

Minutes of June 5, 2025 Council

Meeting of the Clayton, Ohio City Council
Clayton Government Center
June 5, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stevens at 7:30 PM. Present were Mayor Stevens and Councilmembers Farmer, Henning, Gorman, Merkle, Kelly, and Bachman.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mayor Stevens read and presented to Earl Harlamert of Clayton's Park Commission a Proclamation declaring July Parks and Recreation Month.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Seim presented the minutes of the June 5, 2025 Council meeting. Motion by Gorman, second by Kelly to approve the minutes as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Earl Harlamert of the Parks Commission advised the month of July is exercise month and every week in July we will have a different exercise instructor teaching a class at Meadowbrook at Clayton. We will have the schedule out shortly, but it's to get people out to exercise, to get people moving again because summer is here. We also have a beautiful golf course and the pickle ball courts. The parks have been mowed and we're starting to see a lot of people in the parks.

Law Director Dillon stated we have a request to add a Resolution to this evening's agenda which is Resolution R-06-25-50 that allows the purchase of a leaf vacuum machine from Dinkmar Inc. In speaking to Mr. Sanders there is a four-month time to build the machine and he is therefore requesting that it be added to this evening's agenda. Motion by Henning to add Resolution R-06-25-50 to tonight's agenda, Merkle seconded the motion. All yeas, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance No. O – 05 – 25 – 06 An Ordinance Authorizing Amendment to Designation of Job Categories and Pay Schedules. Second reading, no further discussion. Motion by Henning to approve the Ordinance, second by Farmer. All yeas, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. R – 07 – 25 – 47 A Resolution Amending Council Rule IV (7) Pertaining to Motions to Reconsider. Law Director Dillon advised prior to tonight's meeting Councilman Merkle inquired about clarifying the language in the Motion to Reconsider. When the word "matter" was used, replace it with "item of legislation." Also when the word "item" was mentioned add "of legislation." Motion to amend the Resolution with the suggested clarification was made by Henning, Merkle seconded the motion. All yeas, motion carried. Motion by

Henning to approve the Resolution as amended, motion was seconded by Merkle. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 07 – 25 – 48 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Accept Proposal of and Enter Into an Agreement with Russell Tree Experts Ltd. for 2025 Tree Removal, Trimming, and Related Services. Randy Sanders, Public Service Director, advised our current tree contractor has retired, we advertised and received only one bid, Russell Tree Experts Ltd. The city utilizes tree contractors for code enforcement dead tree removal as well as larger trees staff cannot handle in our parks and cemeteries. Motion by Kelly to approve the Resolution, second by Gorman. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 07 – 25 – 49 A Resolution Approving Amendment of 2025 Appropriations and Estimated Resources. Kevin Schweitzer, Finance Director, advised we received monies from an insurance company due to a fire at 161 Ashbrook earlier this year, the repairs have been made and the insurance monies need to be paid to the owner. The City sold the 2007 Fire staff car on GovDeals for \$6,050, the Fire department is utilizing the proceeds of the sale as well as some of the fund balance in the Capital Improvement Projects fund to renovate the kitchen in the fire house. The Police department needs to have Opti-Vise install and monitor the encryption of the hard drives in the mobile data terminals to be in compliance with the Criminal Justice Information System requirements, this expense of \$9,780 will be coming from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund. The Fire department received a grant of \$9,198.85 for personal protective equipment, an increase in revenue and expenses is needed in the fire fund. Some unplanned headstone work and earthwork was performed at the city cemeteries, so an increase in appropriations of \$1,500 is needed to cover this work. Motion by Gorman to approve the Resolution, second by Kelly. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 07 – 25 – 50 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Purchase from Dinkmar, Inc. a Leaf Vacuum Machine at a Total Cost of \$92,000.00. Sanders advised this leaf machine will be added to the two machines already in operation. Both machines are in fair condition but are starting to require extra maintenance. This purchase has been delayed for a few years for budget reasons. If one of these machines break down, we will not be able to keep up with the leaf demand this fall. Motion by Gorman to approve the Resolution, second by Henning. All yeas, motion carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Amanda Zimmerlin, City Manager, advised the finance department received the Government Finance Officers Association award again for this year's budget, the award letter is attached to your City Manager's report. The Planning Commission will have two items before it at their June 23rd meeting. The zoning change from RSD to PDD and preliminary plat for a 30-acre parcel near the intersection of Taywood and Westbrook, and then the final plat for Hunter Path phase three. The earliest those items will be before Council is the July 17th meeting. If you recall at the November 21st meeting Council expressed interest in placing gas aggregation on the ballot. The item was tabled at the January 6th meeting since we discovered that the city would have to pay for the election if we placed it on the ballot in May. If the item is to be placed on the November ballot and it passes, we'll be required to hold public hearings on the matter similar to what we did with electrical aggregation and Council would need to vote on legislation to join the NBCC gas program. If you would like to do this we need to request to put it on the ballot to the board of elections by August 6th, and if Council would like to do we can have legislation at the July 17th

