

KIRTLAND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 7, 2025

The meeting of Kirtland City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Ronald Fenstermaker. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by prayer led by Mr. Zeigler. The members of Council present were Julie Symonds, Eric Ziegler, Ronald Fenstermaker, Scott Haymer, Matt Schulz, and Joe Smolic.

The administrative personnel present were Mayor Kevin Potter, Finance Director Louis Slapnicker, City Engineer Douglas Courtney, Captain Matt Killeen Fire Department, Lieutenant Fisher Police Department, and Senior Center Coordinator Julia DeWolf.

Also in attendance were Lake County Commissioners Morriss Beverage III, John Plecnik and Richard Regovich and Lake County Administrator, Jason Boyd.

Rules of Council were suspended, moved by Mr. Smolic, with the second by Mr. Schulz.

Lieutenant Fisher introduced new full-time officer Scott Daubenmire, with Mayor Potter swearing him in.

Minutes of the March 18, 2025 Finance Committee/Work Session:

Mr. Smolic moved to approve the Finance Committee/Work Session Minutes as presented, with the second by Ms. Symonds. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 5/0 (VOTING YEA: SMOLIC, SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, and HAYMER, ABSTAIN: SCHULZ; VOTING NAY: NONE).**

Minutes of the March 18, 2025 Council Meeting:

Ms. Symonds moved to approve the Minutes with the second by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SMOLIC, SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, and SCHULZ. VOTING NAY: NONE).**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Captain Matt Killeen was in attendance for Chief Hutton who had to attend to a family emergency. Captain Killeen had no formal report but was available for questions. Mr. Fenstermaker thanked Captain Killeen for assisting Chief Hutton.

Lieutenant Jamey Fisher reported on behalf of the Police Department. Lieutenant Fisher stated that Chief McCallister and himself respectfully request that Council consider waiving the three readings and adopting Resolution No. 25-R-20 regarding the purchase of a 2024 Chevy Silverado which is on this evening's Agenda. He reported that due to the bridge closure on Rt. 6 they have seen an increase flow of traffic on cut-through streets. Noting that target traffic enforcement initiatives have been started. He also reported that all golf carts need to be street legal. Contact officer Joe Gibson to set up appointment for certification which is needed in order to get the golf cart properly licensed. He reported the remodel project in the patrolmen's room is nearly finished. Responding to Mr. Schulz's

question regarding the certification form he stated that the form is a State of Ohio form not a Kirtland form. Mr. Zeigler questioned the location of the bridge out sign on Rt. 6. Responding Mayor Potter stated that Mr. Fornaro has already been in contact with ODOT. Mr. Fenstermaker thanked Lieutenant Fisher for assisting Chief McCallister this evening.

Service Director Joseph Fornaro was not in attendance at the meeting.

City Engineer Mr. Courtney reported that regarding 2025 Streets & 10-Year Street Plan final street selection and initial pavement evaluations are complete. He reported the pavement testing scope has been determined and the RFPs are being sent out for the work. Final determinations on pavement repair/resurfacing treatments will be determined after testing results are received. Regarding the Kirtland Chardon Rd. Paving (ECL to Sperry) aerial and field surveys are underway for base mapping. Regarding SR306 Sewer Extension aerial and field surveys are underway for base mapping are underway as well and further commenting that continued discussions regarding various potential funding sources for the project with the administration. Regarding the Wisner wall we are preparing a request to submit the engineering costs to Lake County Stormwater for pre-funding. Lastly, Mr. Courtney asked Council members if there were any additional questions regarding the review of Street Standards recommended changes that were discussed at the March 18, 2025, Council work session. There were no questions from Council members.

Finance Director Mr. Slapnicker reported that the March 2025 end of month reports were distributed to Council and posted on the City's website. He also stated that regarding the Utilities Commission meeting on Saturday, April 12, 2025, letters went out to all residents potentially affected by the rate increase early last week. He stated that this past Tuesday we went out to market for \$4.5 M in notes. He provided data regarding interest costs and premiums, noting that he will send out a report to Council with all of the details. Mr. Schulz requested Mr. Slapnicker provide Council quarterly updates regarding income tax collection. Mr. Slapnicker acknowledged Mr. Schulz's request.

Law Director Mr. Lallo was not in attendance at the meeting.

Community Center Director Julia DeWolf provided an update on upcoming City events including the Annual Easter Egg Hunt April 12, 2025, and Mayors Action Network city-wide yard cleanup April 19, 2025.

Mayor Potter welcomed Lake County Commissioners in attendance Morriss Beverage III, John Plecnik, Richard Regovich and Lake County Administrator, Jason Boyd.

Mayor Potter noted the spring season and the probable observation of zoning violations. He encouraged Council members to contact the Zoning Department if they notice any zoning issues that require enforcement by the City's Zoning Inspector.

On behalf of Mr. Fornaro, Mayor Potter stated that the Ward 3 brush pickup started today. And also stated that the city fared well from all of the rain we had late last week and over the weekend.

Standing Committee Reports:

Public Utilities Committee meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2025 @12:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Correspondence:

None.

