

Lyndhurst, Ohio
January 5, 2026

The Council of The City of Lyndhurst held a Regular Meeting on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:31 P.M., Vice Mayor Charles A. LoPresti, presiding.

Members Present: Council Representatives J. A. Marko, J. Price, J. A. Gambatese, L. A. Schlessel, A. M. Dirk.

Others Present: P. A. Ward, Mayor;
J. P. Luskin, Director of Law;
R. J. Schmidlin, Assistant Director of Law;
P. A. Rhode, Chief of Police;
M. J. Carroll, Chief of Fire;
T. Fioritto, Director of Service;
J. Maichle, Building Commissioner;
R. Petrunyak, Director of Finance;
K. L. Miller, Assistant Clerk of Council.

Absent: Council Representative S. C. Grushetsky.

It was moved by Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that the reading of the minutes of the Organizational Meeting of Council held Monday, December 15, 2025, copies of which were distributed to all Members, be dispensed with, and said minutes stand approved as circulated.

The question was put to a voice vote and passed with Mr. Schlessel abstaining.

It was moved by Mr. Marko, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that the reappointments of John P. Luskin as Director of Law, Raymond J. Schmidlin, Jr. as Assistant Director of Law, and Richard L. Petrunyak as Director of Finance all be confirmed.

The question was put to a voice vote and passed unanimously.

Motion carried.
John P. Luskin is reappointed as
Director of Law, Raymond J.
Schmidlin, Jr. is reappointed as
Assistant Director of Law, and
Richard L. Petrunyak is reappointed as
Director of Finance.

Mayor Ward administered the Oath of Office to John P. Luskin, Raymond J. Schmidlin, Jr., and Richard L. Petrunyak.

Mayor Patrick A. Ward presented a Proclamation, which he read in its entirety, to residents Jim and Joyce Simmelink who will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, January 8, 2026. Both Mr. and Mrs. Simmelink have lived their entire lives in Lyndhurst!

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Ward reported that the year closed out very quietly. He mentioned how department heads have been working with Council on their 2026 capital budget requests. In preparation of the appropriations meeting at the end of February, Mayor Ward stated that the preliminary review of general funds will be scheduled in the coming weeks with the Finance Committee chair and the Director of Finance.

Mayor Ward gave a shout out to the Service Department for an outstanding job keeping the streets clean and safe during the recent snow events!

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Chairperson Grushetsky was absent; therefore, a report was not given.

PUBLIC LANDS & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE – Chairperson Marko stated that he will be scheduling a committee meeting prior to the February 16th Council meeting to discuss the 2026 pool personnel wages and fees. A formal meeting notice will be sent with more details.

ROADS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE – Chairperson Dirk had no formal report at this time.

SERVICE & SEWERS COMMITTEE – Chairperson Price had no formal report.

SAFETY COMMITTEE – Chairperson Gambatese had nothing to report at this time.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – Chairperson Schlessel had no report.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Council member Price stated that the commission has not met; therefore, there is no report.

Vice Mayor LoPresti thanked his colleagues for agreeing to chair the committees that were just announced.

SOUTH EUCLID LYNDHURST BOARD OF EDUCATION – School Board member Crystal Shelby delivered the following report:

Ms. Shelby began by wishing everyone a happy new year! She shared that during the December school board meeting, a recommendation to become a member of the United Athletic Conference was approved; this conference will include Bedford Heights, Garfield Heights, Maple Heights, South Euclid Lyndhurst, Warrensville Heights, and Youngstown. Mrs. Shelby noted that not only will this be an athletic conference, but it will also include an academic debate team as well as opportunities for the band. She shared that the district went under contract for phase 1A and 1B of renovations at the December board meeting. These improvements will include Brush, Rowland, and Southlyn building; updates coming soon.

Mrs. Shelby stated the school board is currently working on preparing and developing their strategic plan and will be hosting a parent listening session on January 28th at 6pm in the Brush cafeteria. All are welcome to attend!

SEL is excited to partner with Cleveland State University to host two SEL nights featuring the men's and women's basketball teams on January 17th and February 7th at 2pm. The district will have 50 free tickets available to anyone interested in attending.

It was moved by Mr. Marko, seconded by Mr. Schlessel, that Resolution No. 2026-01 be added to the Agenda.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Resolution No. 2026-01 has been added to the Agenda.

The floor was opened for public comment, with none being heard.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01
INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR WARD AND ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING COMMENDATION AND SINCERE APPRECIATION TO DAVID A. FREY FOR SERVICE RENEDED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF LYNDBURST AS MEMBER OF CITY COUNCIL AND AS AN OUTSTANDING RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF LYNDBURST

It was moved by Mr. Marko, seconded by Mr. Schlessel, that rules set forth under Section 123.01 of the Codified Ordinances be suspended, that Resolution No. 2026-01 be placed on third reading for final adoption and that it be read in its entirety.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Rules Suspended.

Resolution No. 2026-01 was read in its entirety by Mrs. Miller.

It was moved by Mr. Schlessel, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that Resolution No. 2026-01 be adopted.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Resolution No. 2026-01 is adopted.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02
INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATION**

AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING TO RESCHEDULE THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL IN SEPTEMBER 2026 FROM MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST TO TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

It was moved by Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that rules set forth under Section 123.01 of the Codified Ordinances be suspended, that Ordinance No. 2026-02 be placed on third reading for final passage and that it be highlighted.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Rules Suspended.

Ordinance No. 2026-02 was highlighted by Mrs. Miller, with section 4 being read in its entirety.

It was moved by Mr. Schlessel, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that Ordinance No. 2026-02 be passed.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Ordinance No. 2026-02 is passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03
INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATION

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 WITH PHILLIPS PAVING, LLC FOR THE 2025 ASPHALT PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that rules set forth under Section 123.01 of the Codified Ordinances be suspended, that Ordinance No. 2026-03 be placed on third reading for final passage and that it be highlighted.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Rules Suspended.

Ordinance No. 2026-03 was highlighted by Mrs. Miller, with section 4 being read in its entirety.

It was moved by Mr. Schlessel, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that Ordinance No. 2026-03 be passed.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Ordinance No. 2026-03 is passed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-04
INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATION**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 WITH PHILLIPS PAVING, LLC FOR THE 2025 ASPHALT PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that rules set forth under Section 123.01 of the Codified Ordinances be suspended, that Ordinance No. 2026-04 be placed on third reading for final passage and that it be highlighted.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Rules Suspended.

Ordinance No. 2026-04 was highlighted by Mrs. Miller, with section 4 being read in its entirety.

It was moved by Mr. Dirk, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that Ordinance No. 2026-04 be passed.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Ordinance No. 2026-04 is passed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-05
INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATION**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 WITH VASCO ASPHALT COMPANY FOR THE 2024 CONCRETE PROGRAM, AUTHORIZING THE CLOSEOUT OF SAID CONTRACT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

It was moved by Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. Schlessel, that rules set forth under Section 123.01 of the Codified Ordinances be suspended, that Ordinance No. 2026-05 be placed on third reading for final passage and that it be highlighted.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Rules Suspended.

Ordinance No. 2026-05 was highlighted by Mrs. Miller, with section 6 being read in its entirety.

It was moved by Mr. Schlessel, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that Ordinance No. 2026-05 be passed.

Roll Call: Yeas: Marko, Price, Gambatese, Schlessel, Dirk, LoPresti.
Nays: None

Motion carried.
Ordinance No. 2026-05 is passed.

It was moved by Mr. Schlessel, seconded by Mr. Price, that the meeting be adjourned.

The question was put to a voice vote and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Approved: January 19, 2026

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

Vice Mayor