meeting. Clayton's charter section 703 had a charter review and this was presented to Council at the January 16th meeting, and Council decided to table those. If Council would like to have those on the November ballot we will need to have those items to the board of elections by August 6th as well. So if Council would like to have those items placed on the ballot we can bring legislation at the next council meeting. And then finally if you'll recall in my last City Manager report there was a little piece about 29 parcels in the old village that a resident had made a request for us to look at why they were paying both Clay Township and City of Clayton tax for fire services and whether or not it would be a better idea to just bring everybody under one umbrella and why that didn't happen. I will turn it over to Law Director Dillon to give you an explanation. Law Director Dillon advised in looking at this what I'm concluding is that there was likely some discussion back in the late 90s not to change those boundaries. I'm not finding any specific document that says that specifically. That's just what I'm getting from what I am looking at. Basically since the boundaries were never changed to conform to the city boundaries those residents are residents of both the township and the city. They can vote on both township issues and city issues and township candidates and city candidates, and they also pay taxes to both. There is a procedure in the Ohio Revised Code whereby we can pass legislation and petition the board of county commissioners to change the city boundary. I'm just looking for directions to see if Council wants to go that route or if you want to leave it the way it is. After discussion Council directed Zimmerlin to send letters to the 29 property owners asking for their input.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Bachman stated congratulations to Kevin (Schweitzer) and the finance department but also our entire staff. That award is not only the gold standard, it's a standard we follow, but that's still phenomenal getting that every year. Earl (Harlamert), the Parks Advisor Commission, you know it's nice what your group does. We do give you a lot of credit throughout the year with all the events and show our appreciation but to have a Proclamation was very nice for your group, well deserved. I've enjoyed the events we've had so far this year and I'm really looking forward to all the upcoming events. I want to thank the Northmont Chamber, they hosted their golf outing today. I was the lone Clayton representative, but they did pair me up with one person from PNC. Meadowbrook's course looked great, and the event went off well. I was able to meet Cassy our new Events Planner, a very nice woman and with her background coming from wedding venues we're looking forward for her getting started. Kelly stated Kevin, definitely congratulations, we expect nothing less. Your team is amazing with everything that goes into budgeting, so thank you again. Congratulations again Brendan, you didn't disappoint Clayton for the last place team for golf. I want to make a mention about the parks commission, we didn't include Elaine (Wittman) who is in charge of a lot of things and wears many hats, she works her tail off. I want to congratulate Elaine too for doing everything event wise while we didn't have an event planner. She is an amazing employee, and she does a lot of things, thank you Elaine. Merkle congratulated Earl and the Parks Commission members, the one thing I want to point out is that they're all volunteers. This is how things work, you step up to the plate and provide your time, so Earl thank you for your time and everyone who works with you. Kevin congratulations on a job well done and everyone else in the city as well. Gorman I'd like to thank Kevin for all his fine work and Earl for the park commission and all the great things they do in the parks around town and thank you for your work and your dedication. I'd also like to wish all the veterans a happy Veterans Day and thank them for their service, and I'd like to wish everybody a Happy 4th of July because I will not be here for the June 24th meeting. Henning stated I have a few things

tonight, first off I officiated a wedding at Meadowbrook, so congratulations to Adam and Malia Ironton, their parents are longtime residents. Elaine and the team at Meadowbrook did a fantastic job at that wedding on May 25th, so thank you to the staff. Earl and your team of volunteers, thank you so much and I'm glad that the Mayor and Council recognize the month of July for you. It's usually a beautiful month here with sunshine and warmth, so thanks for all you do. As we've said before you know a lot of students don't have the opportunities to travel and leave the Clayton Northmont area during the summer, so the parks and other local attractions are where their memories are made. So thank you and to your entire crew please give them our appreciation. I wanted to say congratulations to all the Northmont retirees who just finished a chapter of their life, we appreciate all you did for the community and students. And finally some sadder news, I found out walking into the building tonight that a longtime Clayton resident Lisa Bower passed away, so to Greg and the Bower family we are sending thoughts and prayers your way. She was a Northmont retiree and did so much for so many students. I hope everyone has a healthy and happy summer and stay safe out there. Farmer stated good evening everyone, I wanted to bring up again the Planning Commission meeting the City Manager mentioned. It's a great place to learn about the developments and see what our Planning Commission has to say. I personally like going to get insight on how they arrive at their conclusions which I can always bring to council meetings. They talk about the 100 days of summer between Memorial Day and Labor Day, so I just want to encourage everybody to be safe out there, double check your intersection crossings and blind spots and since kids are out of school, just be safe and mindful. Earl thanks to you and the parks commission for all you're doing and I'll join you in let's get Clayton moving again. Stevens thanked the parks advisory commission, you do a fantastic job. Congratulations Kevin and your staff and really to the whole staff. Kevin gets the letter and we appreciate him, but it is a group effort and we appreciate everyone and that also includes Council. I just want to say thanks to everybody for coming in tonight, thanks to Council and to all our staff members for making Clayton a great place to live and work and play.

Motion by Gorman, second by Kelly to adjourn. All yeas, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.