

## Service Committee Minutes

Honorable Council  
City of Newark, Ohio  
December 15, 2025

The Service Committee met in Council Chambers on December 15, 2025 with these members in attendance:

Jeff Rath – Chair  
Dustin Neely – Vice Chair  
Bill Cost Jr.  
Beth Bline  
Bradley Chute

### We wish to report:

- 1. Resolution No. 25-82** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITHOUT COMPETITIVE BIDDING, SUBJECT TO THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW DUMP TRUCK AND BED FOR THE WATER DISTRIBUTION/SEWER MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT THROUGH SOURCEWELL, THE STATES COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM.

**Brandon Fox, Water Administrator** - Good evening. Well, so everyone's talking about budgeting for 26. I'm trying to spend the remaining 25 funds. This was a dump truck that we had budgeted for in 25 and were just kind of waiting until the end of the year to see if we did have the extra cash and didn't have to spend it on another emergency. We do have the cash available to purchase this in our water funds, a total of \$161,800.53 through Source Well, which is a State Cooperative Purchasing Program. That is a, I put in my notes there, it's about \$63,000 below their list price. It seems expensive, but it does offer us a significant decrease in price. So, looking for your approval to forward that on. Happy to answer any questions. It's replacing a dump truck that's about 16 years old. We've had a little bit of issue with that dump truck and just trying to turn those over as we would with other fleet vehicles.

**Mr. Rath** - What happens to the old one?

**Mr. Fox** - We'll either auction it off or if there's some need in the city that it can be turned over to another department, but I doubt it for that one.

**Mr. Rath** - In reference to \$63,000 below cost, I see a customer allowance of \$62,833.47. Is that just a discount?

**Mr. Fox** - That's our state purchasing discount. Yes.

**Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Neely, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion passed 5-0**

- 2. Resolution No. 25-84** A resolution appointing a new member to replace a citizen member vacancy; reappointing a citizen member and the local government member to the Board of Trustees of Newark Downtown New Community Authority; and declaring an emergency.

**Mark Mauter, Director of Development** - Thank you, Mr. Chair, and good evening, committee members. This is really some housekeeping item for what is relatively new, this Newark Downtown Community Authority. And because of its newness, when it was originally set up for the Board of Directors, the directors were kind of laddered in or staggered in, so there was a couple of them that just had one-year terms, and the other ones had two-year terms. So, what's before you tonight is the reappointment of a couple of the city council appointment members, which is Kori Caughenbaugh and Brandon Hess. Their terms have expired, and we want to reappoint them for two years. I do recommend that you do this appointment. Also, under city council is what's called a local government representative, and Fred Ernest, the Director of Newark Development Partners, held that position. Fred, as I think you know, has retired from Newark Development Partners and is going to resign his position here on the board. So, we'd like to, in his place, appoint Patrick Sullivan, who is the new executive director of Newark Development Partners. In this particular case, he is going to be appointed to fulfill the existing term of Fred Ernest, which will run through June 16 of 2026. I'll come before you again to probably do a reappointment for Patrick. Lastly, in the legislation are the mayoral appointments. Myself and Director Hickman are due to be reappointed for another two-year term. I would recommend that you consider those and grant those appointments as well. Any other questions I'll be glad to answer.

**Mr. Rath** – Reason for the emergency clause?

**Director Mauter** - Emergency clause, we just need to get it done. We're at the end of the year, and to be honest with you, this is relatively new and the attorneys overseeing this kind of got to us rather late to have these appointments done. Some of these actually expired in June of 25. Not a problem. The legislation was written so they could be extended through the end of the year. But we'd really like to get this cleaned up and taken care of.

**Motion to send to full Council by Mr. Neely, Second by Ms. Bline, Motion passed 5-0**

**Mr. Rath** – Mr. Fox is going to give us an update on the River Road construction situation.

**Mr. Fox** - Yeah, thank you. I wanted to provide a little update on the River Road closure. We had a few social media posts and some requests on what's happening out there. The sewer line project is going as expected. We had a 60-day closure on that road to get that road closed and back open, which is January 10th. So, they are still shooting for that date, the second week of January. But next week, the current Redwood Apartments have to access their driveway from the west. So, they come down River Road and access from the west. Next Tuesday or Wednesday, that road closure will move the barricades so that Redwood Apartments will enter their driveway or their road from the east. So that is what's going to change next week. Granville schools have been notified about that, post office has been notified about that. But some customers are getting notices from Granville busing to tell them about that change. That's what's happening next week. So, when the kids come back to school on January 6th, the Redwood Apartments will be entering from the east, from the roundabout side. So that's the big change that's going to happen next Tuesday or Wednesday. I'm happy to answer any questions on that.

Meeting stands adjourned

Jeff Rath - Chair