

LANCASTER, OHIO**REGULAR MEETING**

January 12, 2026

PRAYER**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Porter led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

President Porter called the meeting to order at approximately 6:40 p.m., in Council's Chambers.

ROLL CALL

The following members of Council were present:

Mr. Ailes, Mr. Bizjak, Mr. Carr, Ms. Cohen, Mrs. Hoop, Mr. Knisley, Mr. Ogg, Mr. Schoonover, Ms. Smiley and Mr. Sollie

President Porter asked that the record reflect that ten (10) members are in attendance tonight.

READING AND DISPOSING OF THE JOURNAL

Regular Meeting minutes dated December 15, 2025

Special Meeting minutes dated January 5, 2026

The Clerk presented the Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 15, 2025 and Special Meeting Minutes dated January 5, 2026.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to receive and file the Journal, seconded by Mr. Ailes. After no discussion, the motion carried.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

1. Email dated December 16, 2025, regarding the OCJS Awards in Violence Against Women Act Grants, submitted by Law Director Stephanie Hall.
2. Email dated December 31, 2025, regarding the 2025 Mandated Reporting of Seized Money Account, submitted by Police Chief Nick Snyder.
3. Email dated January 2, 2026, regarding January 2026 Planning Commission meeting, submitted by City Planner Chasilyn Carter.
4. Email dated January 8, 2026, regarding January PC Meeting Summary, submitted by City Planner Chasilyn Carter.
5. Email dated January 5, 2026, regarding December 2025 Income Tax collection report, submitted by Income Tax Commissioner Amy Hamilton.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to receive and file the Reports of City Officials, seconded by Mr. Ailes. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Series of emails dated December 15-17, 2025, regarding West Sixth Avenue Rehabilitation public records request, submitted by Mark Zurada of Government Records Request and responded by Steven Wellstead of Storm Water Manager.
2. Email dated December 17, 2025, regarding Woda Cooper Application, submitted by Stephanie Bosco with Lancaster Port Authority.
3. Email dated December 21, 2025, Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, submitted by Alex Robinson with EBI Consulting.
4. Series of emails dated December 25-30, 2025, regarding East Fair Avenue Improvement Project public records request, submitted by Mark Zurada of Government Records Request and responded by Curt Shonk, City Engineer.
5. Email dated December 22, 2025, regarding 2021-2023 North East Gas Main Replacement public records request, submitted by Mark Zurada of Government Records Request.
6. Email dated December 24, 2025, regarding 2021 Street Improvement Program - Paving public records request, submitted by Mark Zurada of Government Records Request.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to receive and file the Communications, seconded by Mr. Ailes. The motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION (Awards)

None

PETITIONS & MEMORIALS

There were no petitions or memorials this evening.

PERMISSION OF VOTERS AND TAXPAYERS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Water/Water Pollution meeting minutes amendment, dated December 28, 2025, submitted by Mr. Wing.
2. Finance Committee meeting minutes, dated January 7, 2026, submitted by Mr. Schoonover.
3. Finance Committee meeting agenda, dated January 9, 2026, submitted by Mr. Schoonover.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to receive and file the Reports of Standing Committees, seconded by Mr. Ailes, the motion carried.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

There were no Reports of Special Committees presented to Council this evening.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

Mr. Schoonover took this time to ask for a motion to go outside of the regular order of business to discuss committee assignments seconded by Mr. Ailes. Motion carried.

President Porter addressed as discussed during the finance meeting, the floor is now open for a formal vote to accept the proposed committee assignments for the current term. A motion was requested to approve the assignments as they have been presented to the Clerk in writing.

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to that Council vote to assign the proposed committees, seconded by Mr. Ailes. Motion carried **10-0**.

With no further comment, President Porter brought the meeting back to regular order of business.

READING OF RESOLUTIONS

THIRD READING

Resolution Temporary 105-25 – Second Reading – December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, WITH VARIOUS CONSULTANTS AS NEEDED, AND TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT KNOWN AS THE WHILEY ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT
Public Works Committee (Carr/Bizjak) (3 Readings)

Mr. Carr made a motion to pass, engross, and enter upon the written record Temporary Resolution 105-25, seconded by Mr. Bizjak.

Mr. Carr had no discussion.

President Porter asked if there is any further discussion on the motion to pass, with there being non, he requested the Clerk to call the roll. The motion to pass carried **10-0**.

Resolution Temporary 106-25 – Second Reading – December 15, 2025

A RESOLUTION OF CONSENT FOR PRELIMINARY LEGISLATION AND TO AUTHORIZE THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS AS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECTS KNOWN AS FAI US 22/SR 37/158 VAR, PID 98022 AND D05 FY2027 BRIDGE REHAB WEST, PID 124808
Public Works Committee (Carr/Bizjak) (3 Readings)

Mr. Carr made a motion to pass, engross, and enter upon the written record Temporary Resolution 106-25, seconded by Mr. Bizjak.

Mr. Carr had no discussion.

President Porter asked if there is any further discussion on the motion to pass, with there being non, he requested the Clerk to call the roll. The motion to pass carried **10-0**.

