

March 13, 2025

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 07:00 PM on March 13, 2025 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 Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner City Administrator Kevin Laughlin and City Attorney Brian Ballenger.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 27, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Councilor Huntermark made a motion to **Approve**; seconded by Councilor Stoner. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** Council President Randy Kozina
Result: Passed

PRESENTATION

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Dave Gallaher - 210 Ritter Ave., Northwood: Mr. Gallaher stated he believed Resolution 2025-02 regarding reallocating funds for transportation projects is a great idea, just 13 years too late. He suggested that if it is adopted, Council members should attend a TMACOG meeting to sell the idea and explain the new project. Dave also commented on Resolution 2025-03 regarding cooperation with US immigration and customs, sharing his belief that the resolution is unnecessary, and categorized it as "political theater". He further argued that if there were an issue, the police chief would be addressing it. Additionally, Dave pointed out that the way the resolution is written, it places council in a supervisory role over the police chief, which contradicts the city's charter. Lastly, he stated that the need for a resolution to support ICE was odd as it is a Federal Government Agency and supporting other government agencies should already be part of our police department's role.
2. Susan Kuehn - resident of Toledo, Ohio: Susan addressed concerns with Resolution 2025-02, under consideration that would support cooperation with ICE. She stated that the resolution would set policy rather than law, but is worried that it could lead to the city contracting with ICE under a 287(g) agreement, which would allow U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to delegate certain immigration enforcement responsibilities to state and local law enforcement agencies. She believes the resolution could require local law enforcement to share immigration status information with ICE, honor ICE detainer requests, and use city resources for training officers on immigration enforcement. She highlighted the conflict between enforcing criminal law (local police responsibility) and civil law (immigration enforcement), which could place financial and legal burdens on the local police department. She also pointed to the risk of discriminatory practices, such as racial profiling, that could damage community trust in the police. Susan shared that she worries such cooperation could create fear and distrust among immigrant residents, potentially leading to reluctance in reporting crimes or assisting law enforcement, thus hindering public safety and community policing efforts. Lastly, she mentioned that some municipalities have been forced to spend significant amounts on training local police officers for ICE duties and pointed out the financial strain this could put on Northwood.
3. Nathaly Bernier - 2 Timberlake Ct. Northwood: Nathaly shared her thoughts on Resolution 2025-02 stating she believes Northwood has great local law enforcement officers, that should focus on serious crime issues in the city. She agrees that undocumented individuals who commit crimes in the city, or in the United States should face consequences, however, to her knowledge, there have been no incidents of human trafficking, drug smuggling, or violent criminal activity committed by undocumented individuals in Northwood, suggesting that most undocumented residents likely have no criminal history. In closing, she urged council to think about the resolution thoroughly.

COMMUNICATIONS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development Councilor Jim Barton - Next meeting March 27th @ 6PM

no report. Meeting on March 27th at 6pm.

Finance Councilor Louis Fahrbach

no report.

Recreation Board Councilor Jim Barton

March 13, 2025

Meeting held on March 12th.

- Spring soccer is set to start games first week of April, we have 1 U8 Team, 1 U 10 Team, 2 U12 teams.
- Northwood Community Center Hosted the ESSL Soccer registration on Saturday March 8th.
- The NCC hosted a youth soccer camp on March 8th with 30 kids attending.
- We have extended baseball & softball registration. Myself and Todd hope to have teams in place by March 13th.
- We hope to have our uniform order submitted by March 20th.
- Memberships continue to increase at the NCC.
- The splash pad will open Memorial Day weekend and run through Labor Day.
- Fishing derby will be Saturday April 19th at Stoner Pond, this will be the trout fishing derby. Youths 16 and under don't need fishing license, each person is allowed to keep 5 fish no size limit. Once the kid's derby is over the pond will be open for everyone to fish with the same rules.
- Community service award nominations being accepted
- Palooza in the park is set for Friday June 6th this event will have fireworks and our community service award winner will be announced as well.
- Kids Fishing derby June 21st
- Music night at the NCC is set for Friday August 8th Madison Avenue will be performing.
- Fall Festival October 11th

Safety

Councilor Mark Stoner - Meeting on March 13 @ 6:15PM

Mark Stoner was elected as chairperson. 3 bids for police cruisers were received. The Safety Committee recommended approving the purchase.
MOTION: Councilor Stoner made a motion to **authorize the purchase of two police cruisers for \$80,058 ;** seconded by Councilor Edwards. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

Tree Commission

Councilor Michael Melnyk

The March 11th meeting was rescheduled to March 18th at 6pm. Tree City USA Celebration April 16th in Bowling Green. If anyone wants to attend, the City will pay for the registration.

Service

Councilor Dean Edwards

no report.

Parks, Rec & NCC

Councilor Pat Huntermark

no report.

Committee of the Whole

Council President Kozina - Meeting on March 13 @ 6:30PM

Discussion on Community Center, employee healthcare and funding of the full-time firefighters. No action taken.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

none.

NEW RESOLUTION

none.

PENDING RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION 2025-03 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD TO COOPERATE WITH U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) AND ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR SUCH COOPERATION.
2nd Reading - Fahrbach

RESOLUTION 2025-01 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTHWOOD OHIO, SUPPORTING THE OHIO COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL (AMERICA250-OH); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
MOTION: Council President Kozina made a motion to **Move on Final Adoption;** seconded by Councilor Melnyk.
ROLL CALL: **Yes:** Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

RESOLUTION 2025-02 A RESOLUTION REGARDING ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR NORTHWOOD TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS.
Discussion: Mayor Schimmel stated that several representatives from TMACOG have reached out to him and stressed the fact that they can't really follow anything from this resolution that the funds are allocated for this specific roundabout project.
MOTION: Council President Kozina made a motion to **Move on Final Adoption;** seconded by Councilor Fahrbach. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

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NEW LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE 2025-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 208.06 OF THE NORTHWOOD CODIFIED ORDINANCES TITLED FEES IN THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE.
1st Reading - Melnyk

PENDING LEGISLATON

ORDINANCE 2025-06 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR A LEGAL SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
2nd Reading - Barton

ORDINANCE 2025-04 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL STREET NAME LIST BY CHANGING THE NAME OF DALLING ROAD TO DALLING DRIVE.
MOTION: Councilor Stoner made a motion to **Move on Final Adoption**; seconded by Councilor Melnyk. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

MAYOR Mayor Schimmel

Mayor's Report

RECREATION:
Recommendation to appoint Mike Blazeovich as umpire in chief for the 2025 season.
MOTION: Councilor Melnyk made a motion to **appoint Mike Blazeovich as umpire in chief for the 2025 sea** ; seconded by Council President Kozina. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed
Shared an invitation from the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual meeting on April 29th at the Glass City Center Ballroom and clam bake on July 17th at the Zoo. Mayor also shared that he swore in the 3 new firefighters this past Tuesday.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR Kevin Laughlin

City Administrator's Report

TOPIC/ ITEM	DISCUSSION
Community Center Commemorative Plaque	18" W x 12" H Custom Bronze Plaque to be mounted at the Community Center. Two designs attached to choose from. MOTION: Councilor Fahrbach made a motion to approve option 1 plaque not to exceed \$1,100 ; seconded by Councilor Melnyk. ROLL CALL: Yes: Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; No: None; Abstain: None Result: Passed
Wood County Economic Development Annual Dinner	Thursday, April 17th. 6PM–7PM networking, 7PM–9PM Dinner. Please RSVP to Emily by April 1st.
ODOT letter of Support	ODOT reached out earlier this week regarding the intersection of 579/Fostoria. They are moving forward with securing safety funding for that intersection. It will be an ODOT let project meaning they manage everything and will be 100% funded by ODOT. They have requested a letter of support for the project. Project is slated for 2029. MOTION: Councilor Huntermark made a motion to authorize the city administrator to draft a letter of support for the 579/Fostoria project for ODOT ; seconded by Councilor Barton. ROLL CALL: Yes: Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; No: None; Abstain: None Result: Passed In addition to that, Brander and 579 study should conclude sometime in the second or third quarter of this year and will likely follow a similar procedure.
Splash Pad	Tom Huntermark has been working with the splash pad vendor, and we are working on reducing the flow of the water, which should save close to 30%.

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CITY FINANCIAL REPORT(S)

FEBRUARY 2025 EXPENDITURE REPORT

FEBRUARY BANK RECONCILIATION

FEBRUARY MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

MOTION: Council President Kozina made a motion to **acknowledge the receipt of the February financial reports**; seconded by Councilor Edwards. **ROLL CALL:** **Yes:** Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner; **No:** None; **Abstain:** None
Result: Passed

LIST OF EXPENDITURES OVER \$10,000

<u>INVOICE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
DIRECT FITNESS SOLUTIONS	FITNESS MACHINES AND WEIGHTS FOR NCC	\$19,816.20
THE MANNIK & SMITH GROUP, WOODVILLE RD PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS INC.		\$21,568.83
DEERE AND COMPANY	JOHN DEERE 4066R COMPACTUTILITY TRACTOR	\$53,445.74
VC3 INC	FEBRUARY MONTHLY BILLING	\$10,752.56

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

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT/DISCUSSION Brian Ballenger

no report.

CITY ENGINEER’S REPORT/DISCUSSION Dave Kuhn

no report.

NEW BUSINESS

none.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Fahrbach requested that anyone participating in committee meetings moving forward should sit at the council dais so they can be heard on the meeting audio.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Barton made a motion to go into Executive Session with Council, Mayor and City Administrator to discuss hiring and firing; seconded by Councilor Fahrbach.

ROLL CALL:

Yes: Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner

No: None

Abstain:None

MOTION: Passed; 7:33pm

The meeting was called back to order at 7:55pm and the roll was called by Council Clerk Popovitch. Those in attendance were as follows: Mayor Schimmel, Councilor Fahrbach, Councilor Edwards, Councilor Melnyk, Councilor Huntermark, Councilor Barton, Council President Kozina, Councilor Stoner City Administrator Kevin Laughlin, and City Attorney Brian Ballenger.

No Action Taken

ADJOURNMENT

07:55 PM

ATTEST:

Council Clerk

APPROVED:

Mayor

March 13, 2025