

Lyndhurst, Ohio
March 16, 2026

The Council of The City of Lyndhurst held a Regular Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2026 at 7:37 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.

* Mr. Schlessel attended the meeting remotely via the Zoom Meeting Application.

It was moved by Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. Gambatese, that the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 2, 2026, 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 unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Ward announced that the annual Bunny Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 29th from 8am-12pm at the Lyndhurst Community Center with proceeds benefiting Corpus Christi Academy student enrichment programs.

Mayor Ward also shared that the city has launched its Harvest for Hunger campaign. In addition to the food donation bins located in the City Hall lobby and at the Community Center, residents can now participate through a virtual food drive, which has already raised \$375 for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. Donations can also be made at the register of participating grocery stores. He emphasized the ongoing need for support and expressed appreciation for the community's consistent generosity. Mayor Ward also highlighted a recent volunteer effort at the food bank, where he, along with a few others, enjoyed packing boxes with 20 pounds of bread. Another volunteer opportunity is scheduled for October 8 for those interested in helping.

Mayor Patrick Ward spoke about the United States of Kindness campaign, highlighting a heartfelt story shared by a resident who wrote about the tremendous support she received from her neighbors, especially during this past winter after the loss of her husband. According to her message, neighbors regularly checked in, offered to pick up items from the store, and shoveled her walkways, helping her feel supported and less alone during a difficult time. Mayor Ward shared that he has reached out to request permission to include their names in the Kindness Korner publication so their story can be recognized as an example of compassion in action. He also noted that the city is partnering with SEL Schools and the City of South Euclid on the United States of Kindness campaign, expressing a true community-wide effort with "all hands on deck" to promote kindness.

Mayor Ward aired that today, we celebrate the grand re-opening and relocation of Second Sole shoes which moved from the Crossroads Shopping Center up to 5404 Mayfield Road next to the Goodwill Donation Center in the space that was previously Dollar Essentials.

Mayor Ward reminded everyone about the career fair taking place this Wednesday in partnership with the City of South Euclid and the SEL Schools. He stated there will be two sessions, the first from 1-3pm for Brush High School students, and the second session from 4-7pm which will be open to the public; there are 33 businesses or education center participating to talk about job or training opportunities. Mayor Ward stated how this is a great opportunity for our students and our residents who can benefit by knowing about these employment opportunities or even career readiness.

Mayor Ward shared his excitement about the new restaurant concept, EVOO, which will be opening at Legacy Village. The restaurant will feature Greek cuisine in a beautifully redesigned space that was formerly California Pizza Kitchen; details are still being worked out as to the exact opening date. Additionally, it was announced that the Cleveland Restaurant Group will turn their focus on the former Bar Louie space into a revival of the once popular and well-loved Moxie restaurant.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Chairperson Grushetsky was absent, and a report was not submitted.

PUBLIC LANDS & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE – Chairperson Marko had no report.

ROADS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE – Chairperson Dirk reported that the Service Department has started the repairs of the road openings from the water line repairs on Richmond Road near CVS.

SERVICE & SEWERS COMMITTEE – Chairperson Price had no report.

SAFETY COMMITTEE – Chairperson Gambatese had no report at this time.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – Chairperson Schlessel was not in person and did not submit a report.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Council member Price had no report.

SOUTH EUCLID LYNDHURST BOARD OF EDUCATION – A member of the school board was not present to deliver a report.

There were no additions to the Agenda.

The floor was opened for public comment, with the following being heard:

Vivien Sekeres expressed concern about the new Quiet Zone on Mayfield Road, saying that while she understands the need to reduce noise, she worries drivers may unknowingly receive tickets for honking. She suggested the city add warning signs about enforcement and asked if she could hold a sign herself to alert drivers.

Mayor Ward responded that the city has supported protest activities while prioritizing safety, noting prior appreciation for police presence. He explained that complaints from residents led to discouraging signs that promote honking, as unnecessary honking is illegal in Ohio, though only warnings, not citations, have been issued. He emphasized the city's authority to establish a Quiet Zone and its goal of encouraging cooperation. In response to Ms. Sekeres' question, he confirmed she may hold a sign stating, "Police will ticket for honking."

Goffredo Di Fiore, a Lyndhurst property owner, submitted a public comment to the Assistant Clerk of Council regarding Ohio Revised Code Section 1347.05(E) on agencies' duties in maintaining personal information systems; the comment will be filed with the meeting minutes.

Joe Nahra, 1492 Edgefield Road, expressed frustration that Cleveland Lighting has repeatedly damaged his lawn and landscaping and has not responded to his complaints. He has installed concrete barriers and is requesting assistance from the city.

Mayor Ward responded that the city's options are limited but include citing the party responsible for restoration costs. He directed the Building Commissioner to inspect the property and issue a nuisance abatement citation if warranted.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-27
INTRODUCED BY: ADMINISTRATION

AN ORDINANCE PARTIALLY SUSPENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF BEER AND WINE AT THE LYNDHURST PARK DURING SCHEDULED 2026 SUMMER CONCERT EVENTS

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. 2026-27 be placed on third reading for final passage and that it be highlighted.

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

Motion carried.
Rules Suspended.

Ordinance No. 2026-27 was highlighted by Mrs. Miller, with section 3 being read in its entirety.

It was moved by Mr. Gambatese, seconded by Mr. Price, that Ordinance No. 2026-27 be passed.

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

Motion carried.
Ordinance No. 2026-27 is passed.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M.

Approved: April 6, 2026

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

Vice Mayor