

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MASSILLON CITY COUNCIL
HELD MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025**

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Good evening. Welcome to the Massillon City Council meeting for Monday, April 21, 2025. We have in attendance the following City officials: Mayor, Jamie Slutz, Safety Service Director, Renee Baker, Chief Counsel, Earle Wise Jr., City Engineer, Alex Pitts, Director of Development, Ted Herncane, Fire Chief, Matt Heck 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, Julie Harwig Smith, Seth Marcum and John Paquelet

Roll call of 7 present

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion to excuse Councilman Gregg and Councilman Ray.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilwoman Julie Harwig Smith. Roll call.

7 yes to excuse Councilman Gregg and Councilman Ray.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Councilwoman Julie Harwig Smith.

2. INVOCATION

COUNCILWOMAN JULIE HARWIG SMITH

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LED BY COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Councilwoman Harwig Smith.

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 – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – We have a couple of housekeeping matters that we need to address. At the last meeting two weeks ago Ord. No. 8 – 2025 and Ord. No. 9 – 2025 we declared as passing with a vote of 4 to 3; 4 being on the prevailing side. However, we do need 5 votes in order for an ordinance to go into effect by this body. So in order to rectify this and assuring that there is proper discussion and transparency for the community, the best path forward would be, since I was absent, I can make a motion to reconsider on both of these ordinances. If we agree to do the motion to reconsider, it'll bring them back out in front of this body, but due to the short notice to this body to reconsider, my recommendation would be to follow the motion to reconsider with a motion to table until May 5th. That would allow us time to discuss how we want to move forward at the next Work Session. So no action will be taken on either of those. It's just bringing them back out in front of us. Ord. No. 8 is the elimination of the \$100 appeal fee; just a quick summary, and Ord. No. 9 was the matter impacting how we regulate motor vehicles on residential properties. With that said, I make a motion to reconsider Ord. 8 – 2025.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilwoman Cunningham. Roll call.

7 yes to reconsider Ord. No. 8 – 2025

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Unless there's any discussion by anyone this evening, I'd like to make a motion to table Ord. No. 8 – 2025 until May 5, 2025.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Marcum. Roll call.

7 yes to table Ord. No. 8 – 2025 until May 5, 2025

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion that we reconsider Ord. No. 9 – 2025.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilwoman Cunningham. Roll call.

7 yes to reconsider Ord. No. 9 – 2025

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Unless there's any discussion to tonight, I'd like to make a motion to table Ord. No. 9 – 2025 until May 5, 2025.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilman Marcum. Roll call.

7 yes to table Ord. No. 9 – 2025 until May 5, 2025

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 8 – 2025 and Ord. No. 9 – 2025 have been tabled until May 5, 2025.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Ord. No 29 – 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 29 – 2025

BY: PUBLIC UTILITIES & ENVIRONMENTAL 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 Federal Sluice Gate Replacement Project, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Bryan-Huth.

COUNCILWOMAN BRYAN-HUTH – Thank you, Mr. President. This ordinance, as it says, is to replace the sluice gate. We did speak about it and had time to ask Mr. Pitts some questions. Does anybody else have other questions about this? It is budgeted for and is ready to go. Seeing none, I'd like to make a motion to waive the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 29 – 2025 forward for a vote.

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

7 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

7 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 29 – 2025 has passed. Ord. No. 30 – 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 30 – 2025

BY: FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE making certain appropriations from the unappropriated balance of the 1100 General Fund, for the purpose of the Massillon Fire Department, for the year ending December 31, 2025.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – Yes. This appropriation is to cover the cost of overtime for the men and women in the Fire Dept. Are there any questions or discussion this evening? Seeing none, I make a motion that we waive the rules requiring three readings, bringing Ord. No. 30 – 2025 forward for a vote.

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

7 yes for suspension

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

7 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 30 – 2025 has passed.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. PETITIONS AND GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. BILLS, ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

LocaliQ Ohio Gannett - \$ 242.88 Publication of February Ordinances

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilman Lewis.

COUNCILMAN LEWIS – I make a motion that we pay the bills.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Seconded by Councilwoman Harwig Smith. Roll call.

7 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

12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Our next Work Session will be Monday, April 28, 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

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Ord. No. 15 – 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 15 – 2025

BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending the Zoning Map of the City of Massillon, Ohio, by rezoning a certain property from R-1 Single Family Residential to A-1 Agricultural District.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Creamer.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Thank you, Mr. President. As we talked about this, this is a 4-acre parcel located on the east side of 17th St. S.W. between Finebrock Rd. and Pigeon Run Ave. We do have a public hearing scheduled for May 19th at 6:00 p.m. here in Council Chambers. Are there any questions from anyone? Okay, second reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Councilwoman Creamer. Ord. No. 15 – 2025 has received second reading. Ord. No. 16 – 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 16 – 2025

BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE approving the proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Budget for the FY2025 Program year, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Creamer.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Thank you, Mr. President. There is a second public hearing scheduled for Monday, April 28th at 6:00 p.m. here in Council Chambers. Second reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Councilwoman Creamer. Ord. No. 16 – 2025 has received second reading. Ord. No. 17 – 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 17 – 2025

BY: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the Director of Public Service and Safety of the City of Massillon, Ohio, to transfer Out Lot No. 681, a 13.427-acre parcel located in Massillon, Ohio, from the City of Massillon to the Community Improvement Corporation of Massillon (CIC).

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Creamer.

COUNCILWOMAN CREAMER – Thank you, Mr. President. Second reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Ord. No. 17 – 2025 has received second reading. Ord. No. 18 – 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 18 – 2025

BY: PUBLIC UTILITIES & ENVIRONMENTAL 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 contract with the lowest and best bidder, upon the approval of the Board of Control, for the Wellman Avenue, Medill Avenue

and Commonwealth Avenue Sanitary Sewer Improvement Projects, and declaring an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Bryan-Huth.

COUNCILWOMAN BRYAN-HUTH – Thank you, Mr. President. We did have a chance to discuss putting this out to bid. Does anybody have any further questions? Seeing none, I'd like to make a motion to suspend the rules requiring three readings and bring Ord. No. 18 – 2025 forward for a vote.

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

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – And for passage.

7 yes for passage

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Thank you, Madam Clerk. Ord. No. 18 – 2025 has passed. Ord. No. 19 – 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. 19 – 2025

BY: RULES, COURTS & CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE

AN ORDINANCE amending the OCCUPATION LIST OF CLASS TITLES, 610-615 “WASTEWATER TREATMENT DEPARTMENT”, in the City of Massillon, Ohio, by establishing and creating the position of “Safety Officer” and establishing the Class Grade Schedule for said position within the 610-615 “WASTEWATER TREATMENT DEPARTMENT”.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER –

COUNCILWOMAN BRYAN- HUTH – Thank you, Mr. President. Second reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Ord. No. 19 – 2025 has received second reading.

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

18. ADJOURNMENT

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Councilwoman Harwig Smith.

COUNCILWOMAN HARWIG SMITH – I make a motion that we adjourn.

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

7 yes to adjourn

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SLATER – Meeting adjourned.

DIANE ROLLAND, COUNCIL CLERK

MIKE SLATER, PRESIDENT