

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Council

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held February 9, 2026

Rittman City Council Met in a
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 9, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Don Sweigert, Hayward, Amanda Nelson, Rich Schumacher, Melissa Shows and Nick Huff
Members Absent: None
Presiding: Mayor Rudy Arnold

The invocation was given by Ken Mann followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Workshop

a. Discussion on Stormwater updates/new chapter in our codified ordinances by GPD. Marilyn Coffee who is GPD Group’s MS4 Coordinator, attended the meeting via a TEAMS meeting. Marilyn advised that she has been working with the City for the past 3 years on multiple MS4 permit-related items. This included preparing the permit-required ordinance updates that are on second reading tonight. Marilyn works with multiple municipal clients to address MS4 permits, stormwater-related and floodplain management as well as other water resources projects. Marilyn also answered questions from Council as to why this needed to be done and what changes were actually made. Further discussion was held regarding bringing the ordinance current with EPA requirements as well creating two new chapters.

Approval of Minutes

a. January 12, 2026. Nelson moved to approve. Sweigert had concerns with the minutes not reflecting enough information. Simpson replied that according to the Ohio Sunshine Laws, minutes do not need to be word for word, just reflect the public bodies decision. Upon roll call, Schumacher – Yes, Huff – Yes, Shows – Yes, Nelson – Yes, Sweigert – No, Hayward – Yes and **motion carried.**

Citizens Forum

Jerry McAvinew – 80 Bellevue – discussed the state of the sidewalks and how bad they are.

Teresa McAvinew – 80 Bellevue – stated the roads were not plowed very well. She got stuck on Gish Road, not because of the drifting, but because it wasn’t plowed. Also, there are piles of snow everywhere, making it hard to see around corners.

Tina McMillen – 243 Ritter – stated the sled riding event was a great idea. She also stated the Council needs to have zoom meetings or put them on YouTube. The rest of the community wants to be able to see the meetings.

Old Business

a. Ord. No. 8504 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Creating Chapter 946, Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Control, of the Codified Ordinances and Declaring an Emergency. Second Reading. Ord. No. 8504 was read on second reading. Schumacher moved to place on third, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

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b. Ord. No. 8505 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending Chapter 1105, Stormwater Runoff Control Criteria, of the Codified Ordinances and Declaring an Emergency. Second Reading. Ord. No. 8505 was read on second reading. Shows moved to place on third, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

c. Ord. No. 8506 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Amending Chapter 1180 Erosion and Sediment Control, of the Codified Ordinances and Declaring an Emergency. Second Reading. Ord. No. 8506 was read on second reading. Sweigert moved to place on third, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

New Business

a. Res. No. 8508 A Resolution of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, certifying that when a municipal obligation was incurred sums were lawfully appropriated in the funds to satisfy this obligation according to the attached sheet(s) and declaring an emergency. Three Readings. Res. No. 8508 was read on first reading. Huff moved to suspend the rules, upon roll call Hayward – No, Huff – Yes, Nelson – Yes, Schumacher – Yes, Shows – Yes, Sweigert - Yes and **motion carried.** Nelson moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

b. Ord. No. 8509 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, authorizing all actions necessary to accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) 2026 Energized Community Grant and declaring an emergency. Three Readings. Ord. No. 8509 was read on first reading. Nelson moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Shows moved to adopt. Beshara stated that the City was awarded \$15,704.00 to use towards anything energy related such as but not limited to street lights and energy efficient lighting. All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

City Manager's Remarks

AMATS Grants - The City of Rittman has qualified for and received a grant for resurfacing College Street from Main Street to Industrial. This is a 2030 or 2031 project. Estimated cost of the project is \$\$541,195 and the city will receive \$464, 576. Thank you to GPD for assistance with this grant and to AMATS for the funding of this project.

As a reminder, N and S Main is slated to be resurfaced in 2028. That is a \$1,053,856 of which we will receive approximately 85% funding. This is another AMATS funded project. Also, we are applying for a Connecting Communities grant through AMATS. The grant awards \$50,000 to two communities each, and we hope that Rittman will be one of the two chosen. We want to develop a Downtown Redevelopment Plan that looks at improved connectivity (to surrounding neighborhoods and the County Line Trail), transportation safety, streetscaping, and land use/economic development tools.

