

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 5, 2025
Council Chambers
7:00 P.M.

President Harris called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL - Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Cost, Mr. Houser, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Neely, Mr. Rath, Mr. Rine

INVOCATION – Ms. Bline

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CAUCUS - Motion by Mr. Marmie to excuse Mr. Labutis and Mr. Barker, Second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed by acclamation

MINUTES of April 21, 2025, Motion to accept by Mr. Houser, Second by Mr. Marmie, passed by acclamation

APPOINTMENTS

There are none this meeting.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance - **Received and Filed without objection**

Service – **Received and Filed without objection**

Safety – **Received and Filed without objection**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

There are none this meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

There are none this meeting.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Shelby Aeby-Hopkins, 45 N. Front St. - I just wanted to come and tell you all how the car show went. We had about 45 cars there and we raised a total of one thousand- four hundred dollars. It was a really good turnout and it was great to see a few of you there and there was a lot of laughs and a lot of good times. Thank you guys so much. Have a good night.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

There are none this meeting.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

There are none this meeting.

RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING

By: Mr. Chute, Mr. Cost, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Mr. Rath, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-19 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$46,502.00 Radar Detection System SR 13 @ SR 16 EB Ramps, 4th/W. Locust, EB SR 16, WB – the 3 intersections are all on 4th St. – upgrade 3 existing serial fiber intersections to IP) (\$300,000.00 Cover City portion of N. 21st St. & Granville Rd. intersection, \$629k coming from OPWC)

Motion to adopt by Mr. Chute, Second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed 8-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Cost, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NEWARK FOR PLANNING, DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT #7 AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion passed 8-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Cost, Mr. Barker, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-21 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACTS, SUBJECT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, FOR VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion passed 8-0

By: Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mr. Barker, Mr. Chute, Mr. Rath, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-22 A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (\$300,000.00 Cover City portion of N. 21st St. & Granville Rd. intersection. \$629k coming from OPWC)

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed 8-0

RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING

Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Rath, Mr. Neely

25-23 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE STATE OF OHIO 2025 NATUREWORKS GRANT.

Held until May 19, 2025

Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Rath, Mr. Neely

25-24 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEWARK TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2026 OHIO TRAFFIC SAFETY SUMMER HOLIDAY ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (SHEP) GRANT

Held until May 19, 2025

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-25 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ACCEPT BIDS AND SELL CERTAIN SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY NOW OWNED BY THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, AND DECLARING THAT SUCH PROPERTY IS NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Mr. Cost

Mr. Rath – Mr. President, the reason for the emergency clause on this is to be able to meet advertising deadlines.

Motion passed 8-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-26 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ODOT CONTRACT (018-26) FOR ROAD SALT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Rath, Second by Ms. Bline

Mr. Rath - Mr. President, the reason for the emergency clause on this is to accommodate ODOT who does nothing in a timely manner. We have to meet deadlines.

Motion passed 8-0

Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Ms. Bline, Mr. Chute, Mr. Rath, Mr. Neely

25-27 Exp A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION. (\$4,160.00 Energy Cooperative donating money for portable gas meters)

Motion to waive the 2-day reading rule by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Houser, Motion passed 8-0

Motion to adopt by Mr. Marmie, Second by Mr. Rine, Motion passed 8-0

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-29 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO SELL CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED HEREIN BY INTERNET AUCTION

Held until May 19, 2025

By: Mr. Rath, Mr. Cost, Mr. Marmie, Ms. Bline, Mr. Neely

25-30 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO CONTRACT, SUBJECT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE HORNS HILL MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK TRAIL REFRESH.

Held until May 19, 2025

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Mark Mauter, Director of Development – Thank you, Mr. President. I'm the city of Newark's community and economic development director. Just a quick update. It's springtime which means city cleanup time and the department of community development, parks, and property management, we collectively and collaboratively work together every year. I've lost track of how many years we've been doing this now, but we come together and we do community cleanups. Two weeks ago, two Saturdays ago, we were in the Hudson Avenue area and it was very successful. We filled almost an entire compactor truck, which by the way that equates to about a 30-yard dumpster worth of trash that is no longer on the streets in the city. This past Saturday we were on what we call the west side. Think of Union Street corridor and places that radiate out from there. Probably our wettest cleanup day on record. We were a bunch of drowned rats out there quite honestly, but we had a good time and we made a lot of progress. This is no small event. Our department, the Community Development Partner Department, we send about 1,300 letters out which allows us to notify the property owners that this is upcoming and how they can participate. The property maintenance crew, they go out and do what they call a blitz where they do a very intensive oversight of the neighborhoods that we're going to be collecting from and if they see an issue they'll notify the property owners. So instead of giving a violation issuance they said hey we can help you with this. We're going to have a community clean-up day. It's free. It's at no charge. It's your tax dollars at work. So, they put a lot of effort, and then the Parks Department, Chance Patznick, she always has a crew out there that brings a dump truck and if there are people who cannot get their items to where we are located with the compactor truck, we'll go out and schedule appointments to do a pickup right at their right at their place of residence. So, it's been very successful and just want to let you know that that is going on again and I'd like to recognize our council president. He was present at both of these these past two Saturdays. So, we appreciate you coming out and being part of that. Thank you very much.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tricia Moore, Law Director – I'll pass. Thank you.

