

Regular Council

September 28

26

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. Jahns. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited and led by resident Rex Childers.

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

Joe Valvano – Police 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. Sargent made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2026 Regular Council meeting. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion, which passed with Mr. Jahns abstaining.

Citizens Comments

Rex Childers, 450 Cedar Ln., a representative of the Save the Bridge Organization, gave an update on the Roche de Boeuf Bridge Project. He also thanked those that helped with the "Rock de Roche" fund raising event.

Terri Massucci, 1101 Waterville-Monclova Rd., asked why the crosswalk at Waterville-Monclova Rd. and Pray Blvd. has flashers on only one side of the sign. Mr. Gochenour stated that the signal complied with ODOT safety standards at the time that it was installed.

Laurie Schofield, Waterville United Methodist Church, discussed the church's 2nd Annual Fall Festival to honor first responders. This event will be held at the Waterville United Methodist Church on October 10 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

John Neff, 11242 Centerville St., Whitehouse, Ohio discussed concerns regarding the use of Flock Safety Cameras in the City of Waterville.

Executive Session

Mayor Pedro made a motion to move into Executive Session for Consideration of a Matter per ORC 121.22(G)(2): the Purchase or Sale of Property for Public Purposes at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Sargent seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Mayor Pedro – yes, Mr. Frey – yes, Mrs. Duncan – yes, Mr. Jahns – yes, Mr. Borowski – yes, Mr. Wagner – yes and Mr. Sargent – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Return to Regular Session

Mr. Jahns made a motion to come out of Executive Session and resume the regular Council meeting at 8:46 p.m. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion which carried by unanimous voice vote.

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Staff Reports

Administrator: Jon Gochenour

- Discussed the progress of the Waterville Monclova Rd. Widening Project which is substantially complete.
- Fire Station improvements are also substantially complete with the exception of “snow guards” which will be installed on the rear roof of the building.
- The “Rock de Roche” event was a great success. Looking to add additional electrical outlets on the “outlook” in Parker Square.
- A Citywide “Bulk Pick-Up Day” is scheduled for Saturday, October 10.
- Met with a representative of the Christmas Committee along with Council Members Borowski and Duncan. The event is scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2026, from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Law Director: Austin Klapp

- No Report

Finance Director: Tiffany Bachman

- Reviewed details of the August 2026 Financial Report highlighting fund balances, investments and income tax revenues.

Treasurer: Steve Schult

- Reviewed details from the August 2026 Month End Treasurer’s Report.

Police Chief: Joe Valvano

- First “Bike to School Day” was held on September 24.
- Waterville’s Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Waterville Fire Station.
- Officer Saylor was elected to the Ohio District 2 “Community Relations Advisory Board.”

Fire Department

- The Fire Department provided an activity report for the month of August 2026.

Public Works Director: Rob Binkley

- Stated Public Works is currently flushing hydrants throughout the City.
- Leaf pick up will start Monday October 26.

Communications from Council Members/Committees

Mrs. Duncan

- Met with the students in Grades 6 - 8 at the Anthony Wayne Junior High School. She emphasized the need to be safe when operating e-bikes.

Mr. Frey

- Stated there is a need to schedule a Fallen Timbers Union Cemetery District Joint Meeting on October 12 to appoint a representative from the Village of Whitehouse.

Mr. Wagner

- Spoke with Polly Miller about a memorial bench for former Waterville Primary Principal David Hilborne at Parker Square.

Mr. Borowski

- Met with Wendy Gray about the City’s Christmas event.
- Rock de Roche event was great. Food trucks are already wanting to sign up for next year.

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Mr. Sargent

- Discussed need for crosswalk lights on N. Second St at Farnsworth

Mr. Jahns

- No Report

Mayor Pedro

- The Rock de Roche event was great.
- Attended the 4th Grade Student Council Induction Ceremony and spoke with 2nd graders at Waterville Primary School.
- Attended the Arbor Day Tree Planting at Waterville Primary School.
- Planning to attend an “Eggs and Issues” event on Wednesday, September 30 at Danny’s Café in Rossford regarding development issues.
- Stated that the City of Waterville was recognized as one of the top 14 “most charming” cities in Ohio.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. RESOLUTION 30-26 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE ANNEXATION OF THE TERRITORY PROPOSED FOR ANNEXATION BY THE PETITION FILED BY AUSTIN KLAPP, AGENT FOR THE TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY, ON MAY 20, 2026 WITH THE LUCAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

On May 20, 2026, a petition was filed for the annexation of 50.438 acres on the south side of Neapolis-Waterville Road just west of Waterville-Moncolva Road into the City of Waterville by the Lucas County Port Authority. The Lucas County Commissions approved the petition on July 14, 2026. The City received the written notice of the Commissioners' approval on July 23, 2026. The City must accept the annexation not less than 60 or more than 120 days from the date of approval by the County Commissioners.

Mr. Frey moved to adopt Resolution 30-26. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion, which passed by a voice vote of 6-1 with Mr. Wagner voting no.

- B. REFERRAL TO PLANNING COMMISSION A ZONING CHANGE FROM AGRICULTURAL TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (M-1) FOR THE PARCELS LOCATED AT 8451 AND 8551 NEAPOLIS WATERVILLE ROAD

A request has been received from the Lucas County Port Authority for a zoning change from Agricultural to Light Industrial District (M-1) for the parcels located at 8451 and 8551 Neapolis-Waterville Road. These parcels recently requested consideration by Council for acceptance into the City through annexation from Waterville Township. The next meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for October 5, 2026.

Mr. Borowski made a motion to refer the zoning change request to the Planning Commission for their review and recommendation. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion, which passed by a 7-0 voice vote.

- C. RESOLUTION 31-26 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PROUDFOOT ASSOCIATES INC. FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES TO PREPARE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND BID DOCUMENTS FOR THE WATERVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PARKING LOT/ADA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

This Resolution would authorize the Municipal Administrator to enter into an agreement with Proudfoot Associates, Inc. to prepare plans, specifications and bid documents for the 2027 Waterville Historical Society Parking Lot/ADA Improvement Project. The project involves the creation of a 35-space paved parking lot, perimeter landscaping, storm water detention and an ADA compliant ramp for the rear entrance to the historic 1881 Wakeman Hall to provide enhanced public accessibility. The project will allow the Waterville Historical Society to expand its level of historical programing and promote further economic activity in the downtown area by providing much needed, additional paved parking for annual community events, nearby restaurants and other businesses. The project is scheduled to begin construction in the Spring of 2027. The estimated cost of the proposed project is \$170,000 with the City receiving an \$85,000 grant from the State of Ohio Capital Budget through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. The cost of the planned engineering work is \$25,270.

Mrs. Duncan moved to adopt Resolution 31-26. Mr. Jahns seconded the motion, which passed with a 6-0 voice vote with Mr. Wagner abstaining.

D. RESOLUTION 32-26 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF WATERVILLE AND THE METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT OF THE TOLEDO AREA REGARDING THE FUNDING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE FARNSWORTH PARK INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO THE PROPOSED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

This Resolution authorizes the approval of a proposed "Memorandum of Understanding" (MOU) between the City of Waterville and the Metropolitan Park District of Toledo (Metroparks) to cooperate on the funding, design and construction of the proposed Farnsworth Park Inclusive Playground Project. The City and the Metroparks would each contribute to funding a portion of the estimated project cost for the construction of inclusive playground facilities at Farnsworth Park which would provide access to all children regardless of their ability. The Metroparks will pursue a \$500,000 Land and Water Conservation Grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to offset the costs of this proposed project.

Mr. Sargent moved to adopt Resolution 32-26. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion, which passed with a 7-0 voice vote.

Other Business – None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, Mr. Wagner made a motion to close the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Mr. Borowski seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Jon D. Gochenour, Clerk of Council

Timothy G. Pedro, Mayor