

CIRCLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 7/7/2026

Circleville City Council convened in Council Chambers Tuesday, July 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, followed by an invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Theis motioned to approve the City Council minutes from June 16, 2026. Duvall seconded. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Hallinin announced an upcoming vacancy on the Tree Commission at the end of the month, as well as an immediate opening on the Parks Board. Applications are available on the City's website.

Moats reported that the Safety Committee held a tour and meeting at the Firehouse prior to the Council meeting. He extended his thanks to Fire Chief, the firefighters, and all who attended.

Hedges noted that the Finance Committee met on June 18, 2026, and that two pieces of legislation from the Committee appear on tonight's agenda.

Theis announced that the Strategic Planning Committee will meet on July 21, 2026, at 6:15 p.m.

Klitzka stated that he has one piece of legislation on tonight's agenda that has been under discussion for the past 18 months. He requested that Council act and vote on the legislation this evening.

Keller announced that a Public Hearing on the Budget Resolution will be held on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 5:45 p.m. He also noted that the Judicial Committee and Historic Review Board will meet that same evening.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Bidwell thanked the Service Department for promptly responding to an emergency water main issue the previous evening.

Mayor Blanton thanked Safety Committee Chair Moats and the Fire Department for hosting the Safety Committee tour. She also announced several upcoming events at Ted Lewis Park this Friday, including:

- Friday in the Park from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Grand opening of the Miram Adkins Pavilion from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Movies in the Park beginning at 8:00 p.m., featuring the film *Out of My Mind*.

Mayor Blanton further announced a resignation from the Park Board and an immediate opening to fill that position.

QUESTIONS OR ANSWERS TO ADMINISTRATION: Hedges asked Bidwell when fund adjustments would be made to allow offers to be extended to selected firefighters following panel interviews. Bidwell responded that the next housekeeping ordinance will appropriate the necessary funds, but offers can be extended immediately.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Tim Fouch of 330 Sunset Drive, Circleville, addressed Council regarding the proposed yard sale ordinance. Mr. Fouch requested that the ordinance be amended to better accommodate yard sales occurring between May and August by removing the every-other-month restriction.

Keller asked Mayor Blanton if she would refer Mr. Fouch's comments to the Administration for review. Mayor Blanton stated that the Administration is open to considering amendments if needed.

Walter Kershner of 601 Dunkle Road, Circleville, also expressed concerns with the yard sale ordinance and encouraged the City to place greater focus on addressing the needs of the homeless population.

COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

a) AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING CHAPTER 750 ("MARIJUANA / ADULT-USE CANNABIS DISPENSARY FACILITY REGULATIONS, AND ZONING REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH OPERATIONS") OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Klitzka noted that Council had received substantial information regarding the security and financial aspects of dispensaries and expressed support for moving the ordinance forward. He mentioned that the Township is proceeding with a dispensary project involving a company that had previously considered locating in the City. Theis confirmed the proposed location is on Route 23 South, outside City limits. Hedges expressed concern that this represents a lost opportunity for the City. Hallinin inquired about potential tax revenue for the City. Klitzka responded that revenue would be based on sales.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Klitzka motioned to suspend Council Rules. Hedges seconded. **Roll call:** 3 Yeas - 4 Nays. (Nay Votes: Hallinin, Moats, Davison, Duvall). Ordinance will be held for a Second Reading.

b) AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A CHAPTER 715 TO THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE TO CONTROL AND REGULATE GARAGE/YARD SALES CONDUCTED ON THE RESIDENCE PREMISES AND PROVIDING CIVIL PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF IN THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Klitzka explained that the ordinance is intended to regulate businesses operating as yard sales in residential areas. Duvall addressed questions, clarifying that no permit is required, sales are limited to no more than every other month (up to four per year, with a maximum of four days each). He noted that the ordinance resulted from reported abuses and provides necessary definitions to distinguish legitimate yard sales from commercial activity. Hedges described the ordinance as overreach and potentially unenforceable, adding that she had not heard support from residents. Hallinin and Moats echoed concerns about overreach and community feedback. Theis sought clarification on enforcement. Mayor Blanton explained that the Code Enforcement Officer would document violations, enabling the issuance of civil penalties under the new code.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Duvall motioned to suspend Council Rules. Hedges seconded. **Roll call:** 3 Yeas - 4 Nays. (Nay Votes: Hallinin, Moats, Klitzka, Theis). Ordinance will be held for a Second Reading.

c) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Discussion: Hedges stated this Resolution came from the Auditor as a good practice procedure. Hedges noted a typo in the attached documentation (13.5 million should be 1.35 million on line 4).

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hedges motioned to suspend Council Rules. Theis seconded. **Roll call:** 7 Yeas - 0 Nays. Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hedges motioned to pass this Ordinance. Theis seconded. **Roll call:** 7 Yeas - 0 Nays. The Ordinance is passed and is assigned #07.31.2026.

d) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE IN THE GENERAL FUND 101 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT .4% INCOME TAX FUND 206 AND WATERWORKS IMPROVEMENT & EXTENSION FUND 819 OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE.

Discussion: Hedges stated this is the fourth housekeeping Ordinance of the year, totaling \$380,321.01. The majority of the funds (\$328,671.01) are pass-through OWDA funds for work on Walnut Street. Other items include \$16,650 from an OPWC Clean Ohio Grant for park improvements, \$25,000 for the Uptown pledge, and \$10,000 for additional legal services.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hedges motioned to suspend Council Rules. Klitzka seconded. **Roll call:** 7 Yeas - 0 Nays. Rules are suspended.

MOTION & ROLL CALL VOTE: Hedges motioned to pass this Ordinance. Hallinin seconded. **Roll call:** 7 Yeas - 0 Nays. The Ordinance is passed and is assigned #07.32.2026.

Keller requested that any Council members with suggestions regarding the yard sale ordinance work with the Law Director's office prior to next Tuesday's meeting.

New Business:

Hallinin motioned to adjourn the City Council meeting. Moats seconded. Council adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk.