

Regular Council

April 13

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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 Mr. Sargent. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and led by Victor Coleman of First Energy Corporation.

Present at roll call were Mary Duncan, Wayne Wagner, Scott Jahns, Tim Pedro, Nicholas Sargent, Rod Frey and Todd Borowski.

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

Staff Present:

Tiffany Bachman – Finance Director

Citizens Present:

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

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Duncan made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 23 Regular and April 6, 2026 Special Council meetings. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion, which passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Citizens Comments

Mark Weibler, 114 N Sixth St, discussed the need for more roadway berm on Canal Road and Sixth Street. Canal Road is scheduled to be resurfaced this summer.

Leslie Harper, 6115 Forest Edge, Whitehouse, Ohio and Leah Harper, 729 Pine Valley, Bowling Green, Ohio; discussed the possible negative effects of data centers.

Brian Glonek, 7910 Dana Rae Dr., asked questions about the sale of City owned property located at 6730 and 6824 Anthony Wayne Trail. Mr. Glonek asked about the process of rezoning the parcels for residential use.

Lisa Haberstock, 222 N Fifth St., asked questions about the status of data centers.

Victor Coleman of First Energy Corporation, the parent company of Toledo Edison, 6099 Angola Rd., Holland, Ohio, was present to discuss how street light outages are addressed by First Energy. Mr. Coleman was provided with a list of 65 streetlights that are currently out in the City, some of which have been out for more than a year. All of these outages have been reported according to the procedures requested by First Energy.

Staff Reports

Administrator: Jon Gochenour

- Stated that the City's 2026 Sidewalk Improvement Program will be repairing sidewalks on Second, Fourth, and Fifth Streets this summer.
- Stated there has been significant vendor interest in the City's upcoming refuse and recycling contract renewal.
- Stated the Anthony Wayne Area Arts Commission has submitted a final rendering of its mural planned for Mechanic St. Council was provided a copy of the final design in their meeting packets.
- Stated the update to the Council room audio/video system is scheduled to be complete in the next eight to ten weeks.
- Discussed the scheduling of "outdoor movie nights" in Parker Square with a vendor for this summer.

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Law Director: Austin Klapp

- No Report

Finance Director: Tiffany Bachman

- No Report

Treasurer: Steve Schult

- No Report

Communications from Council Members/Committees

Mrs. Duncan

- Stated the 2026 Easter Egg Hunt was a success and thanked Terri Massucci, Deppen Painting and Blue Creek Sports and Recreation for their sponsorship.

Mr. Frey

- Stated the annual joint meeting of the Fallen Timber Union Cemetery District is scheduled for May 11, 2026 at 6 p.m. in the City Council room.

Mr. Wagner

- No Report

Mr. Borowski

- Stated the City of Waterville is to receive the “2025 Tree City USA Growth Award”.

Mr. Sargent

- No Report

Mr. Jahns

- Asked if there will be a fence around the new retention pond on the Port Authority’s property once the development is finished.

Mayor Pedro

- Stated that Kroger will hold a “rededication ceremony” to recognize the remodeling of their facility on April 24.
- The Regional Income Tax Agency of Ohio (R.I.T.A) will be holding their annual meeting on June 9 in Napoleon.
- The Port Authority Roadway Project is nearly complete.
- Mentioned that ODOT opened bids for the demolition of the Roche de Boeuf Bridge on April 9 and is currently evaluating these bids.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. ORDINANCE 01-26 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM THE CITY OF WATERVILLE TO THE WATERVILLE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION
Second Reading

This Ordinance would authorize the transfer of the City owned property located at 6730 and 6824 Anthony Wayne Trail to the Waterville Community Improvement Corporation (WCIC) for eventual sale for residential development. The transfer of ownership to the Waterville CIC will allow the property to be sold for its highest market value rather than through a public bidding process which historically has not met the appraised value of this property.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. ORDINANCE 02-26 AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO THE WATERVILLE GAS AND OIL COMPANY, AN OHIO CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THE RIGHT TO LAY, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, OPERATE, REPAIR AND REMOVE MAINS, PIPES, REGULATORS AND ALL OTHER NECESSARY FIXTURES, APPLIANCES AND APPURTENANCES IN, OVER, THROUGH AND UNDER THE STREETS, ALLEYS AND PUBLIC GROUNDS OF THE CITY OF WATERVILLE, OHIO, FOR TRANSMISSION AND SUPPLY OF GAS OR THE MANUFACTURING OF GAS FOR LIGHT, FUEL OR POWER PURPOSES FOR SAID CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS

First Reading Scheduled for April 13, 2026; Second Reading Scheduled for April 27, 2026; Third Reading and Legislative Action scheduled for May 11, 2026

- B. ORDINANCE 03-26 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE PRICE AT WHICH GAS SHALL BE FURNISHED TO THE CITY OF WATERVILLE, OHIO AND ITS INHABITANTS BY THE WATERVILLE GAS AND OIL COMPANY, AN OHIO CORPORATION, AFTER ACCEPTANCE HEREOF AND UNTIL FIVE YEARS THEREAFTER

First Reading Scheduled for April 13, 2026; Second Reading Scheduled for April 27, 2026; Third Reading and Legislative Action scheduled for May 11, 2026

Ordinances 02-26 and 03-26 involve the renewal of the Waterville Gas Company's current five (5) year franchise and associated rate agreements with the City of Waterville. Under the City Charter, the franchise agreement between the City and Waterville Gas must be renewed every five years. The current franchise and rate agreements will expire on September 12, 2026. Ordinance 02-26, the proposed new franchise agreement, is the same as the current 2021 agreement with the exception of the planned renewal dates. The main changes found in the rate agreement, Ordinance 03-26, are a \$2.00 per month increase in the "customer charge" from \$12.50 to \$14.50. The "volumetric rate" charge of \$6.724 per Mcf (thousand cubic feet) is a decrease from the \$7.55 per Mcf charge in 2021. The volumetric rate indicated in the ordinance is the current market rate as of April 1, 2026 which increases or decreases quarterly based on gas costs charged by suppliers, Ohio use taxes and an "uncollectible accounts adjustment" fee which are indicated in Section 2 of the rate agreement ordinance. The fee charged for uncollectable accounts in the new rate ordinance is \$0.0086 per Mcf which is an increase of \$0.0076 from the rate charged in 2021. The current franchise and rate agreements from 2021 are also enclosed for your review with the changes highlighted in yellow. This is the first reading of these ordinances.

- C. RESOLUTION 17-25 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT FOR ROAD SALT AWARDED IN 2026

The City has participated in the Ohio Department of Transportation's Cooperative Purchasing Program for the purchase of road salt since 2009. This arrangement has worked very well for the City by minimizing the unit price paid for road salt and by providing a degree of stability to the availability of salt. Starting in 2016, ODOT modified the program and now characterizes it as local participation in the ODOT purchase contract rather than in the Cooperative Purchasing Program. This Resolution would authorize participation in the ODOT contract for 2026.

Mr. Borowski moved to adopt Resolution 17-26. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Other Business – None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, Mrs. Duncan made a motion to close the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Mr. Sargent seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Jon D. Gochenour, Clerk of Council

Timothy G. Pedro, Mayor