Mayor Hall – Just a couple of quick things. Thursday was the rededication of the main courtroom over at the Licking County Courthouse. What an absolutely stupendous courtroom that is. We're very fortunate. The restoration experts even said at the end of the day it could have been one of the best revealing jobs they've ever done. It's just unbelievable. So, if anybody can get a chance I'm sure they'll have an open house sometime. Friday, we kicked off the 10th annual farmers market at the canal market which is pretty nice and thanks the Liberty Middle School stage band and the Newark High band that came that day and performed and did really good. It was very packed and very busy and did really nice. Then on Saturday, the Land of Legend Barbershop Chorus celebrated their 75th anniversary and Commissioner Bubb and I were on stage to congratulate them and then they performed. It was a wonderful performance. A lot of people in the Midland Theater. They've got a gentleman there that is one hundred years old. He's done almost all 75 years in the barbershop chorus, but we're fortunate to have people that want that much talent, whether it's at the high school or the middle school or in the Land of Legend chorus to bring great music into our venues across the city. With that, I will pass. Thank you.

Ms. Bline – Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to thank our Parks Director, Director Patznick and our Service Director Mr. Rhodes. We did a tour of south Newark parks and just did some touches here and there and took notes of what may need improvement and my goodness, so much work has been done. So, I'm really grateful for their flexibility and taking in the opinions of the citizens. It really does make a big difference, so I'm grateful to them. I attended that Order the Mustangs car show. Sadly, the car that I chose did not win, but I still had a good time dreaming looking at them. It was great and congratulations to them. I would like to thank property maintenance for their intervention. You know they are a very hard-working group of people and they do a lot not only in making sure that our communities look great, but their interventions also help keep people in their homes. So, I'm so grateful for them and I just want to give them a shout out and I know they'd be embarrassed if they were here tonight but I hope they're listening. Thank you.

Mr. Chute – Thank you, Mr. President. I will pass.

Mr. Cost – Thank you, Mr. President. I will also pass.

Mr. Houser – Thank you, Mr. President. I'll echo Councilwoman Bline's comments about the Parks Department. They recently gave (inaudible) Park in the south side a little facelift. I think it looks really nice out there and got a new piece of equipment in there and that turned out really well. So, I want to thank them for that. With that, I will pass.

Mr. Marmie – Thank you, Mr. President. I need to call a Finance Committee meeting for May the 19th and the only other thing is I would like to extend my thanks for Mr. Tim Carr and what he did for this community and his passing was something that was kind of a sudden, unique situation, but he did a lot for this community and I just want to give my condolences to his family and thank him for the service that he provided to our community. With that, I pass.

Mr. Neely - Thank you, Mr. President. I would also just echo the condolences and prayers for the family of Tim Carr. He was a dedicated public servant, served on Newark City School Board, CTEC School Board, was the president of the Newark City School Board, and yeah, a phenomenal man gone way too soon, so I just extend my condolences and my prayers. With that, I will pass.

Mr. Rath – Thank you. I want to remind everybody that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental health comes with no labels, no signs. Reach out to somebody if you think that they might appreciate that, especially with our safety forces. They deal a lot with a lot of different issues. They can certainly appreciate having people reach out to them. Speaking of our safety forces, I got an email today from our Safety Director, Mr. Hickman, who was forwarded an email from Craig Riley. I'm not going to read the whole thing, but I'm going to read the beginning. The Newark Division of Police has achieved gold-level recognition for 2024 as part of the Lexipol Connect Customer Recognition Program, which recognizes law enforcement agencies for excellence in policy, maintenance, and training. This is the highest level of recognition currently offered by Lexipol. This program was started in 2021, and this is the fourth consecutive year our NPD has been recognized as gold, so congratulations for that. We'll call a Service Committee meeting for May 19th. I would like to encourage everybody who is involved to vote tomorrow. And with that, I will pass.

Mr. Rine – Thank you, Mr. President. I'll pass.

President Harris – Thank you. I have a couple things. I just want to echo what Mr. Mauter said. Thank you, everybody, for all the cleanups. I really want to recognize Dan and Margaret

Maloney. They live on Hudson Avenue, and on that Saturday, they had their own trash cans going around, just picking up trash, even along the highway, picking up trash. They gave a big shout-out to Buster and the Street Department for the way the grass was looking on the highways. They said it was looking pretty nice. So, I want to thank them. They didn't have to do that. All you guys are in trouble because not one of you guys said anything about Mother's Day Sunday. So, don't forget about Mother's Day. That's the most important holiday of the year, guys. So, I wish everybody a happy Mother's Day. Mr. Labutis has a birthday on Saturday. I'd like to wish him a happy birthday. And none of you guys wished me a happy birthday, which is Wednesday.

Mr. Marmie - It's birthday, not birth week.

(laughter)

President Harris - When you turn 55, you can have the week, okay?

(laughter)

ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by Mr. Cost, Second by Mr. Houser, passed by acclamation

Jeff Harris, President of Council