

Minutes of March 5, 2026 Council

Meeting of the Clayton, Ohio City Council
Clayton Government Center
March 5, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Farmer at 7:30 PM. Present were Mayor Farmer and Councilmembers Bustos, Henning, Gorman, McDowell, Kelly, and York.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mayor Farmer recognized Kevin Schweitzer, Finance Director, for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Seim presented the minutes of the February 19, 2026 Council meeting. Motion by Gorman, second by Kelly to approve the minutes as presented. All yeas, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance O – 02 – 26 – 01 An Ordinance Amending Clayton Codified Ordinance 351.011 to add a Graduated Penalty Structure for Snow Emergency Parking Violations and to Clarify Enforcement by Citation and/or Towing; and Declaring an Effective Date. Second reading, no further discussion. Motion by Henning to approve the Ordinance, Bustos seconded the motion. All yeas, motion carried.

Ordinance O – 02 – 26 – 02 An Ordinance Amending Part Fifteen, Chapter 1520, Section 1520.01 of the Clayton Codified Ordinances Regarding Fire Hydrant Spacing; Aligning Local Requirements with the Ohio Fire Code; Authorizing the Fire Chief to Approve Reasonable Allowances; and Establishing an Effective Date. Second reading, no further discussion. Motion by Gorman to approve the Ordinance, Kelly seconded the motion. All yeas, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance O – 03 – 26 – 04 An Ordinance finding good cause for vacating Flower Street or part thereof in the City of Clayton, and that such vacation will not be detrimental to the general interest; finding that the vacation was properly noticed as required by R.C. 723.06 and 723.07; and requiring that the original Ordinance or a certified copy thereof shall be recorded in the official records of the county recorder. Motion by Gorman to approve the Ordinance, Henning seconded the motion. All yeas, motion carried.

Resolution No. R – 03 – 26 – 25 A Resolution Amending the 2026 Annual Appropriations for the City of Clayton, Ohio. Kevin Schweitzer, Finance Director, advised a new council member decided to take health insurance coverage, this is an unbudgeted item so an additional \$18,000 is needed for the General fund. The Fire department started 2026 with more funds than budgeted. There are equipment needs that they would like to use the additional monies for. The amount requested is \$14,500. Motion by Henning to approve the Resolution, Kelly seconded the motion. All yeas, motion carried.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS

Earl Harlamert of the Parks Commission thanked everyone who came out to the Dance Party. We had 79 attend and everyone had a great time. Mr. Harlamert also shared a calendar of upcoming events hosted by the Parks Commission this year.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Elaine Wittman, City Manager, advised we had originally announced the closure of Westbrook Road this week, due to the heavy rain we've experienced this week the project has been moved to next week, Westbrook Road will be closed Tuesday through Friday between Hoke and Union Roads. We have received calls on an issue with National Road at Haber. The contractor cut into the pavement to run utilities, and since the asphalt plants are not open they have been using gravel as the patch. However, due to the heavy rain, it keeps washing out. They have determined they will use a plate to cover the opening until the asphalt plants open which we hear may be March 23rd. Ms. Wittman also shared information on a possible CRA/Tax Abatement request. The developer submitted a request to Council for tax abatement through a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) for a speculative industrial development project at 6942 Salem Avenue. Council asked that this be brought forth at our next meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

York thanked everyone for coming this evening. We have a number of activities coming up in March, the cleanup at Clayton Park, that is a little dear to me as I grew up playing baseball there pretty much every day in the summer. Kelly thanked everyone for coming out to the Dance Party and thanked Willy and the Parks Commission for hosting the event, everyone had a great time. Thank you Kevin, he has always achieved every excellence goal in your finance department, and his department has always been conservative on spending, congratulations and thank you. McDowell stated good evening and congratulations Kevin, and thank you all for coming out. Once again, if you have any concerns, please reach out to the Mayor. Enjoy your month of March, I hope it's warmer with less weather. Gorman thanked everybody who attended the Dance Party, they really enjoyed themselves, and even DJ Willie had a good time. Kevin, I would like to thank you also for 19 years in a row for receiving this award. Henning congratulated Kevin for the budgets you put forward for us, the taxpayers know what a great job you do, we really appreciate you. Tomorrow is the NEF auction, all money raised goes towards grants for scholarship assets that the school district may not be able to provide, such as technology for the classroom, assets that help individuals with any type of disability, and teachers grants. It's a very worthwhile charity that I'm proud to support. Also tomorrow is the Farm Bureau annual fish fry. Montgomery County Farm Bureau does a tremendous job advocating for the community. Tomorrow is also the 100 year anniversary of Esther Price Candies, and tomorrow is her birthday. It will be celebrated at Caroline Park. Bustos congratulated Kevin on a great job with the City's finances, thank you to Elaine for always answering my questions, and thank you to everyone for coming this evening. Farmer reminded everyone the NEF Auction is tomorrow evening at Meadowbrook, please come out for that. I also want to recognize the National Surveyors week, I've learned surveyors are quite important and I've come to appreciate their skills. I ask our residents to please be patient with us during our growing pains and road variations, they will be over soon and we can get back to normal. Kevin, I just want to thank you for your work as our finance director.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.