costing about \$1.5 million.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Lukasak motioned to hold for Third Reading. Moats seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried.

b) A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE FOURTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2025 AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE CITY INCOME TAX RATE FROM THE CURRENT RATE OF TWO PERCENT (2.00%) TO A RATE OF TWO AND A HALF PERCENT (2.50%) TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 BY ALLOCATING ONE TENTH OF ONE PERCENT (0.1%) OF THE INCREASE FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, RESURFACING, AND REPAIR OF THE STREETS, ROADS AND BRIDGES NECESSARY IN THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND ALLOCATING FOUR TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.4%) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING FIRE APPARATUS, MECHANICAL RESUSCITATORS, UNDERWATER RESCUE AND RECOVERY EQUIPMENT, OR OTHER FIRE EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES, BUILDINGS AND SITES THEREFOR, OR SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY AND MATERIALS THEREFOR, FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LINES OF FIRE-ALARM COMMUNICATIONS, FOR THE PAYMENT OF FIREFIGHTING COMPANIES OR PERMANENT, PART-TIME, OR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTING, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OR COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL TO OPERATE THE SAME, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF ANY EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED FOR SUCH PERSONNEL UNDER SECTION 145.48 OR 742.34 OF THE REVISED CODE, FOR THE PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT, FOR THE PROVISION OF AMBULANCE, PARAMEDIC, OR OTHER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OPERATED BY A FIRE DEPARTMENT OR FIREFIGHTING COMPANY, OR FOR THE PAYMENT OF OTHER RELATED COSTS TO DIRECT THE PICKAWAY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT THIS TAX ORDINANCE TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hedges explains this is a companion Resolution that goes with the above Ordinance. If the above Ordinance is passed, then it directs Council to submit a Resolution to the Board of Elections for placement on the ballot.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE

Hedges motioned to hold for Third Reading. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Duvall motioned to excuse Jeff Hallinin from the City Council meeting. Lukasak seconded. (6 Yeas-0 Nay). Motion carried.

Klitzka motioned to adjourn the City Council meeting. Moats seconded. Council adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Sarah Kolesar, Clerk.