Public Comments on Matters not on the Agenda:

Lake County Commissioner Morris Beverage III, 4025 Green Street, Perry, Ohio addressed the Council and provided an update regarding the Old Town sewer project in Kirtland. Commissioner Beverage stated that the Commissioners recognize the extreme financial responsibility placed on the residents for the payment of lateral tie-in, capacity fee relating to the infrastructure cost as well as the assessment cost for placement of the sewers into the neighborhoods. Commissioner Beverage noted that current costs verse early estimates from 2017-2018 are significantly different. He stated the Commissioners worked with the County Auditor to analyze the value of the homes of the affected residents. Noting that the average price of the house affected is approximately \$200,000. He thanked County Administrator Jason Boyd and Department of Utilities Director, Randy Roethlisberger, for their assistance as well. Commissioner Beverage provided information regarding programs available to assist with funding . He stated based on the initial calculations which include funding assistance from various sources if the City of Kirtland could assist with a \$100,000 contribution the individual per residence assessment could come down to approximately \$5,000 per residence. Stating that this is the intent and goal of the Commissioners. He stated the Commissioners will be returning sometime next month with an update and hopefully final dollar amounts.

Council President Fenstermaker thanked Commissioner Beverage and the other Commissioners for their hard work. Mayor Potter stated on behalf of the City administration the \$100,000 as requested would be made available.

County Administrator Jason Boyd stated that the County administration anticipates mid-June having final bill information and due dates out to the residents. Noting that the residents will also receive updated information regarding all possible funding options through the Health Department as well.

Mr. Schulz thanked Commissioner Beverage and the other Commissioners for their efforts in this regard. Ms. Symonds also thanked residents for being diligent in their communications with the County.

Mayor Potter thanked Commissioner Beverage as well as Commissioner Plecnik and Commissioner Regovich for their assistance and support of the City of Kirtland.

A resounding round of applause was given by Council and attendees in the audience.

Jeffrey Balcerski, 7685 Hidden Valley, Kirtland addressed the Council regarding an article in the Kirtland Chronicle's March 7, 2025 edition, regarding the proposed nursing home development on Rt. 6 & Rt. 306. He inquired about a quote in the article relating to the cost of sewers and how the sewers would be funded. Responding Mayor Potter provided an account of possible funding sources including TIF financing. Mayor Potter stated that nothing has been finalized yet and that discussions are ongoing between City administration and all parties involved. Mayor Potter thanked Mr. Balcerski for his question.

Mr. Schulz asked Mayor Potter when Council can anticipate receiving financial information on this project. Responding Mayor Potter stated that it is undetermined at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Comments on Agenda Items of New Business. None.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-O-16

(Mayor Potter)

An Ordinance extending the Agreement for economic development consulting services between Edward J. Eckart of E Squared Strategies LLC and the City of Kirtland, and declaring an emergency.

The legislation was read by title only and placed on first reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-17

(Mayor Potter)

Arbor Day Proclamation

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Ziegler moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Ms. Grazia. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY: NONE).**

Mr. Smolic moved to adopt, with the second by Mr. Schulz. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY: NONE).**

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-18

(Mayor Potter)

A Resolution recognizing and appreciating the City of Kirtland's Public Works professionals and declaring National Public Works Week to be May 18-24, 2025.

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Smolic moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Ms. Symonds. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY: NONE).**

Mr. Smolic moved to adopt, with the second by Ms. Symonds. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY: NONE).**

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-19

(Mayor Potter)

A Resolution acknowledging Child Abuse Prevention Month for the month of April 2025.

Mayor Potter asked County Administrative Director Jason Boyd to share with Council the origin of the Child Abuse Prevention Month Resolution. Mr. Boyd provided background information and thanked the Department of Children and Family Services and especially the social work department for their hard work 24/7 addressing calls and complaints regarding child abuse. He also stated there are events planned throughout the month acknowledging the Child Abuse awareness and prevention.

The legislation was read by title only. Mr. Smolic moved to waive the three readings, with the second by Mr. Schulz. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY: NONE).**

Mr. Smolic moved to adopt, with the second by Mr. Schulz. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY: NONE).**

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-20

(Mayor Potter)

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to purchase one (1) new 2024 Chevy Silverado 4-wheel drive police vehicle for use by the Police Department, and declaring an emergency.

The legislation was read by title only. A motion to Waive the Three Readings of 25-R-20 was made by Mr. Schulz and seconded by Mr. Smolic. **ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY; NONE).**

Mr. Schulz asked Mr. Slapnicker if the purchase is being financed. Responding Mr. Slapnicker stated there is no financing involved in the purchase.

A motion to Declare an Emergency and Adopt was made by Mr. Schulz and seconded by Mr. Smolic.
ROLL CALL: MOTION CARRIED 6/0 (VOTING YEA: SYMONDS, ZEIGLER, FENSTERMAKER, HAYMER, SCHULZ and SMOLIC VOTING NAY; NONE).

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council President Fenstermaker thanked the Commissioners for attending the meeting this evening and for their support of our residents.

Mr. Schulz asked if the March 18, 2025, City Council meeting was recorded. Responding Mayor Potter stated there were technical issues that evening. Ms. DeWolf stated that we had visual but no audio. Mr. Schulz also requested that moving forward work sessions be videotaped. Council President Fenstermaker noted the request.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

This is an opportunity for the public to address Council about any continuing concerns. There were no comments or questions from the public.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Smolic moved to adjourn, with the second by Ms. Symonds. The motion of Council passed by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

President of Council

Clerk of Council