NOPEC grants 2026 - The city is receiving a \$1,500 grant from NOPEC for Community Events. This grant will be used for the Community Room tables and breakfasts which are provided to our senior citizens throughout the year.

We also will be receiving a NOPEC Energized Community grant of \$15,704 to be used for energy related projects in the city. Chuck and I will discuss the best needs for these funds.

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New Floors in the Police Department - One of Chief Shows capital projects is coming to fruition. Chief Shows is getting quotes to replace his floors using the same material that was put in the Rec Center. If you haven't seen it, it's very beautiful and durable. The Chief will be getting the quote to me soon.

RCAP - In order to get a better understanding of water and wastewater rates we charge our citizens and businesses, we are working with RCAP, which stands for the Rural Community Assistance Program. RCAP will engage the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership to provide their findings. We look forward to this information to better help us understand our current usage trends, a review of our revenue and expenses, projected capital costs, etc. The total fee for both utilities is approximately \$11,000.

Sledding with our 1st responders - A big shoutout to Officer Hunter, Chief Shows and Chief McDonald and members of their staff, for putting on such a fun event for the families of Rittman. Kudos and thanks to the Rittman Chamber, Rittman High School Boosters, Rittman IGA, Pizza Hut and individuals who provided food, sleds, firewood and fun.

Officer Hunter nomination - Officer Hunter has been nominated by Wayne County Children's Services for the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award. Congratulations on this very prestigious nomination. A luncheon honoring all the nominees will be held on April 25th at the Greystone Event Center.

Finance Director's Remarks

As the cannabis tax revenue was recently released, I wanted to briefly review the reported numbers. Seville received \$235,907.86 for the 2025 fiscal year. These funds can be used for public safety—supporting salaries, benefits, and equipment purchases—as well as infrastructure and community services such as parks and recreation. I understand this has been a controversial topic, but if the issue of bringing a dispensary into the city arises again, these figures should be taken into consideration.

The monthly financial report was redone to simplify the information and make it easier to understand. The report is broken down into different sections. The first section is an overview of the general fund showing the year-to-date revenues and expenditures along with the cash balance. The second section shows each fund and its year-to-date revenue and expenditures along with the percent remaining to collect or spend. The remaining sections reflect the general fund expenditures, the fund specific expenditures and the capital fund expenditures. They are broken down by personal and operations and include the detail of Budget, Used and Remaining (%). The vouchers are listed on the report as well. I did want to note that these reflect the total payment to the vendor, not each check.

a. **Approval of Financial Report for January, 2026.** Nelson moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Council Remarks

Hayward – thank you everyone for attending and don't forget the Charter Review is Wednesday.

Schumacher - thank you everyone for attending. The Lion's Chili Cookoff is at Heritage Hall from 4 – 7 on February 28. We are looking into video or live streaming, however we cannot stop anyone from filming during a meeting.

Huff – thank you to the street department for the great job plowing and keeping the streets drivable. Also, thank you to Bobbie for obtaining the grants that she does.

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Shows – thank you to the First Responders for the sledding event. Also a big thank you to the street crews; they did a great job.

Sweigert – thank you Missy for the evaluation procedure which you sent to me. Thank you Safety Forces the sledding event was a good thing. And, a great job to the road crews.

Nelson – I went to the sledding event. All the kids had a great time. Of all the snow plowing that I saw, Rittman was the best. As to piling up the snow, there are only so many places to put it. March 5 is the State of the City Address at White Timbers, there is also a Chamber Purse Bingo at White Timbers. White Timbers donated the event space for the Purse Bingo.

Mayor Arnold – the guys did a great job plowing. The utility department worked on many water line breaks in the cold and did a great job. The sledding event was great, I did not go down the hill. Thank you to the Chamber for helping with this event as well as the Purse Bingo. Don't forget the Lion's Club Chili Cook Off on February 28 and The State of the City Address on March 5. Thank you Chrystal for the financial report.

a. **Motion to go Into Executive Session in Accordance with ORC 121.22 for Pending Litigation and to Invite the Mayor, the Law Director, City Manager and Finance Director – 8:21 p.m.** Schumacher so moved. Shows seconded the motion, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

b. **Motion to Come Out of Executive Session – 8:37 p.m.** Hayward so moved, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Adjourn: 8:38 p.m. Huff moved to adjourn, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**



Mayor

Clerk of Council