

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 4/7/2026

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 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 Jake Davison, Fourth Ward Tom Duvall, Clerks Melissa Burns and Sarah Kolesar. 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.

Theis motioned to approve the City Council minutes from March 17, 2026. Moats seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

John Moats announced the Safety Department will be touring the Fire Department on May 19, 2026, at 5:30. The Safety Committee will meet immediately following the tour at City Hall at 6:45 p.m.

Klitzka reported that he held a Judicial Committee meeting earlier this evening and heard a presentation from a dispensary interested in opening in Circleville. He noted that another presentation is scheduled for April 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Duvall stated that a Service Committee meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2026, at 7:15 p.m., or immediately following the Council meeting.

Theis announced a Strategic Planning meeting on April 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. to review development projects and other strategic initiatives throughout the City.

Keller reported that the Committee of the Whole met earlier this evening to review the monitor project and proposed updates to Council rules.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Blanton highlighted that the City newsletter includes information on upcoming street closures and projects, and encouraged residents to subscribe. She also noted that Hometown Heroes banners are being redesigned, with sponsorship opportunities available for \$125. Application are being accepted through April 30, 2026. Mayor Blanton announced a groundbreaking for a new Town Suites Hotel to be built near the old RCA site. She also reported that a new RaceTrac gas station will be constructed across from Arby's. Additionally, Movies in the Park will begin in June, and a community bike safety rodeo is scheduled for May 3, 2026, at Ted Lewis Park.

QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS TO ADMINISTRATION:

Klitzka asked the Mayor for an update on the new Shell Gas Station. The Mayor confirmed the station will be located on North Court Street and is in the final stages of approval with the City. Theis inquired whether the laundromat would continue to operate. The Mayor stated she was unsure at this time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Josh Ford, President of the Ted Lewis Museum, provided an update on museum activities. He announced a Victory Dance at Logan Elm High School on May 3, 2026, and a film screening in the park on June 6, 2026, as part of America 250.

Isabella Watkins, representing Pickaway County Public Health, discussed the organization's upcoming event, "Dreaming in Detail," designed to connect with local students. She requested \$12,000 to support speakers and student memorabilia. Keller directed Ms. Watkins to work directly with Finance Chair Hedges regarding the funding request.

Andy Bull, Health Commissioner for Pickaway County Public Health, offered sunscreen stations for the City and asked if the City would like to receive the donation again this year. Keller referred the matter to the Mayor's office for coordination.

COMMUNICATIONS:

City Council received four pieces of correspondence:

- Two letters from the Mayor thanking Amanda Jividen for accepting her appointment to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) for a three-year term beginning March 20, 2026, and ending March 19, 2029, and thanking Kathryn Yates for accepting her appointment to the Circleville Records Commission.
- A letter from the Ohio Department of Commerce regarding a liquor permit application from Philly Petroleum LLC. Council has until April 19, 2026, to file a response if desired.
- An invitation to Circleville Sunrise Rotary's Law Day on May 5, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hedges motioned to place the correspondence on file. Duvall seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas-0 Nays).

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

a) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CIRCLEVILLE PUMPKIN SHOW, INC. TO OPERATE THE ANNUAL "CIRCLEVILLE PUMPKIN SHOW" ON VARIOUS STREETS AND SIDEWALKS OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO.

Discussion: Duvall noted the event is scheduled for October 21–24, 2026, with a preview night on October 20. The City is requiring the Pumpkin Show Inc. to secure a \$5 million bond. Restricted access will begin at 4:00 p.m. on October 17, 2026, and continue through Sunday, October 25, 2026.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Duvall seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas-0 Nays). Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Theis motioned to adopt this Resolution. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and is assigned #04.16.2026.

b) A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE/ UTILITIES AND ITS ASSIGNS TEMPORARY ACCESS EASEMENTS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING, REPAIRING OR REPLACING WATER OR SANITARY SEWER SERVICES TO THE PRIMARY DWELLING OF RESIDENTS WITHIN A PROJECT LOCATION WHEN SUCH HAS BEEN DEEMED APPROPRIATE AND IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL LAW AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Duvall explained that the Resolution allows the City temporary access to private property to replace lines in accordance with EPA standards, with costs covered by the City. Residents may still deny access but would then be responsible for the replacement costs.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Theis motioned to suspend the rules. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nays). Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Theis motioned to adopt this Resolution. Duvall seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and is assigned #04.17.2026.

c) AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AND IMPLEMENT THE LABOR WAGE REOPENER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OHIO PATROLMEN'S BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION AND THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hedges stated the agreement for this Ordinance is effective January 1, 2026, and includes a \$1 per hour increase plus 3%.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Klitzka motioned to suspend the rules. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas-0 Nays). Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hallinin motioned to adopt this Resolution. Moats seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and is assigned #04.18.2026

d) AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE AND IMPLEMENT THE LABOR WAGE REOPENER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS-LOCAL #1232 (IAFF) AND THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hedges stated the agreement for this Ordinance also includes a \$1 per hour increase and is effective January 1, 2026.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hallinin motioned to suspend the rules. Moats seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas-0 Nays). Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hedges motioned to adopt this Resolution. Klitzka seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and is assigned #04.19.2.026

e) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 INCOME TAX FUND 202 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT .4% INCOME TAX FUND 206 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND 306 OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE.

Discussion: Hedges explained this is the second housekeeping ordinance of the year, totaling \$156,700. Allocations include \$100,000 for repaving the Police and City Hall parking lots, \$3,700 for the Council scanning project, \$8,000 for carpeting and painting in the Council conference room, and \$40,000 for a donation to the Pickleball courts at Barthelmas Park.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Klitzka motioned to suspend the rules. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas-0 Nays). Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Theis motioned to adopt this Resolution. Moats seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and is assigned #04.20.2026

f) AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE PLAT OF CLIFTON ESTATES, SECTION ONE, FINAL PLAT.

Discussion: Klitzka requested that the Ordinance be returned to the Judicial Committee until the HOA declaration is complete.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Klitzka motioned to send the Ordinance back to the Judicial Committee. Theis seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas-0 Nays).

g) AN ORDINANCE LEVYING ASSESSMENTS FOR CUTTING OF WEEDS AND THE ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES ON CERTAIN CITY LOTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Klitzka noted that this ordinance occurs periodically when the City must cut grass and weeds on specific properties.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Klitzka motioned to suspend the rules. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas-0 Nays). Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Theis motioned to adopt this Resolution. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nays). The Resolution is adopted and is assigned #04.21.2026

New Business:

a) City Arborist - Tyler Mitten:

Tyler Mitten provided updates on Arbor Day 2026, the IRA UCF Grant planting project, accomplishments since 2024, and the City's tree risk assessment protocols. Arbor Day will be held at Barthelmas Park on April 25, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., featuring children's activities, a coffee truck, tree planting demonstration, local vendors, and public information. The City is currently in Phase 4 of the grant-funded planting project, with approximately 135 trees planned for E. Mound Street, High Street, and Watt Street. An additional 15 evergreens will be replaced at Ted Lewis Park. After Phase 4 and Arbor Day, the total number of trees planted will approach 550. Mitten also highlighted the completion of a digital tree inventory to help track and manage the City's urban forest.

b) Executive Session:

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE:

Hedges motioned to enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of public employees or officials pursuant to Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1), including all of Council, the Council President, and Ben Albrecht. Hallinin seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay). Motion carried.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE:

Klitzka Motioned to adjourn executive session. Duvall seconded. Roll call. (7 Yeas- 0 Nay).

Hallinin motioned to adjourn the City Council meeting. Moats seconded. Council adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk.