

President Chad Doll called the meeting to order at 7:30pm on March 16, 2026 at 701 Parlette Court with the following members present: Alex Stinebaugh, Jessica Muhlenkamp, Charity Behr, Alex Greve, 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.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Sheipline to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2026 council meeting as submitted. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

**Communications Committee** – a meeting was held on 03-09-2026 and the following was discussed:

We discussed the new communication strategies the city has adopted through Facebook and text messages. We also discussed the role of the informer, its past responsibilities, and its future potential. We considered the costs and drawbacks of printing materials and explored the possibility of collaborating with the administration to make information available on the city's website, thereby enhancing efficiency. We plan to conduct a trial run to assess the effectiveness of this approach.

**Communications –**

Clerk McDonald read a notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control noting that all Class C and D retail permits to sell alcoholic beverages in this political subdivision will expire on June 1, 2026. Council did not request a hearing on this item.

**Guest Petitions –**

Ms. Katherine Clark of 9145 Scotch Ridge Road, Bowling Green, and volunteer for 'Convention of States Action' spoke to Council once again about Article V and the resolution that has been put before the State of Ohio. Ms. Clark asked for Wapakoneta City Council's support of Resolution 2026-10.

Mr. Travis Saam of 1010 Hickory Circle and representing Air-tow Trailers spoke to Council regarding a tax abatement request for an expansion at their manufacturing facility located at 625 Commerce Drive. Mr. Saam provided councilors with a hardcopy presentation about their company, including expansion project overview and tax abatement request details. Mr. Saam explained the request is for a 15-year, 75% real estate tax abatement. City Administration indicated that council will be presented with legislation regarding the matter at their next meeting. President Doll asked if the abatement would require school board approval. Wapakoneta attorney Mike Burton then stated that he represents Flex Trailers in said application and a CRA has been drafted and provided to City Administration. Mr. Burton explained that notifications must be submitted to the municipality, Ohio Department of Development and school board, and this has been completed. School board approval is no longer necessary, as the CRA statute was amended a few years ago to allow for such abatements without this type of approval. Mr. Burton noted that the proposed legislation will be drafted to have emergency language.

**Unfinished Business –**

President Doll reminded councilors to complete the online ethics training video.

President Doll asked for an update from the Recreation Advisory Commission meeting. Mrs. Muhlenkamp noted that preliminary levy campaign planning was discussed and interested parties are invited to attend the next meeting, scheduled for March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm at City Hall.

**New Business –**

President Doll noted that council will take a new group photo prior to its next meeting.

President Doll also stated that there are several vacancies within the City's standing commissions and invited community members wishing to serve to please contact Safety Service Director Price.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Res 2026-10 for the third time re: A NON-BINDING RESOLUTION CALLING UPON THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT CONCURRENT LEGISLATION TO TRIGGER A CONVENTION OF STATES OF THE KIND CONTEMPLATED BY ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

Motion by Greve, second by Parsons to adopt Res 2026-10. Vote – 6 yeas, 1 nay (Muhlenkamp). Motion passed.

President Doll asked Clerk to read Ord 2026-14 for the second time re: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY FROM HERITAGE PARK TO THE AUGLAIZE ST PARKWAY.

**Mayor's Report:**

Admin

Continue to watch the river to try and keep it within the banks

Tax Department

Continued interviews for Tax Administrator position.

IT Department

31 applicants for IT Technician; 12 interviewed; narrowed to 2 finalists.

Second interviews scheduled

Two-factor authentication is being implement across the city.

Fire Department

Fire prevention: annual inspections at multiple businesses.

Roof Repair is under way Thanks to frost roofing for their quick response..

Police Department

454 calls for service; 42 reports.

High wind event with no major issues.

Recovered five counterfeit \$100 bills

Conducting Patrol officer interviews next week.

Participated in murder mystery event; escorted high school wrestlers to State Championships.

Parks / Pool Department

Some Damage from the high winds

Waterpark rentals nearly full for the season.

Submitted capital funding grant request for Veteran's Park playground upgrade.

Electric Department

Dylan Davis moved from Public Works and is starting March 16 as Ground Worker.

Apprentice #1 position posted March 10.

Water Reclamation Department

Maintenance Worker II with CDL position posted.

Public Works / Refuse & Recycling

Street sweeper operated most of the week; goal to sweep entire city by next week.

Registered staff for arborist training (April 13–17).

Preparing mowing equipment for season.

Mr. Greve asked if plans for a bicycle path between Wapakoneta and St. Marys are still being considered.

Mayor Lee responded that Jamie Nelson is continuing to work on this project.

President Doll asked Mayor Lee for a summary regarding which entities are responsible for bridge repair and river dam control. Mayor Lee answered that the City controls the flow volume at the Auglaize River dam and the county is in charge of any bridge work. Hamilton Street bridge is up for reconstruction in 2027 but this work will not involve the dam. Mayor Lee added that the city will try to keep the river flowing and the level up as much as possible.

**Safety Service Director Report:**

Correction from last meeting: the 501 / 198 project will begin in May 2026 rather than 2027.

Thanks to all departments helping fix damages after the recent wind events.

Public service academy starts April 7<sup>th</sup> at no cost to participants.

Mrs. Muhlenkamp suggested adding the 'report of concern' feature to the city's app.

Mr. Greve and Mr. Stinebaugh asked that area businesses and local residents be notified of the 501 / 198 project timeline.

President Doll asked for an update on the replacement of damaged Veterans Banners throughout the city. SSD Price stated that the Electric Department is working with the VVA on this item.

**Law Director Report:**

An appropriations action was filed in Common Pleas Court regarding the 501 / 198 project. Abatement legislation will be prepared by next council meeting.

**Scheduling Committee Meetings:**

Recreation Advisory Commission will meet March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm at City Hall.  
Health & Safety Committee will meet March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at City Hall.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Dunlap thanked crews at Frost Roofing for their efforts across the city in repairing damage after the recent wind storm event.

Motion by Sheipline, second by Dunlap to enter executive session at 8:14pm for conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action and inviting City Administration as well as Attorney Jeffrey M. Stopar. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Motion by Greve, second by Parsons to exit executive session at 8:59pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Dunlap, second by Muhlenkamp to adjourn the meeting at 8:59pm. Vote – 7 yeas, 0 nays. Motion passed.

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President

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Clerk of Council