CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 10/21/2025

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Council members present at Roll call: President Barry Keller, At Large Members Katie Logan-Hedges, Sheri Theis, and Tom Klitzka, First Ward Jeff Hallinin, Second Ward John Moats, Third Ward Audrey Lukasak, and Clerk Melissa Burns. Absent member: Fourth Ward Tom Duvall. Invited guests present: Mayor Michelle Blanton, and Auditor Mark Bidwell.

President Keller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and invocation was given by all.

Hedges motioned to approve City Council minutes from October 7, 2025. Theis seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Hallinin stated he has one ordinance on the Agenda he will speak to.

Hedges stated she had a Finance Committee meeting on October 7, 2025, and has two pieces of legislation on tonight's Agenda. Hedges also announced she will have a Finance Committee meeting on November 12, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the Levy passage or failure.

Theis stated she will speak to an Ordinance on the Agenda that was forwarded from the Service Committee meeting that was held on October 7, 2025. Theis also announced she is having a Strategic Planning meeting on November 4, 2025, at 6:15 p.m.

Klitzka invited the public to a Town Hall meeting at the Circleville Public Library on October 23rd from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. to discuss the potential development of a marijuana dispensary in Circleville.

Keller thanked all the volunteers and City employees for all their work helping make the Pumpkin Show possible.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Blanton stated Pumpkin Show was successful and thanked all the City employees for their work. Trick or Treat for the DBA is next Tuesday from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and City-wide will be on Thursday October 30, 2025, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Mayor Blanton also stated that on Friday October 31,2025, they will be showing the movie Hocus Pocus at Ted Lewis Park.

QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS TO ADMINISTRATION:

Lukasak asked the Mayor and President Keller how the City can assure the proposed Levy will be paid out for the designated projects. Mayor Blanton explained funds received from a Levy come into the City through designated funds and straight to the Auditor. Blanton explains all expenses that are paid from the designated fund(s) are specifically used as designated by the levy. Blanton states that it is illegal to spend levy funds on other projects departments and all the City's expenses are available for audit. The Auditor added that if the levy passes, two new funds would be set up for the Safety and Service department.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

a) A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FINDINGS OF THE FEASIBILITY STUDY PERFORMED BY AMERICAN STRUCTUREPOINT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A GRADE SEPARATION OVER THE EXISTING NORFOLK AND SOUTHERN RAIL LINES AND KNOWN AS: PIC CIRCLEVILLE RRGS PID 115981 FEASIBILITY STUDY.
Discussion: Keller stated this Resolution will accept the findings of the Feasibility Study and designate South Court Street as the location for the grade separation.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:
Hallinin motioned to suspend Council rules. Moats seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). Rules are Suspended.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:
Hedges motioned for adoption of the Resolution. Theis seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and assigned #10.73.2025.

b) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF ANY CITY DEPARTMENT AND/OR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR ANY AND ALL GRANT FUNDS; PROVIDED THAT THE ACCEPTANCE OF ANY GRANT FUNDS, INCLUDING MATCHING FUNDS, MUST BE SPECIFICALLY APPROVED BY COUNCIL.
Discussion: Hedges explained that this Ordinance allows any Director of the City of Circleville to apply for grant funds without prior Council approval. She noted that grant application windows are often brief, and this change would enable the City to submit timely applications, potentially securing more funding opportunities. Hedges emphasized that any acceptance of grant funds or commitments requiring a City match would still require Council approval.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:
Moats motioned to suspend the rules. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). Rules are Suspended.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:
Hedges motioned for passage of the Ordinance. Moats seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Ordinance is passed and assigned #10.74.2025.

c) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT .4% INCOME TAX FUND 206 SAFETY FORCES .5% TAX FUND 212 STREET OPENING TRUST FUND 249 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 306 OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE
Discussion: Hedges announced that this marks the eighth housekeeping Ordinance of 2025, totaling approximately $800,000. The bulk of the Ordinance, around $500,000, involves transferring funds between accounts to align with street pavement projects previously budgeted earlier this year. Hedges also noted an additional $150,000 allocation to address expenses tied to the expiration of the SAFER grant.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:
Hedges motioned to suspend the rules. Theis seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). Rules are Suspended.
MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:
Klitzka motioned for passage of the Ordinance. Lukasak seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Ordinance is passed and assigned #10.75.2025.

d) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ENTER INTO A RENEWAL CONTRACT WITH AXON ENTERPRISE, INC., A SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER AND STATE BID CONTRACTOR, TO PURCHASE TEN (10) IN-CAR POLICE CRUISER VIDEO RECORDING SYSTEMS, TWENTY-SEVEN (27) BODY WORN CAMERAS, TWENTY-SIX (26) TASER 10 ENERGY WEAPONS, ONE (1), DRONE, TWO (2) OUTPOST CAMERAS, ONE (1) IINTERVIEW ROOM SYSTEM, ONE (1) FUSUS CORE ELITE AND ALL REQUIRED LICENSES FOR CIRCLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN ALL AFOREMENTIONED EQUIPMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hallinin explained that this Ordinance addresses the equipment needs of the Police Department. He explained that the department successfully negotiated a contract to meet their equipment requirements at nearly the same cost over a 10-year period, compared to the previous 5-year term. Hedges emphasized that this agreement enables the Police Department to upgrade essential equipment, including tasers, while potentially saving the City up to $500,000 over the term of the contract. Moats clarified that the contract encompasses all equipment upgrades throughout the 10-year duration.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:

Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Lukasak seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:

Moats motioned for passage of the Ordinance. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Ordinance is passed and assigned #10.76.2025.

e) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS THROUGH THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (OEPA) RECYCLE OHIO GRANT PROGRAM.

Discussion: Theis stated that this Resolution authorizes the Service Department to apply for a grant to install water refill stations in all the City's parks.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:

Theis motioned to suspend the rules. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). Rules are Suspended.

MOTION-ROLL CALL -VOTE:

Theis motioned for adoption of the Resolution. Hedges seconded. Roll call. (6 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and assigned #10.77.2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

Klitzka motioned to Excuse Tom Duvall from tonight's Council meeting. Theis seconded. Motion carried.

Hallinin motioned to adjourn the City Council meeting. Moats seconded. Council adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk.