

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on February 2, 2026 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Alex Stinebaugh, Jessica Muhlenkamp, Charity Behr, John Sheipline, Jacob Parsons and Chad Dunlap. Safety Service Director Tyler Price, Mayor Dan Lee and Law Director Grant Neal were also present. There were 5 visitors present. Councilman Alex Greve was absent.

Motion by Sheipline, second by Parsons to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2026 council meeting as submitted. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Lodging Tax Committee – a meeting was held on 01-21-2026 and the following was discussed:

The meeting was called to discuss a Billboard Project from the Downtown Wapakoneta Partnership. This billboard is a renewal of last year's project with a total cost of \$4450. They do not have new data but the billboard company indicates 22,000 people drive by on a daily basis. There was a brief discussion about how difficult it is to prove the usefulness of billboards but generally everyone was in favor of the project.

The project scored a 23.3 on the rubric and is therefore eligible for funding. Eric made a motion to approve the project at full cost with a second by Mayor Lee. The motion was approved unanimously.

The carryover this year for the Lodging Tax is estimated at \$20,000.

There was a brief discussion of the flock camera system which gives numbers based on date and the opportunity to analyze to see which dates/events draw additional persons to Wapakoneta.

Motion by Muhlenkamp, second by Dunlap to approve \$4450 of lodging tax funds to the Downtown Wapakoneta Partnership for billboard lease expenses. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Finance Committee – a meeting was held on 01-27-2026 and the following was discussed:

Went over the budget for 2026, Paula Anderson said pool membership is taxable and pool concession stand should have more of a markup for 2026 season. Jacob Parsons brought up where can you find cost of projects done by contractors? Tyler Price said it is information and can be found on city website.

Line items discussed of importance. Police 3,719,250.00 fire 3,894,900.00 Recreation department 464,600.00 pool 479,068.00. 200,000.00 was transferred to the pool. Had a discussion on parks levy to be voted on in May of this year. All budget items can be reviewed on ordinance 2026-07.

Streets & Alleys Committee – a meeting was held on 01-28-2026 and the following was discussed:

Andy Beane had expressed need for a meeting to discuss the 2026 Tax Levy Program. Budget this year is \$1,500,000. Andy provided a list of 15 streets that he would like to consider for mill & pave projects. Bids will go out in April. When bids come back, we will discuss which streets we are able to have done within the budget. We also discussed future reconstruction and ODOT funded projects, including the 198/501 intersection, North Water street reconstruction and water/sewage expansion, as well as a roundabout at the intersection of Redskin Trl. and 501. Other topics discussed were a potential parking lot at the Breakfast Optimist Park as well as stop sign and crosswalk issues in a couple spots around town.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked why there will be no sidewalk program for 2026. Mr. Parson suggested contacting Andy Beane. SSD Price noted that this used to come out of the street levy fund, but has since been removed.

Communications –

Clerk McDonald read a notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control noting a permit change from: Beer & Wine Depot Inc. 804 Lima St, Wapakoneta, Ohio to: MAS Depot Inc. Beer & Wine Depot 804 Lima St, Wapakoneta, Ohio. Council did not request a hearing.

Guest Petitions –

Ms. Brenda Mitchell of 429 E. Sandusky Ave, Bellefontaine, Ohio and a volunteer with 'Convention of States' asked for council's support on a non-binding resolution regarding term limits, fiscal restraints on the federal government, and limitations on the power, scope and jurisdiction of the federal government. Law Director Neal replied that he will provide Council with more information to review at the next council meeting.

Mr. Josh Hall of 413 S. Pine Street addressed council to voice his opposition to the use of flock cameras within the City of Wapakoneta. Mr. Hall stated that he feels it is not necessary to monitor and track people in this fashion and statistics do not show a correlation of crime rates decreasing with their installation. He further pointed out loopholes that can allow release of their data without warrants. Mr. Hall asked Council to reconsider the long term consequences of mass surveillance in the city.

