

As Circulated March 3, 2025
3/17/2025 Regular Council Meeting
Elyria City Council

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of Elyria City Council was called to order on Monday March 3, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. by President Stewart. President Stewart opened the meeting requesting a moment of reflective silence. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council member Tollett. President Stewart requested all cell phones please be turned off or placed on silent mode.

2. ROLL CALL: COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESENT: Callahan, Cerra, Armstrong, Oswald, Mitchell, Tollett, , Davis, Schneider, Stewart

Excused Absent: Lipian, Siwierka

Moved by Cerra, seconded by Mitchell to excuse Council member Lipan's and Siwierka's absence.

MOTION CARRIED

OTHERS PRESENT: SSD Pyanowski, Fin. Dir. Pileski, Law Director Deery, Police Captain Grooms, Fire Chief Pronesti, Engineer Schneider, BO Farkas

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Cerra moved Mitchell seconded to approve meeting minutes of the February 3, 2025 and February 18, 2025 Regular Council meetings.

MOTION CARRIED

5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

Safety Service Director:

Safety Service Director Pyanowski shared that Mayor Brubaker is recovering well from his shoulder surgery. He was in the office for a few hours on Monday March 3rd. Everything is being taken care of in his absence.

Finance Director:

Finance Director Pileski provided an update that everything in the general fund was posted for February. February was a better month than January, expenditures exceeded revenue by \$36,444.63, revenues were two million two thousand nine hundred forty-two dollars. For the first two months of the year the cash balance has dropped in the general fund. Income tax revenue is up by 5% in February. March the city should see the first of two property tax distributions through the year.

Council member Schneider inquired about clarification regarding the amount for property tax collection. Finance Director Pileski explained property taxes are distributed into four different funds; general fund, general bond retirement fund, and a portion to police and fire pension funds. Each distribution totals about 1.5 million split between the four funds.

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5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS: Continued

Council member Tollett stated that his understanding of the finance reports distributed by Asst. Finance Director Farrell, it looks like there was a loss in January, and a gain in February. Finance Director Pileski stated the revenues are still below by \$36, 000.

Law Director Deery:

Law Director Deery shared that she anticipates amendments to codified ordinances with respect to adult use marijuana usage will be going to Planning Commission for the April meeting. Law Director Deery has been in discussion with Finance Director Pileski with respect to potential revenues that may come. To date, no monies have been received from the state. The general assembly is looking to drastically change the formula and the amount that local host communities will be receiving for having dispensaries. Which are not what voters voted on. Law Director Deery provided an additional update regarding Common Pleas court and a phone conference on Days Inn. A motion was filed to have a receiver appointed due to benchmarks not met according to the agreement.

Finance Director added that a recent update regarding adult use marijuana appears that the city may not receive any monies.

EPD: No report

Captain Grooms expressed although he did not have a specific departmental report, he did have two- time sensitive request. The first was to apply for an OCJS , Office of Criminal Justice for the State of Ohio application for grant monies to assist with the Violent Crime Reduction Program. Discussion held to clarify the status of the request as a referral to committee or a vote before council. SSD Pyanowski requested that consideration of a vote be taken so the information could be included in the grant.

Tollett moved to approve the motion from the floor for the OCJS grant, Schneider seconded.

MOTION CARRIED

Captain Grooms second request was approval for travel beyond the 500- mile radius to Vancouver British Columbia for the International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligent Analyst conference April 7th -11th .

Tollett moved to approve the travel, Cerra seconded.

MOTION CARRIED

Council member Schneider inquired if there were any issues with staffing for the FBI unit with the changes taking place at the federal level of government. SSD Pyanowski responded that a couple of meetings have been held with the FBI to confirm funding, a few bids have recently been received, a follow up meeting is scheduled later in the week and one of the structures have been downsized within the financial commitment from the government, from the FBI.

EFD: No report

Eng. Schneider: No report

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5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS: Continued

Council member Siwierka inquired if scheduled ride alongs should be coordinated with Engineering. Engineer Schneider stated not at this time.

BO Farkas:

Building Official Farkas provided an update on demolition carryover from 2024. The addresses are: 327 West River Rd., 330 West River Rd., 115 Tannery, 130 Cedar St. 317 Fuller

Building Official Farkas provided an employee update regarding the residential person previously hired, the employee did not work out and they are looking to promote from within the department. Round two of interviews for property maintenance inspectors are being conducted.

Council member Oswald inquired about an update on a project that he referred to as a “Kevin Flanigan project”. Building Official Farkas responded the project has been approved and is awaiting payment of fees.

Council member Armstrong expressed his appreciation for the demolition of 317 Fuller and the update of 115 Tannery.

6. PRESIDENT’S REFERRAL’S:

** Matter is completed or partially completed*

1. The matter of Chapter 735, Massage Parlor Establishments for discussion and possible action.
REFERRED BY: COUNCIL MEMBER CERRA- WARD 7/ ASSD CALVERT
REFERRED TO: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

2. The matter of a conditional use permit for 1000 Lowell Street.
REFERRED BY: SALON BLOCK SUITES
REFERRED TO: PLANNING COMMISSION/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

3. The matter of the proposed zoning code.
REFERRED BY: CITY PLANNER CHRIS SCHOENIG
REFERRED TO: PLANNING COMMISSION/ STRATEGIC PLANNING

4. The matter of creating a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) for the construction of the new Public Works Complex.
REFERRED BY: MAYOR BRUBAKER
REFERRED TO: JOINT- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ FINANCE COMMITTEE

5. The matter of disposing of municipal property unfit for use: IBM # 1808.
REFERRED BY: PWS CURTISS
REFERRED TO: FINANCE COMMITTEE

6. The matter of supporting the state Issue 2 Renewal of the State Capital Improvement Program on the May 6, 2025 statewide ballot.
REFERRED BY: ENGINEER SCHNEIDER

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6. PRESIDENT’S REFERRAL’S: Continued

REFERRED TO: FINANCE COMMITTEE

7. * The matter of authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept if awarded a grant from the Office of Criminal Justice (OCJS) for the 2025 Violent Crime Reduction Grant.

REFERRED BY: POLICE CAPTAIN GROOMS

REFERRED TO: FINANCE COMMITTEE

7. PETITIONS- LOBBY:

8. PETITIONS–COUNCIL MEMBERS:

9. REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None

10. RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:

Sponsored by

Finance

P. Tollett
M. Siwierka
B. Davis
J. Cerra

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LIST OF PROPERTIES FOR THE COLLECTION OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY REPAIR COSTS AND/OR DEMOLITION RELATED COSTS, AND DIRECTING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY SAID COSTS TO THE LORAIN COUNTY AUDITOR.

Tollett moved, Davis seconded to pass this resolution on its first reading under suspension of rules.

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE
AYE: 9	AYE: 9
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 2	ABSENT: 2
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by

Finance

P. Tollett
M. Siwierka
B. Davis
J. Cerra

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-13

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 REPORT OF THE ELYRIA TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Tollett moved, Schneider seconded to pass this resolution on its first reading under suspension of rules, and declaring an emergency

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE	EMERGENCY
AYE: 9	AYE: 9	AYE: 9
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 2	ABSENT: 2	ABSENT: 2

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10. RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:

Sponsored by
Finance
P. Tollett
M. Siwierka
B. Davis
J. Cerra

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-14

A RESOLUTION FINDING THAT THE CITY HAS UNFIT FOR MUNICIPAL USE CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY.

Tollett moved, Davis seconded to pass this resolution on its first reading under suspension of rules.

SUSPENSION		PASSAGE	
AYE:	9	AYE:	9
NAY:	0	NAY:	0
ABSENT:	2	ABSENT:	2

Sponsored by
Finance
P. Tollett
M. Siwierka
B. Davis
J. Cerra

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-15

A RESOLUTION FINDING THAT THE CITY HAS UNFIT FOR MUNICIPAL USE CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY.

Tollett moved, Schneider seconded to pass this resolution on its first reading under suspension of rules.

SUSPENSION		PASSAGE	
AYE:	9	AYE:	9
NAY:	0	NAY:	0
ABSENT:	2	ABSENT:	2

11. RESOLUTIONS--SECOND READING: None

12. RESOLUTIONS--THIRD READING: None

13. ORDINANCES--FIRST READINGS:

Companion to Resolution

Sponsored by
Finance
P. Tollett
M. Siwierka
B. Davis
J. Cerra

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-34

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF ELYRIA TO DISPOSE OF CITY PROPERTY THAT IS UNFIT FOR MUNICIPAL USE.

Tollett moved, Schneider seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of rules.

SUSPENSION		PASSAGE	
AYE:	9	AYE:	9
NAY:	0	NAY:	0

Minutes Approved

As Circulated

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17. MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

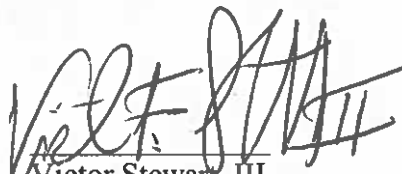
Council member Oswald stated he has received complaints in his ward concerning Amazon drivers pulling off the side of the road into resident's yards to make deliveries.

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Mitchell moved, Cerra seconded to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting at 7:25 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED


Michael J. Lotko, III
Clerk of Council


Victor Stewart, III
President of Council

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqUwWYBeNSA>

Rlp /

