

**SMINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL  
HELD MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Good evening. Welcome to the Massillon City Council meeting for Monday, March 3, 2025. We have in attendance the following City officials: Mayor, Jamie Slutz, Safety Service Director, Renee Baker, Chief Counsel, Earle Wise, City Engineer, Alex Pitts, Director of Development, Ted Herncane and Income Tax/Budget Director, Lori Kotagides-Boron. Under #5 on the agenda is where the public can speak on any topic that appears on tonight’s agenda and under #17 is where the public can speak on any topic that does NOT appear on tonight’s agenda. I’d like to remind you that if you have a cell phone, please set it to mute, vibrate or turn it off. Thank you.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Roll call, Madam Clerk.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Roll call for the evening found the following Council Members present: Holly Bryan-Huth, Jill Creamer, Sarita Cunningham, Mike Gregg, Julie Harwig Smith, Seth Marcum, Ed Lewis and Eric Ray

Roll call of 8 present

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Councilman Gregg.

**COUNCILMAN GREGG** – Thank you, President Slater. I make a motion that we excuse Councilman Paquelet from tonight’s meeting.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Ray. Roll call.

8 yes to excuse Councilman Paquelet

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk.

**2. INVOCATION**

**COUNCILWOMAN HOLLY BRYAN-HUTH**

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**LED BY COUNCILWOMAN BRYAN-HUTH**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Councilwoman Bryan-Huth.

**4. READING OF THE JOURNAL**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Madam Clerk are the minutes of the previous meeting transcribed and open for public viewing?

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – Yes, they are.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Are there any additions or corrections to be made?

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – No, there are not.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – If not, then the minutes stand approved as written. Thank you, Madam Clerk.

**COUNCIL CLERK ROLLAND** – You are welcome.

5. **REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

6. **NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilwoman Cunningham.

**COUNCILWOMAN CUNNINGHAM** – Thank you, Mr. President Slater. I just wanted to give a shout-out to both our boys and our girls basketball teams. They went very far and very well this year. Unfortunately, they ended in the tournament, but I just wanted to give them a shout-out. Thank you.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Go Tigers.

7. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Ord. No. 7 – 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 7 – 2025**

**BY: HEALTH, WELFARE & BLDG. REGS. COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Ordinance No. 103 – 2024 pertaining to Chapter 1306 “International Property Maintenance Code” under Title One – “Building Codes” of Part Thirteen – Building Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilwoman Cunningham.

**COUNCILWOMAN CUNNINGHAM** – Thank you. First reading.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Ord. No. 7 – 2025 has received first reading. Ord. No. 8 - 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8 – 2025**

**BY: HEALTH, WELFARE & BLDG. REGS. COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Ordinance No. 103 – 2024 pertaining to Chapter 1306 “International Property Maintenance Code” under Title One – “Building Codes” of Part Thirteen – Building Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilwoman Cunningham.

**COUNCILWOMAN CUNNINGHAM** – Thank you, President Slater. First reading.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Ord. No. 8 – 2025 has received first reading. Ord. No. 9 – 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 9 – 2025**

**BY: HEALTH, WELFARE & BLDG. REGS. COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Ordinance No. 103 – 2024 pertaining to Chapter 1306 “International Property Maintenance Code” under Title One – “Building Codes” of Part Thirteen – Building Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilwoman Cunningham.

**COUNCILWOMAN CUNNINGHAM** – Thank you, President Slater. First reading.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Ord. No. 9 – 2025 has received first reading. Ord. No. 10 – 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10 – 2025**

**BY: HEALTH, WELFARE & BLDG. REGS. COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Ordinance No. 103 – 2024 pertaining to Chapter 1306 “International Property Maintenance Code” under Title One – “Building Codes” of Part Thirteen – Building Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Massillon, Ohio.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilwoman Cunningham.

**COUNCILWOMAN CUNNINGHAM** – Thank you, President Slater. First reading.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Ord. No. 10 – 2025 has received first reading. Ord. No. 11 – 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 11 – 2025**

**BY: RULES, COURTS & CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 2(D) OCCUPATION LIST OF CLASS TITLES of Ordinance No. 139 – 2017 to increase the Class Grade pay schedule for the Golf Course Banquet Chef/Facility Manager within the 920 “GOLF COURSE DEPARTMENT” from 16S UN to 18S UN, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Gregg.

**COUNCILMAN GREGG** – Thank you, President Slater. This piece of legislation came up under the Parks & Recreation Committee during our Work Session this past Monday. It’s been moved to Rules & Courts Committee. That’s how we’ve handled Occupation of Class Titles in the past. Any questions or concerns? I do plan to move this forward if there are none. Seeing none, I make a motion we waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 11 – 2025 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Marcum. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 11 – 2025 has passed. Ord. No. 12 – 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 12 – 2025**

**BY: STREETS, HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Public Service and Safety of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to advertise for and receive sealed bids and to enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder, upon the approval of the Board of Control, for the 2025 Street Resurfacing Project, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilwoman Creamer.

**COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER** – Thank you, Mr. President. As stated, this ordinance is authorizing the Director of Public Service and Safety to advertise and receive bids. This is for the 2025 Street Resurfacing Project contract. We did get a list of those 2024 street resurfacings. There's streets that will be completed that were in the 2024 program completed in 2025 and then we also did receive the 2025 Street Resurfacing Program streets. It does have emergency language, so I would like to move it forward unless there are any questions or concerns regarding this. Seeing none, I'd like to waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 12 – 2025 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilwoman Cunningham. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 12 – 2025 has passed. Ord. No. 13 – 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 13 – 2025**

**BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1201 Street Construction M & R Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2025, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – Yes. This is a transfer of \$100,000.00 to help with the street repaving program of this year using our carryover. I was going to say something during Committee, but I can say it right now; I just want to say that when I was speaking to the Mayor and Budget Director about this, in the past our carryover that we've pulled from the 1201, this is not the 1100. This is the 1201, so it's only for our streets and what not related to the levy;

we've done a little bit more of a robust transfer of funds and this year it's a little bit lighter and that's why the newspaper reported last week, you see what is about \$1.2 million this year and in the past we were closer to \$2 million in streets. The reason for that, there's a couple of reasoning's; the carryover this year didn't seem to be as rich as it has in previous years. Part of that reason is that we did have some projects at the end of last year that we did not receive P.O.'s on until January so, it had encumbered some of our dollars so it made it a little bit more challenging to do proper projections and estimations of where the money would actually land so that we could make a fair evaluation of what we had available to us for 2025 projects. On top of that, we are still in the process of evaluating the equipment within the Streets Dept. Our streets levy doesn't only pave roads, but also makes sure that things such as the "Hot Box" that carries the asphalt around to fill potholes. The trucks and equipment that do the alley ways and other smaller project so that we don't have to contract. All that equipment also has to be maintained and sometimes repaired or replaced. So currently we are evaluating all of those before we can make a fair assessment of just how much of that carryover we can commit to actual repaving. So, I would anticipate that at some point of this year we may be able to free up some more dollars to look at some other projects. We just don't know what that would look like quite yet. So I don't want anybody to think that 2025 is going to be an ultra-light year. I do think that there's some promise that there might be some other opportunity. Right now, though, we're just only comfortable with \$100,000.00 until we get a better assessment. With that said, if there's no other questions, I'd like to move forward tonight.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Gregg.

**COUNCILMAN GREGG** – The 2024 P.O.'s you mentioned; have those been resolved?

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – Yes. I mean if you look at our cash balance sheet, you do see about \$2.5 million or something like that. So, you started off at \$3.9 million that we started this year off with and it was about \$2.5 million of net expenses year-to-date. That would cover a lot of those P.O.'s and that's why we're only at about \$1.3 million right now. So, if we would have came in and said "Hey, let's do \$1 million", that would put our carryover only at \$300,000.00, you get a couple pieces of equipment or something go down and all of a sudden you find yourself in a very precarious situation on that carryover and our Budget Director, rightfully so, just wasn't comfortable making that call quite yet. There's also some other details such as you know, January 31<sup>st</sup> fell on a Friday instead of a Wednesday and if you know anything about tax reporting guidelines in making projections, something as small as that does impact that when companies are reporting what to project. So, we're just waiting for some more numbers to come in.

**COUNCILMAN GREGG** – Thank you.

**COUNCILMAN SLATER** – Any more questions? Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – With that, I'd like to make a motion to suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 13 – 2025 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 13 – 2025 has passed. Ord. No. 14 – 2025.

**ORDINANCE NO. 14 – 2025**

**BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Law of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to enter into a one (1) year Agreement with the Village of Hills and Dales, Ohio, for the purpose of providing prosecutorial services, and declaring an emergency.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – Yes. This is a pretty standard agreement that we do with all of the surrounding communities that require prosecutorial services. They use our Law Dept. They do pay for those services that our Law Dept. renders and this one is for the Village of Hills and Dales. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Seeing none, I make a motion that we suspend the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 14 – 2024 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 14 – 2025 has passed. Res. No. 5 – 2025

**RESOLUTION NO. 5 – 2025**

**BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

A RESOLUTION commending **MARK LOMBARDI** as a Member of City Council of the City of Massillon, Ohio.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Gregg.

**COUNCILMAN GREGG** – Thank you, President Slater. As is our custom, we would like to recognize Councilman Mark Lombardi for his service to the City and that's what this resolution does. So, I make a motion that we waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Res. No. 5 – 2025 forward for a vote.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Lewis. Roll call for suspension.

8 yes for suspension

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – And for passage.

8 yes for passage

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Res. No. 5 – 2025 has passed.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**9. PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**10. BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS**

Bonnie's Engravers Gallery	-	\$ 157.00	Name Plates and Rubber Stamp
Visual Edge IT	-	<u>58.35</u>	Overage Chg. 11/24/24 – 02/23/25
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>\$ 215.35</b>	

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilman Lewis.

**COUNCILMAN LEWIS** – I make a motion to pay the bills.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilman Gregg. Roll call.

8 yes to pay the bills

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk. The Clerk will pay the bills and charge them to their proper accounts.

**11. REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS**

Mayor's Report - January 2025

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Thank you, Madam Clerk.

**12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Our next Work Session will be Monday, March 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

**13. RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**14. CALL OF THE CALENDAR**

**15. THIRD READING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**17. REMARKS OF DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS TO MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Councilwoman Bryan-Huth.

**COUNCILWOMAN BRYAN-HUTH** – I'd like to make a motion that we adjourn.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Seconded by Councilwoman Creamer. Roll call.

8 yes to adjourn

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER** – Meeting adjourned.

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DIANE ROLLAND, COUNCIL CLERK

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MIKE SLATER, PRESIDENT