

STREETS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE
April 6, 2026

Chairperson Mr. Thornsberry called the meeting to order at 5:02pm

Present – Thornsberry*, Dimacchia*, Fallis*, Drwal*, Torres*(arrived at 5:29pm), Springowski, Kempton, Carter, Gonzalez, Arroyo (arrived 5:46pm), Bearer, Arredondo.

Absent – none.

*Denotes committee member

a. Discussion regarding budget concerns in the Utilities Department.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: We need to figure out a way to increase revenue or decrease expenditures going forward but will continue to meet for the next few months to come up with a solution.

UTILITIES DIRECTOR JOE CARBONARO: Going over the list of past and ongoing capital improvement projects, highlighted for completed in 2025 are the year 6 lining and rehab at a cost of \$2M, the Pearl and Tacoma Pump Station improvements design (EPA required), the year 2 watermain replacement project and 90% completion of the digester improvement project. Ongoing projects; the PQM improvements construction, Jaeger Road Pump Station construction, Pearl and Tacoma Pump Station, Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study, Flow Monitoring, Martins Run Pump Station construction, Year 2 construction, water valve replacement at Fulton Tower and Fulton Tower Standpipe Rehabilitation. Regarding the administrative consent decree, items have been completed as they come up, items still in process: Pearl and Tacoma Pump Stations, annual sewer lining, sanitary sewer system evaluation is the final piece. The SSES will help set up the game plan for the next 5-15 years to determine our capacity and what additional could be brought in from surrounding communities. Some notable accomplishments: installation of new water meters and radio frequency units, there were only 11 bypasses at the BRWWTP which is a decrease from previous years, 97% compliance for the year's end backflow program, installation of 199 new water valves, 71 new hydrants 35 LSL replacements, potassium permanganate feed line extended to the top of the intake, 1 low-service pump replaced and Redhill Water Tower underwent interior rehabilitation of tank. The towers are scheduled for painting in 2027 and 2028. Fund overviews reflected for water and WPC, revenues and expenses. The year 2019 was prior to the Bradley Administration, there was a fixed rate of \$21 for water and \$15 for sewer and revenues were outpacing expenditures, as we have moved forward, we have kept even, now expenses have outpaced revenues, as the reason to have the conversation about increases. The water fund from the O&M is 15% under budgetary expenses that were requested and approved; WPC is around the same. In 2022, expenses take a dip before going up in 2023, there were some deferred expenses. Also shown are the possible projections, water works funds are a bit healthier. The uptick listed in 2027 is the new water plant. The rates were \$15/\$15 before dropping down to \$9/\$21, projection reflects bringing it back to 2019/2020 rates. When the fixed rates are reduced, savings in Water Works are \$3.8M over seven years is \$26.6M. On the WPC Fund, the approximate per year savings was \$1.7M, and over a six-year period, about \$10.2M. The WPC fixed charge was not reduced until later in 2020 through ordinance. Internal data showing tracking in the Utilities Department, biggest are personnel, O&M, Energy and Debt Service. In 2025 in Water Works, there was a 4% uptick in personnel, 38% reduction in O&M, 1% increase in debt service and a 44% increase in Energy (gas/electric); overall there was an 8% decrease in Water Works. For the WPC, personnel there was a 6% uptick, O&M a 48% reduction, 2% reduction in debt service and Energy a 10% increase (about \$800,000 in energy). Overall, a 14% reduction in 2025.

AUDITOR HARPER: Are there any fuel surcharges added on to the vendors?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: For sludge hauling, no, but ordering of materials and large products, yes, and larger construction projects. Also, a Wastewater/Sewer Comparison list of other municipalities. Lorain has two wastewater plants, which means more chemicals, personnel, maintenance and more sludge hauling, even with the extra expenses we are towards the bottom. In the example shown, it is \$15 for 5ccf. Additional information was shared, Lorain has 380 miles of sanitary sewers owned, operated and maintained, a department of 25 people that operate and do repairs. They also replace catch basins and tv and jet all of the lines. There are 2 WWTP of 15MGD and 5.4MGD design capacities with 40MGD and 16MGD hydraulic capacities. The City of Elyria has 170 miles of sanitary sewers owned, operated and maintained, 1 WWTP with a hydraulic capacity of 30MGD. Lakewood has 166 miles of sanitary sewers that are owned, operated and maintained, 1 WWTP with a hydraulic capacity of 40MGD. The Utilities Dept. budgeted for \$1M in street repairs after excavations through three departments: Water Dist., Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer. They are in the early steps to review Settler's Landing Park and make improvements for community engagement and sustainability. The department is considered fully staffed. Utilities is very pleased with CityWorks Asset Management program and will be rolling out to WWTP. Director Carbonaro provided phone numbers for the different departments within the Utilities Department.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: Why are we looking at increasing fixed costs versus variable costs?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: We are still exploring our options, the Utilities Dept's fixed costs have increased.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: I am aware those placeholders are in there, but rates would increase from \$9 to \$16/\$27, inquired if they have looked at smaller steps to reduce the deficit, ex. \$9 to \$12 in 2027 and \$12 to \$15 in 2028?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: We have discussed all options. I provided information, but it is up to council on how they want to address, the information provided was to inform council and allow you to make the decision.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: What is the current reserve fund on the sewer side and what is the target?

AUDITOR HARPER: There is not a written reserve policy for the Utilities Department with the exception of the operation, maintenance and repair fund. Sewer has to have 12.5% reserve of the operating revenue of the prior year set aside for emergency repairs, it was a little over \$1M at the end of 2025. Water is roughly \$900,000 that is set aside, but only required to have 5.5% of the operating revenue set aside.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: Nothing is on the table regarding 2026? It is all being planned for 2027, and if so, when does council need to have a decision regarding everything going into effect?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: Everything is on the table. It is the sewer rate, that is council's decision, I am willing to be a part of the conversations, but all details are made by motion of the legislator in legislation.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: For councils' information, SWAB Director Ballard is planning to have a meeting in regard to the information.

COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: What upgrades were due to the EPA unfunded mandates and how much did they cost? If you don't have the answer Director Carbonaro, you can let us know.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: I don't have the amount, but slide 3 in my presentation has everything required in the consent decree; all wastewater.

COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: We are low on our capacity, what efforts have been made to get additional customers? The project the commissioners have been discussing can easily tie into PQM. With the regionalization of sewers in the county, I feel that if we were to split with whatever makes sense logistically and capacity wise, it would take care of the townships. Lorain is the primary wastewater treatment for Lorain County. Sheffield Village is looking to contract with Elyria for water services, it makes more sense for us. With \$2.5M in delinquencies, how many are due to rentals, and what are we doing to collect the money? With a new water plant, would it reduce energy costs and make things more efficient? Do we still have a minimum usage charge and will the water rates be increased as well as the sewer rates? I am concerned with residents on fixed incomes and would like to see us add additional customers, especially industrial. I will email the questions I asked to everyone.

COUNCILMEMBER DIMACCHIA: Understanding the debt and the situation we are in, the information that is being provided, I ask for a financial breakdown of where we are at. I would like to look at the revenues versus expenses along with any projections. What options have been discussed internally that can help council determine what direction we should be going in? Being cognizant of the trend continuing to increase, what are we doing and what ways are we looking to make sure that this burden doesn't end up on the backs of the taxpayers? I believe it would be advantageous to discuss publicly what we are doing to defer the costs.

MAYOR BRADLEY: I have had several meetings with the mayor of Vermilion because they have an EPA mandate, and Lorain has the capacity to help at the PQM plant, which would be cheaper for them than building a new WWTP. Being sensitive watching what the commissioners are doing, the city met with NOACA because they oversee the facility planning areas. Lorain has a large facility planning area relating to wastewater. Deference is given to a city's facility planning area, they are sensitive to that. We asked that NOACA meet with the commissioners and explain how that works. We requested a sit down with the NOACA, the commissioners, North Ridgeville, etc., to discuss.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: My concern is for residents on a fixed income who don't use a lot of water. I ask that we look at projected increases based on variable rate. What is our capacity at PQM; what if Vermilion used our plant, how much they would use, and also what would be left over for the remainder of the district? Also, the same questions for the Black River facility, what is available for districts outside of Lorain?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: Vermilions max capacity is 2MGD.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: What is PQM's max capacity?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: They were designed for 5.4MGD, current dry weather is 1.8-2MGD, with a max capacity of 16MGD. We are regional, we treat other cities, we just do not have "regional" in our name, but the plant was built in the 80s with federal money for the county.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: We have the capacity to market that plant to Vermilion and other entities on the western side of Lorain County.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: Referencing what the mayor had said regarding NOACA, they are the planning agency in coordination with Ohio EPA, they set the wastewater treatment FPA as it is.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: My knowledge on the comment regarding reserves, the requirements for water or wastewater is that at the end of the year, you should have cash reserves equal to 183 of 365 days a year of the most current years operating expenses plus 1% of the principal and interest on the debt service. I'd like a financial report that shows expenditures over the last three years in a format similar to what was

provided 4-5 years ago. Also, I request that with the EPA mandates, the expenses of those projects be provided.

COUNCILMEMBER KEMPTON: How many customers do we have.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: Around 25,000.

COUNCILMEMBER KEMPTON: How many customers have we gained in the last two years?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: A small percentage year over year. There are just over 800 out of city customers.

COUNCILMEMBER KEMPTON: When you say customers, do you mean residents and/or business or do you divide it up?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: We would divide it up with commercial, residential, industrial.

COUNCILMEMBER KEMPTON: I agree with Mr. Fallis on the fixed rate concern.

Moved by Mr. Dimacchia, supported by Mr. Fallis, to recess the meeting until the conclusion of the Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Thornsberry recessed the meeting at 5:58pm.

Chairperson Mr. Thornsberry called the meeting to order at 6:59pm

Present – Thornsberry*, Dimacchia*, Fallis*, Drwal*, Torres*, Springowski, Kempton, Arroyo (left at 7:23pm), Bearer, Arredondo (left at 7:22pm).

Absent – Carter, Gonzalez.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: *(Explained the structure of the remainder of the meeting.)*

GERALD PHILIPS: Regarding Avon Lake Regional Water presenting to council, they offered to provide Lorain water to save money. The mayor had a study done that showed \$500,000 excess payroll in Utilities. They attempted to form “clear water” with Avon Lake, LorCo, and the County. Avon Lake serves 1,600 customers in Eaton, 411 in Eaton Township and 9,500 in Avon Lake; Avon Lake had 80% of it, but would be a minority (1/3) in forming it. Regarding the amount needed in the reserves, usually they use a concept called working capital, or current ratio, and a good ratio is 1.25. Working capital is not just cash, it is receivable. Also, the financial statements, the last I found was 2022, why aren’t there more current certified financial reports? I made a public record request for financial information for the water and sewer fund for 2023, 2024 and 2025. I would also like a copy of Director Carbonaro’s presentation. The commissioners are discussing a lot of work on the east side of the county, but I do not hear anything about Lorain in the mix. I will be going to the commissioner’s meeting to keep up to date on the mega site and sewers. Avon Lake will be having a regional sewer meeting, I have kept up to date on it and have a lawsuit against the city regarding it and am very familiar with utilities.

AUDITOR HARPER: I emailed you the documents requested today, 2021-2024; the 2025 report is not finished yet.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: We are not done talking about this. SWAB will be having a meeting soon, it is a topic that will be discussed several times. I would like for us to look at different ways of doing this, so far just the fixed fee rate has been presented, while there are benefits, I believe we need to look at all the different options. I suggest that we start looking at this sooner rather than later.

PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: In echoing what was said in the beginning, everything is going up with inflation, delinquencies have increased, \$2.1M, if we are at \$2.8M, that is a big chunk. Regarding setting aside the reserves, when Mr. Mantini was the Auditor, there was a shortfall because there was one extra pay period not figured in, after that we started setting aside for 27 pay periods a year so that would not happen again. The administration controls the pricing for the water, the sewer is up to City Council.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR CARRION: From the Administrations perspective, we are looking at all options, fixed rates, variable rates, homestead type of reduction for seniors or fall within the AMI rate, privatizing the system to compare, all options. There will be a RFP going out regarding delinquencies to contract with a third-party vendor to begin collections for the \$2.25M that are 31 days of over, \$2.5M if you count all delinquencies. From the vendors' experience, they see a 40-50% recapture. One of the things that we hear is we are going to raise the rates to compensate for people that aren't paying; we are going to do our best to collect the delinquencies.

JAYNE MORALES: People cannot afford their utility bills or a school levy.

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: When there is a delinquency, if the city shuts off the water at the residence, who is responsible for turning the water back on?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: Are you talking about a multi-unit complex?

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: Multi-unit and also private residence.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: There are multiple facets; there are multiple occupancy units, but if large scale apartments, we will not shut off 25-unit buildings.

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: There should be a penalty to the landlord if the bills not getting paid.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: There are legal avenues available to residents that pay rent, they can place the rent into escrow if they find they pay rent and the landlord doesn't pay water/sewer. It would go through the courts.

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: With the shortcoming, that should be pursued legally instead of raising rates to people who are paying bills.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: \$2.5M is the total, not just sewer. That number is trash, water, sewer, water penalty... all delinquencies. Sewer alone is around \$1M. We are trying to find ways and after proposals received, we will look into the collection agency. From an infrastructure point in the Utilities Dept., we don't have that.

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: Is there is a collection agency working on the delinquencies?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: No, but we are finalizing the RFP as soon as next week.

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: Even individual, if the water bill/sewer bill isn't paid, will the water be turned off until it is paid?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: Not immediately.

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: How much time is given?

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: It depends on the cycle for the system we have put together. They will receive a termination notice after being 60 days past due, but that does not mean on the 61st day they will be shut off.

TOM SPRINGOWSKI: With what was discussed, we should look at every avenue to enforce the delinquencies, I would like us to pursue them.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: That is what they are hoping to do through the collection agency is to go after the owners, especially multi-unit properties.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: We began having a more compassionate approach, now we need to review the penalizing side of things.

PATRICK HORN: In the landlords/tenant handbook issues like that are discussed. In a separate event in Cleveland a landlord got their license pulled and went through foreclosure, tenants evicted, etc. but recommended reviewing the handbook.

JOANNE ZELINA, 2214 Wilson Dr.: There is a property at 2139 G Street that has been vacant, the trash cans are still there, what happens with Republic with it being on the water bill? The cans are not on the street, but are at the property. I am concerned about the rates increasing for the seniors and the delinquent amounts, those people are getting away with it.

COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: There was a landlord that was facing 50 misdemeanor charges in East Cleveland, and one thing Lorain can do is put liens on the properties and for the larger apartments. We are still holding the landlord accountable because it is a business. 49% of the housing stock in the city is rentals and we need to look at them as a commercial customer and if they are not paying their bills, we should be going through a legal process and liening the properties, although with residential properties we would have to be cautious in the event the renter is paying the landlord in their rent for utilities. We cannot keep putting it on the backs of the fixed income residents and should take legal action against the violators, especially commercial and apartment buildings, liening them and pursuing charges.

JOSEPH VAUGHN, 3302 Amherst Ave.: I am concerned about residents paying the bills for landlords, etc., not paying them. If the water is not being shut off, garbage is not being stopped...

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: The garbage is contractual through Republic Services, it would be dealt with between Republic and the Administration as far as the contract. As far as water service, one of the ordinances that was sent to a second reading addresses the lien issue being discussed. I suggest that everyone reads that and reaches out if you have questions. Ways are being looked at to not only lien, but also still use that as a type of enforcement to make sure that they are not just skating by. We will lien, but they will continue to be delinquent. We are hoping that the RFP with a collection agency will help curb that.

JOSEPH VAUGHN: Residents won't know if the landlord is paying the water bill or not because the water stays on.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: We encourage tenants to request a second bill.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: The agenda item being referenced was item I on the agenda this evening and will be considered at the next Regular Meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER KEMPTON: With having management companies in the community that are interesting in the way they do business, I feel like we need to include them in the discussion because they are sometimes double and triple charging a tenant for water; the tenant moves out, doesn't pay, and the city is stuck with it. They are billing the tenant on a credit two years later for it because they broke the contract.

CHAIRPERSON THORNSBERRY: I encourage the administration to work with council to get another meeting scheduled in the next couple of weeks to start formalizing this.

Chairperson Thornsberry adjourned the meeting at 7:29pm.

Chaplain Angel Arroyo Jr. led council in the prayer and President Arredondo led the Pledge of Allegiance and then called the regular meeting to order at 6:05p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

ABSENT - 0

Moved by Mr. Dimacchia, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to suspend the regular order of business and consider items 7a and 7b.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The resolution passed unanimously.

LEGISLATION – FIRST READING:

Resolution 17-26 a.) Introduced by Mr. Arroyo, a resolution commending the Lorain County Community College Men’s Basketball Team.

Moved by Mr. Arroyo, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.

Moved by Mr. Arroyo, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the resolution.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The resolution passed unanimously.

At this time Mr. Arroyo presented the resolution to the team.

Resolution 18-26 b.) Introduced by Mrs. Springowski, a resolution in support of Issue 5 for Lorain City Schools.

Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Dimacchia to suspend the statutory three reading rule.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.

REMARKS: COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: Read the resolution and stressed the importance of the schools.

COUNCILMEMBER TORRES: Agreed with Mrs. Springowski. Stated that China is about to overcome the US and that they focus on education.

COUNCILMEMBER ARROYO: Spoke regarding his support for Issue 5.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: Spoke regarding his and his families support for Issue 5. Stated he is a substitute teacher and that the teachers love the students, and there is a need for all of the financial resources to help them succeed.

COUNCILMEMBER DRWAL: Spoke regarding the positivity of education and that the children deserve the Issue passing.

COUNCILMEMBER CARTER: Spoke regarding her support for Issue 5.

COUNCILMEMBER GONZALEZ: Spoke regarding her support for Issue 5 and how important this is for the children.

COUNCILMEMBER KEMPTON: Spoke regarding her importance of education on the children’s success.

COUNCILMEMBER DIMACCHIA: Thanked everyone for their support and expressed his frustration when people are critical of the schools. Explained the vouchers and that the money goes to private schools, not public schools. He said Issue 5 is about protecting the kids, and stressed how critical the levy is.

COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: Stated that the city was told of three things that would attract people to our city, improving the housing stock, improve the roads and improve the schools. She stressed the importance of having good schools.

- PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: Spoke regarding businesses coming in to the city and their concern for the education system, the infrastructure and housing stock. Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the resolution.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The resolution passed unanimously.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

- a.) March 16, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes
Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Fallis, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as written. The motion carried unanimously.
- b.) March 23, 2026, Public Hearing Minutes
Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Fallis, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as written. The motion carried unanimously.
- c.) March 30, 2026, Special Call Minutes
Moved by Mr. Fallis, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as written. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS & OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES:

- a.) Correspondence received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control advising of a New D1, D2, D3 Permit Application received for Speak of the Devil Cocktails LLC, Burdette's Show Room, located at 203 W. 5th Street., 44052 (2nd Ward). Moved by Ms. Kempton, supported by Mr. Drwal, to authorize the Clerk to notify the board that no complaints have been received. Motion carried unanimously.
- b.) Correspondence received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control advising of a New C1 C2 Permit Application received for Broadway Dairymart Inc., located at 2802 Broadway Ave., 44055 (5th Ward). Moved by Ms. Gonzalez, supported by Mr. Fallis, and supported by Mrs. Springowski, to authorize the Clerk to notify the Board that no complaints have been received. Motion carried unanimously.
- c.) Correspondence received from Lisette Gracia of Lorain County Board of Elections, with a copy of the May 5, 2026, Primary/Special Election Ballot. Moved by Mr. Fallis, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to receive and file.
- d.) Correspondence from Mayor Bradley to Members of Council regarding his recent trip to Great Britain with Power a Clean Future Ohio, the British Consulate-General, and the Gund Foundation. Without comment, receive and file.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Clerk Dull announced that there are two members of the public signed up to speak this evening.

GERALD PHILIPS: Spoke regarding the Regional Water District and a proposal to create "Clearwater" which would be the county, LorCo and Avon Lake Regional Water. Avon Lake did not move forward with the deal. He spoke regarding the mega site and purchasing property. Said knows the mayor of Vermilion, and he is considering going into Erie. Also mentioned that he is aware New Russia Township voted down the rezoning for the mega site.

JAYNE MORALES: Stated she appreciates the support for the schools. Explained the residents concerns with additional levies and additional costs. She expressed her concerns with the amount of money she already pays and that she feels as though the administration should take a cut, or ask the residents how to spend the money.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to hold the Committee Report in abeyance until the next regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

LEGISLATION – FIRST READING:

- Resolution 19-26 c.) Introduced by Mr. Thornsberry, a resolution authorizing the Safety/Service Director, of the City of Lorain, Ohio to waive the requirement for the installation of city sidewalk at 2767 W. 21st Street in the City of Lorain. Ohio.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the resolution.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The resolution passed unanimously.
- Ordinance 44-26 d.) Introduced by Mr. Thornsberry, an ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety/Service to enter into contracts with the lowest and best bidders for the rehabilitation of certain roadways in connection with Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Round 39 Contract A, Contract B And Contract C.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the ordinance.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.
- Ordinance 45-26 e.) Introduced by Mr. Thornsberry, an ordinance authorizing the Safety/Service Director to give consent to the Director of Transportation to perform mowing for the north side of State Route 2 PID 116794, and declaring an emergency.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to pass the ordinance.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.
- Ordinance 46-26 f.) Introduced by Mr. Thornsberry, an ordinance to vacate a portion of an alley (16 feet in width) from the east right of way line of East Avenue, extending 165 feet to the east, as depicted in exhibit a, attached hereto.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Fallis, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.
Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Fallis, to pass the ordinance.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.

- Ordinance 47-26 g.) Introduced by Mrs. Springowski, an ordinance approving the proposed Preliminary Plan for The Cottages at Lighthouse Point Development in the City of Lorain, Ohio
Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.
- AYES- 10 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 1 Ms. Kempton. The ordinance passed.
- Ordinance 48-26 h.) Introduced by Mr. Springowski, an ordinance authorizing the Safety/Service Director of the City of Lorain to enter into a disposition agreement for the transfer of the real property described on exhibit a to the Lorain County Port Authority and declaring an emergency.
Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.
- REMARKS: PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: Inquired if it is Lorain Port Authority or Lorain County Port Authority.
CLERK DULL: Explained the caption does state Lorain County Port Authority.
Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the ordinance.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.
- Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Ms. Kempton, to refer items I through P to a second reading.
- AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.
- NAYS- 0 None. The motion carried unanimously.
- Proposed Ordinance i.) An ordinance amending Section 911.216 – Delivery of Bills & Section 911.217 – Charges for Water/Sewer are a Lien Against the Property.
This item was moved to a second reading.
- Proposed Ordinance j.) An ordinance creating Section 913.058 – TV Inspection of Existing Sanitary Lateral by City.
This item was moved to a second reading.
- Proposed Ordinance k.) An ordinance amending Section 911.112 – Water Turn-On.
This item was moved to a second reading.
- Proposed Ordinance l.) An ordinance amending Section 911.230 – Sewer Only Accounts.
This item was moved to a second reading.
- Proposed Ordinance m.) An ordinance amending Section 911.302 – Regulatory Capital Improvement Compliance Charge.
This item was moved to a second reading.
- Proposed Ordinance n.) An ordinance amending Section 911.503 – Entering Properties for Operation of Metering Systems; Section 911.504 – Access to Property for Operation of Metering

