

Regular Council

November 24

25

The regular meeting of the Waterville Council was called to order by Mayor Tim Pedro at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Waterville Municipal Building.

The prayer was offered by Mayor Pedro. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and led by veterans Matt Harrell and Doug Meyer.

Present at roll call were Mary Duncan, Wayne Wagner, Tim Pedro, Rod Frey, Anthony Bruno, Todd Borowski and John Rozic.

Also present this evening was Jon Gochenour, Municipal Administrator; Kati Tharp, Law Director; Steve Schult, Treasurer and Jeni Malaczewski, Recording Secretary.

Staff Present:

Tiffany Bachman – Finance Director
Joe Valvano – Police Chief
Doug Meyer – Fire Chief
Rob Binkley – Public Works Director

Citizens Present:

Please see Citizens' Sign-In Sheet, Exhibit A, Page 1 for a list of people present.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bruno moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2025 Regular Council meeting. Mr. Rozic seconded the motion, which passed by a voice vote with Mr. Borowski abstaining.

Citizens Comments

Chris Celusta, 121 Rutledge Dr., discussed proposed data centers in the Waterville area.

Scott Jahns, 1207 Applegate St., provided information he had on data centers and asked why there is a concern about a data center being built in the city since there is no land available to build one inside the city limits.

Rachelle Belanger, 860 Cherry Ln., asked Council to state on the record if they were aware of the Mayor meeting with Lucas County representatives or anyone else to discuss potential data centers? And if you were aware, to what extent did you know that Lucas County was seeking potential land to build a data center?

Terri Massucci, 1101 Waterville-Monclova Rd., thanked all who had already donated toys for the "competition" between the City of Waterville and the Village of Whitehouse collecting toys for Christmas.

Lisa Haberstock, 222 N 5th St., discussed her passion for the City of Waterville and her concerns about the possibility of a data center being located in the City.

Staff Reports

Administrator: Jon Gochenour

- Stated he attended the Finance Meeting on November 21. At this meeting, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the proposed 2026 Operating Budget which will be on Council's December 8, 2025 meeting agenda.
- Stated that the City finalized the proposed purchase of the property located at 300 Farnsworth Road.

Kati Tharp: Law Director

- No Report

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Finance Director: Tiffany Bachman

- Reviewed details from the October 2025 Month End Finance Report highlighting fund balances and income tax revenues.

Treasurer: Steve Schult

- Reviewed details of the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2025.

Police Chief: Joe Valvano

- Attended the Waterville United Methodist Church Fall Festival.
- Attended the Waterville Area Chamber of Commerce "Boo to Do" event which went well with no incidents.
- Participated in "Bus Safety Week" with the Anthony Wayne School District.
- Recognized Detective Yowler and Prosecutor Austin Klapp for recent investigations which led to indictments in Lucas County Common Pleas Court.
- Recognized Lt. Cameron Tsolis for graduating from the Police Executive Leadership College.

Fire Chief: Doug Meyer

- Attended the Waterville Area Chamber of Commerce "Boo to Do" event as well and there were no fire/EMS incidents.
- Stated the Waterville Fire Department was able to support the Anthony Wayne Local Schools recent send off for playoff games.

Public Works Director: Rob Binkley

- Christmas decorations are going up.
- Stated that leaf pick up is going on through December 5. Pick up could possibly be extended pending the winter weather.

Communications from Council Members/Committees

Mrs. Duncan

- Attended the Lucas County 911 meeting. Mrs. Duncan stated that Lucas County 911 is currently hiring more personnel.

Mr. Bruno

- No Report

Mr. Frey

- No Report

Mr. Wagner

- No Report

Mr. Borowski

- No Report

Mr. Rozic

- Attended the Finance Committee Meeting and the Fire Co-Op meeting in Whitehouse.
- Mr. Rozic also attended the data center "townhall" meeting at Anthony Wayne High School.

Mayor Pedro

- Discussed preparations for the proposed 2026 City Budget.
- Discussed the upcoming vacancies on City Council in January 2026. Anyone interested in filling these seats, please submit a letter of interest or resume by Friday, December 5, 2025 for full consideration.
- "Light up Waterville" will be December 7, 2025 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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OLD BUSINESS:

A. DISCUSSION ITEM MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTER CONSTRUCTION

Council held a lengthy discussion regarding the passage of a moratorium on the construction of data centers within the City of Waterville.

Mr. Wagner made a motion to place a resolution on the December 8, 2025 agenda of Council imposing a 12 month moratorium on data center construction in the City of Waterville. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Wagner – yes, Mr. Rozic – yes, Mr. Borowski – yes, Mr. Bruno – yes, Mrs. Duncan – no, Mr. Frey – yes, Mayor Pedro – yes. The motion passed.

B. RESOLUTION 32-25 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE CITY OF WATERVILLE FY 2026 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PLANNING PROGRAM FOR ALL MUNICIPAL FUNDS AND DEPARTMENTS

This is the annual 5-Year Capital Planning Program. The Finance Committee discussed and recommended approval of the program at their October 24, 2025 public meeting. This item is for ongoing discussion throughout the budget preparation process.

Mr. Borowski moved to adopt Resolution 32-25. Mr. Frey seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. RESOLUTION 33-25 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO HELMS AND SON EXCAVATING INC FOR THE 2026 WATERVILLE-MONCLOVA ROAD WIDENING PROJECT

This Resolution authorizes a contract with Helms and Sons Excavating, Inc. of Findlay, Ohio for the 2026 Waterville-Monclova Road Widening Project. The project involves the widening of Waterville Monclova Road from two lanes to three lanes to provide a continuous center, two-way left turn lane starting 280 feet north of Michigan Avenue/ St. Rt. 64 to approximately 300 feet north of Pray Boulevard. A 10-foot wide shared use path will be installed along the west side of the road which will complete the connection of the existing path between Dutch Road and Michigan Avenue/ St. Rt. 64. Street trees, concrete curbs and gutters will also be installed along the length of the 0.64-mile project. The City has secured a \$1,194,906 federal grant and a \$293,285 state grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission for this project. The City received seven (7) competitive bids for this project with Helms and Sons submitting the lowest bid of \$1,584,130. The City Engineer's estimate for this project was \$1,607,482.65. It is the recommendation of the City Engineer and administrative staff that Helms and Sons submitted the lowest and most responsive bid and should be awarded the contract. Helms and Sons has successfully completed this year's 2025 City Paving Program.

Mrs. Duncan moved to adopt Resolution 33-25. Mayor Pedro seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Other Business

Mr. Wagner discussed receiving Council meeting packets by Wednesday instead of the Friday prior to the meeting.

Mayor Pedro discussed installation of the ice rink after leaf collection is completed.

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Mr. Borowski spoke with Scott Buchannan from the Browning Community about collaborating on future City events. Perhaps the Browning property might be a good location for a future fireworks display.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, Mr. Frey made a motion to close the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Mr. Bruno seconded the motion, which passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Jon D. Gochenour, Clerk of Council

Timothy G. Pedro, Mayor