Mr. Eric Roy of 408 W. Pearl Street addressed council to state that he was approached by a police department liaison regarding a gun charge placed upon him. Mr. Roy stated that the evidence he needed to defend his case had been destructed or withheld from him, though his firearm was later returned to him. Mr. Roy further stated that in order for him to feel safe in the town, he is requesting a formal apology and a settlement check from the city.

New Business -

President Doll noted that committee assignments will be distributed in the upcoming council packet. He will also provide council with a link to complete an ethics training video.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2026-06 for the first time re: PROVIDING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS TO ORDINANCE 2025-06 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Shepline, second by Parsons to suspend the rules for Ord 2026-06. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Shepline to adopt Ord 2026-06. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2026-07 for the first time re: PROVIDING APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA, OHIO FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (2026 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE).

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked for the difference between 205 Recreation and 305 Park Fund. SSD Price answered that 205 is the operating fund for the recreation department, and 305 is where the Haus-Helms money sits.

Motion by Shepline, second by Muhlenkamp to suspend the rules for Ord 2026-07. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Muhlenkamp, second by Shepline to adopt Ord 2026-07. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2026-08 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO A PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH ODOT FOR PID NO. 118055 AUG US 33 15.65 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

SSD Price stated that the State of Ohio is wishing to move forward with installing a roundabout at the US 33 and I-75 interchange. The city owns a portion of property within the scope of the project and a cooperation agreement is needed. There will be no cost to the City of Wapakoneta.

Motion by Parsons, second by Dunlap to suspend the rules for Ord 2026-08. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Muhlenkamp, second by Stinebaugh to adopt Ord 2026-08. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2026-09 for the first time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SERVICE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES FOR FURNISHING OF FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE SERVICE.

SSD Price noted that the contract increased by approximately \$9000.

Mayor's Report:

Admin

GovDeals has generated \$8,167.00 YTD

The updated Policy and Procedures Manual is now in effect. It has been some time since it was reviewed and updated.

People are utilizing the new Report a Concern Online Form with positive feedback for accessibility. This report is monitored during business hours. If it is an emergency please contact the appropriate agency.

1,018 enrolled in our SMS/Email Alerts system

Fire

The Fire Department responded to 43 incidents including a building fire, EMS calls, medical assists, gas leak, water/steam leak, odor of smoke, and smoke detector activation.

Police

568 calls for service with 48 reports being taken

We have done final interviews with the Parks candidates and look forward to making a decision this week.

Electric

Three of our linemen went out on mutual aid to Forest City North Carolina. Eric Schroeder, Walt Axtell, and Jared Osborne. It is important to remember that when others ask for mutual aid we respond. Because one day we may need mutual aid and need to know that those that can, will respond.

Public Works

Public thank you to all that assisted in the snow removal efforts. Our crews were working very hard to keep up with mother nature. This snow event was one of the biggest we have had in some time and it had its challenges. Thank you for your patience. We appreciate all the people in the city that worked overtime to keep us safe.

Vanessa and I appreciate all the condolences on the Passing of her Mother Lois Faye Farley on December 22 and Ronnie Harold Farley on January 23. Our hearts are heavy but our Spirit is firm as we trust that God's peace will continue to carry us forward.

Safety Service Director Report:

\$31,000 in past due utility bills have been recovered.

\$330,000 reimbursement is coming from Ohio Public Works Commission from the Water Street project.

Experiencing some mechanical issues with a few city vehicles.

Leaf pickup will continue once the snow melts.

Law Director Report:

The 'Convention of States' non-binding resolution item would simply be an expression of opinion by the city, with no legal affect. Additional summary will be provided for council's review and consideration at next meeting.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp asked if a code violation could be enforced if a resident fails to clean snow from their sidewalk. Mr. Neal answered that while there is a code section applicable, the matter is difficult to enforce once snow melt occurs.

Scheduling Committee Meetings:

Recreation Advisory Commission will meet March 16th at 6:30pm at City Hall.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Shepline to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Vote – 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

President

Clerk of Council