SECOND READING

None

FIRST READING

Resolution Temporary 1-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE 2026-2027 DRUG USE PREVENTION GRANT
Safety Committee (Bizjak/Sollie) (3 Readings)

Mr. Bizjak indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

Resolution Temporary 2-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY DEPARTMENTS TO DISPOSE OF CITY PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED VIA INTERNET AUCTION IN 2026 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Administrative services Committee (Cohen/Hoop) (3 Readings)

Ms. Cohen indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

Resolution Temporary 3-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO JOIN THE COOPERATIVE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND PARTICIPATE IN THE EQUALIS GROUP COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

Administrative services Committee (Cohen/Hoop) (3 Readings)

Ms. Cohen indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

Resolution Temporary 4-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

Administrative services Committee (Cohen/Ogg) (3 Readings)

Ms. Cohen indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

Resolution Temporary 5-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MASTER INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT ADMINISTERED BY OMNIA PARTNERS, PUBLIC SECTOR

Administrative services Committee (Cohen/Ogg) (3 Readings)

Ms. Cohen indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

Resolution Temporary 6-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LANCASTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

Administrative services Committee (Cohen/Smiley) (3 Readings)

Ms. Cohen indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

Resolution Temporary 7-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY LAW DIRECTOR'S OFFICE TO APPLY

FOR THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT GRANT
Law Committee (Smiley/Schoonover) (3 Readings)

Ms. Smiley indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

Resolution Temporary 8-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATES FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2025 IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING FUND (7030)

Water/Water Pollution Control Committee (Ailes/Bizjak) (2 Readings)

Mr. Ailes indicated that this will be the first of two readings.

Resolution Temporary 9-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION TO SET A 2026 REVENUE AND EXPENSE BUDGET IN THE WATER CONSTRUCTION FUND (6026), WATER UTILITY RESERVE FUND (6027), WASTEWATER UTILITY RESERVE FUND (6029), AND WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION FUND (6030), AMEND THE CERTIFICATES WITH THE COUNTY AUDITOR, AND AUTHORIZE THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATES FOR PAYMENTS OF BILLS

Water/Water Pollution Control Committee (Ailes/Cohen) (2 Readings)

Mr. Ailes indicated that this will be the first of two readings.

Resolution Temporary 10-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

A RESOLUTION TO SET A 2026 REVENUE AND EXPENSE BUDGET IN THE STORMWATER UTILITY RESERVE FUND (6019), AMEND THE CERTIFICATE WITH THE COUNTY AUDITOR, AND AUTHORIZE THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATES FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

Water/Water Pollution Control Committee (Ailes/Cohen) (2 Readings)

Mr. Ailes indicated that this will be the first of two readings.

READING OF ORDINANCES

THIRD READING

None

SECOND READING

None

FIRST READING

Ordinance Temporary 1-26 – First Reading – January 12, 2026

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF LANCASTER ZONING MAP TO CHANGE THE ZONING OF 0.49 +/- ACRES IDENTIFIED AS FAIRFIELD COUNTY AUDITOR TAX PARCEL NUMBER 0535005900 FROM MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY DISTRICT TO COMMERCIAL GENERAL DISTRICT

Code Enforcement & Zoning Committee (Sollie/Knisley) (3 Readings) – Requires public hearing

Mr. Sollie indicated that this will be the first of three readings.

TABLED LEGISLATION

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Liquor Licenses

Clerk Scott presented the received Liquor Licenses requests as two transfers licenses.

Transfers

Jay Mahant Guru LLC from KDA Lancaster LLC
641 One Stop Carryout LLC from C L Shoe LLC

President Porter had asked Law Director Hall if she had any comment based on what the Police Department had provided as documentations of the locations.

Law Director Hall reviewed the incident report for the premises over the prior year, noting a total of five calls: two break-ins, two suspicious person reports, and one medical emergency inside the building. It was clarified that while these incidents occurred at the location, they reflect the activity under the current owner during the previous year and are not necessarily indicative of the pending transfer of ownership.

Mr. Ailes made a motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Ms. Smiley. Motion carried.

Committee Updates - NONE

Economic Development Committee – Mrs. Hoop
Water & Water Pollution Committee – Mr. Ailes
Finance Committee – Mr. Schoonover
Public Works Committee – Mr. Carr
Law Committee – Ms. Smiley
Service Committee – Mr. Knisley
Administrative Services Committee – Ms. Cohen
Safety Committee – Mr. Bizjak
Code Enforcement & Zoning Committee – Mr. Sollie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Regular Sessions of Council:

1. January 26th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Chambers
2. February 9th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. – Council Chambers

Upcoming Special Meetings:

Upcoming Committee Meetings for the next 30 days:

READING OF BILLS

MNCO - \$153.01 - for publication of ordinances PO 72-25, PO 73-25, PO 74-25, PO 75-25

MNCO - \$56.09 – for public hearing notice for Temp Ord #1-26 on 2/9/2026

ProForma - Invoice to be received – for legislation books

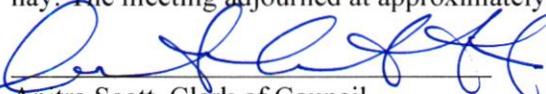
Mr. Schoonover made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Ailes. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no requests for the Executive Session this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schoonover made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Ailes. Motion carried with one nay. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:01 p.m.



Antra Scott, Clerk of Council

