

June 11, 2026

City of Northwood Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting of the Northwood City Council was called to order by Mayor Schimmel at 07:13 PM on June 11, 2026 in the Council Chambers and via Live Stream.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Schimmel

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Clerk of Council Popovitch and those in attendance were as follows: Mayor Schimmel, Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk City Administrator Kevin Laughlin, City Attorney Brian Ballenger and City Engineer Josh Auman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 28, 2026 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **Approve**; seconded by Councilor Huntermark. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
RESULT: *Passed (7-0)*

PRESENTATION

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMMUNICATIONS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development Councilor Barton - Meeting on 6/25/26 @ 6:30PM

No Report. Next Meeting June 25 @6:30PM

Finance Councilor Dickey - Meeting on 6/11/26 @ 6:30PM

Discussed revenue concerns and a potential revenue shortfall projected for 2027.
Discussed a proposal for an outside financial review and determined Council would like to review the matter further before proceeding.
Recommended postponing consideration of major equipment purchases until the City's financial outlook is clearer.
Discussed the need for future recommendations to address revenue shortfalls, including potential adjustments to income tax credits, income tax rates, or property taxes.

Recreation Board Councilor Barton

The Recreation Board meeting scheduled for June 10 was not held due to a lack of quorum.
Palooza in the Park was held on June 5 and was reported as one of the most attended community events to date.
Youth baseball season is progressing well and is expected to conclude in early July.
Summer youth camps have begun, including volleyball and basketball camps, with additional baseball, basketball, pickleball, and volleyball programs scheduled through July.
The Youth Fishing Derby will be held on June 20 at Stoner Pond.

Safety Councilor Kretz

No Report.

Tree Commission Council President Melnyk

Reviewed the condition of the tree farm at Nature Trails Park. Most trees are doing well, although several evergreen trees planted last year did not survive the winter.
Discussed a volunteer-led effort to remove invasive Bradford pear trees from an area near Nature Trails Park.
Approved moving forward with a microforest project planned for fall 2026, pending confirmation of a suitable city-owned location.
Discussed potential locations for a donated Liberty Tree and commemorative plaque, including near the new playground or near the Clock Tower location at the Enclave.

Service Councilor Edwards

No Report.

Parks, Rec & NCC Councilor Huntermark

Report from Director:
Average attendance for June is approximately 115 check-ins per day.
Membership continues to grow, with primary memberships increasing approximately 23% compared to the previous year.
Basketball hoop inspections are scheduled, requiring temporary gym closure from June 15–18.

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Committee of the Whole Council President Melnyk

No Report.

MAYOR Mayor Schimmel

Mayor's Report

Announced the hiring of Caleb Campbell as a part-time firefighter/EMT.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR Kevin Laughlin

City Administrator's Report

Bike to the Bay

The MS Bike to the Bay event will travel through Northwood on June 13. Participants will travel through portions of Tracy Road, Andrus Road, East Broadway, and Wales Road.

Inclusive Playground Grant

The City was awarded a \$300,000 State Capital Budget grant for the Inclusive Playground Project. With secured grant funding, the project is currently expected to have no direct cost to the City.

Great Eastern Property

A nuisance abatement notice was posted at the Great Eastern property. Ownership has 21 days to address the identified issues before the City may proceed with abatement measures.

Woodville Road Pedestrian Improvement Project

ODOT agreed to cover construction inspection and oversight costs due to favorable project bids. The City anticipates savings of approximately \$75,000 as a result.

General Comments

City officials noted the importance of continuing efforts to maximize efficiency and reduce costs where possible. Council expressed optimism regarding progress on both the Great Eastern property and recent grant and project funding successes.

CITY FINANCIAL REPORT(S)

MAY 2026 EXPENDITURES

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **acknowledge receipt of the May City Financial Reports;** seconded by Councilor Huntermark. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

RESULT: Passed (7-0)

LIST OF EXPENDITURES OVER \$10,000

<u>INVOICE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
TRAINFO CORPORATION	SENSOR, ELECTRONICS & CAMERA KIT FOR RAILROAD SENSOR SYSTEM	\$10,500.00
WOOD COUNTY OFFICE	SHERIFF'S MONTHLY DISPATCHING FEE	\$17,370.82
NORTHWOOD DOOR	FIRE STA 1 & 2 DOOR REPLACEMENTS	\$18,676.00

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **approve the list of expenditures over \$10,000;** seconded by Council President Melnyk. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

RESULT: Passed (7-0)

NEW RESOLUTION

PENDING RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2026-04 ADOPTING ESTIMATE OF REVENUES FOR BUDGET YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2027; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

2nd Reading - Councilor Edwards

NEW LEGISLATION

June 11, 2026

ORDINANCE 2026-21 AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS OF THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

1st Reading - Councilor Edwards

ORDINANCE 2026-22 DETERMINING TO HAVE THE CITY JOIN THE NORTHWESTERN WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION TO THE DISTRICT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

1st Reading - Councilor Edwards

ORDINANCE 2026-23 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD TO ENTER INTO A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH WOOD COUNTY TO ALLOW FOR COLLABORATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE PY2026 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION PROGRAM (CHIP) GRANT APPLICATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **Suspend the rules**; seconded by Councilor Dickey. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **Move on Emergency Clause**; seconded by Councilor Dickey. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **Move on Final Adoption**; seconded by Councilor Dickey. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

RESULT: *Passed (7-0) Effective immediately*

PENDING LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 2026-18 AMENDING NCO CHAPTER 220.02 RULES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

2nd Reading - Councilor Edwards

ORDINANCE 2026-19 AMENDING NCO CHAPTER 270 RECREATION BOARD; PARKS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

2nd Reading - Councilor Edwards

ORDINANCE 2026-20 AMENDING NCO CHAPTER 208.08 MISCELLANEOUS FEES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

2nd Reading - Councilor Edwards

ORDINANCE 2026-14 AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO RENEW A CONTRACT WITH NORTHWOOD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE THE DISTRICT WITH A "SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)" PROGRAM FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **Move on Final Adoption**; seconded by Council President Melnyk. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

RESULT: *Passed (7-0)*

ORDINANCE 2026-16 AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF OHIO FOR THE RESURFACING OF STATE ROUTE 51, INCLUDING THE PORTION LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD, AS PART OF AN ODOT 2027 RESURFACING PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **Move on Final Adoption**; seconded by Councilor Kretz. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

RESULT: *Passed (7-0)*

ORDINANCE 2026-17 AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO THE FIRE/EMS MUTUAL-AID AGREEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION: Councilor Edwards made a motion to **Move on Final Adoption**; seconded by Council President Melnyk. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None

RESULT: *Passed (7-0)*

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No Report.

CITY ENGINEER’S REPORT/DISCUSSION Josh Auman

City Engineer's Report

Contracts for the Curtice Road Project have been signed and a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled. The Dry Creek Restoration Project is nearing completion of its operations and maintenance documentation. Dalling Drive remains under construction.

MOTION: Councilor Huntermark made a motion to **awarding the 2026 Pavement Resurfacing Project (Richmand and Dillrose Roads) to Bowers Asphalt & Paving for approximately \$373,178.70;** seconded by Councilor Dickey. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
RESULT: Passed (7-0) Construction is expected to begin in August.

The west side of the Dalling Drive project has been postponed until 2027.
Work continues on the Northwood Community Center parking lot project.
The Wales Road closure was expected to end and the roadway reopen permanently.
The Woodville Road Waterline Replacement Project has been delayed from June 15 to June 22.
A pre-construction meeting for the sidewalk replacement project is tentatively scheduled for July 6.

NEW BUSINESS

Council discussed questions from residents regarding electric bikes and scooters, including where they may operate and general safety concerns. Administration will review current regulations with the Police Department and may bring recommendations back to Council.

Council recognized the passing of Rick Radocy, who served on several City boards and commissions, including the Board of Zoning Appeals. Funeral services will be on June 26th.

Council received a letter from Judge Kuhlman thanking Council for the opportunity to address the previous Council meeting and expressing appreciation for their service to the community.

OLD BUSINESS

Council discussed complaints regarding backyard chickens.
It was noted that Council previously adopted regulations limiting the number of chickens, prohibiting roosters, and establishing setback requirements. Administration will coordinate with the Police Department regarding enforcement and any ongoing concerns.

Great Eastern Property
Administration reported that the property owner had provided an updated timeline showing cleanup activities through June 30. The City will continue monitoring progress and may proceed with nuisance abatement actions if necessary.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Bill Herman - 820 Bradner - A resident expressed concerns regarding ODOT's proposed roundabout at the intersection of Williston Road and Bradner Road, citing safety concerns and the potential impact on nearby property owners. City officials clarified that the project is being led by ODOT and provided information for the resident to contact ODOT directly regarding the proposal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Council President Melnyk made a motion to **enter into executive session with Mayor, Council and City Administrator to discuss hiring of a public employee ;** seconded by Councilor Kretz. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
RESULT: Passed (7-0) 7:53PM

The meeting was called back to order at 8:10PM and the roll was called by Council Clerk Popovitch. Those in attendance were as follows: Mayor Schimmel, Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk City Administrator Kevin Laughlin, City Attorney Brian Ballenger and City Engineer Josh Auman.

MOTION: Council President Melnyk made a motion to **hire Erik Engle as the Director of Planning, Zoning and Economic Development with an annual salary of \$100,000 ;** seconded by Councilor Barton. **ROLL CALL: Yes:** Councilor Barton, Councilor Dickey, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Kretz, Councilor McGaharan, Council President Melnyk; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
RESULT: Passed (7-0)

ADJOURNMENT

08:10 PM

June 11, 2026

ATTEST: _____
Council Clerk

APPROVED: _____
Mayor