Systems; Section 911.505 – Number of Meters Allowed; Section 911.507 – Installation of Meters by Division of Water Only.

This item was moved to a second reading.

Proposed Ordinance o.) An ordinance amending Section 911.517 – All Water must be Metered; Section 911.518 – Meter to be Furnished by City; Section 911.519 – Replacement of Meters. This item was moved to a second reading.

Proposed Ordinance p.) An ordinance amending Section 911.307 – Exceptions to the Water Rates. This item was moved to a second reading.

Ordinance 49-26 q.) Introduced by Mr. Dimacchia, an ordinance approving the Chief of Police, through the Mayor of the City of Lorain, to apply for the FY25 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and authorizing an Interlocal Agreement of funds between the City of Lorain, Elyria, and the County of Lorain, Ohio for funding as approved by the 2025 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award and declaring an emergency.

Moved by Mr. Dimacchia, supported by Mr. Fallis, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.

Moved by Mr. Dimacchia, supported by Mr. Fallis, to pass the ordinance.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.

Ordinance 50-26 r.) Introduced by Mrs. Carter, an ordinance authorizing the Safety/Service Director to enter into a settlement agreement with six remnant defendants in the National Opioid Litigation and directing the City Auditor to allocate said funds to the Opioid Settlement Fund and declaring an emergency.

Moved by Mrs. Carter, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.

Moved by Mrs. Carter, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the ordinance.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.

Ordinance 51-26 s.) Introduced by Mr. Thornsberry, an ordinance authorizing the Safety/Service Director to enter into an agreement with K.E. McCartney and Associates, Inc., for professional services related to the E. 36th Street Improvements– Planning Project funded through a RAISE Grant awarded to the city by the Federal Highway Administration and declaring an emergency.

Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.

Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the ordinance.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.

Ordinance 52-26 t.) Introduced by Mrs. Carter, an ordinance appropriating funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Lorain, State of Ohio as passed by permanent budget Ordinance #43-26 beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026, and declaring an emergency.

Moved by Mrs. Carter, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.

Moved by Mrs. Carter, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to pass the ordinance.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.

CLERK DULL: Announced that the Law Department requested for the rules to be waived and an item to be added to the agenda for consideration. All members received copies on their desks and via email and the agenda will be updated accordingly.

Moved by Mr. Dimacchia, supported by Mr. Thornsberry, to add item 7u to the agenda for consideration.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The motion to add the item to the agenda carried unanimously.

Ordinance 53-26 u.) Introduced by Mr. Thornsberry, an ordinance authorizing the Safety/Service Director to enter into an agreement with Insituform Technologies, Inc., for the provision of utility repair and professional services and declaring an emergency.

Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Fallis, to suspend the statutory three reading rule.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The rule was suspended.

REMARKS: COUNCILMEMBER DIMACCHIA: Inquired if this was the issue with Root Road and the city was waiting on the railroads' approval to move forward and if the expenditure of \$450,000 was in the market for an issue like this. He also inquired if this is a General Fund expenditure.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: Explained the expenditure was paid out of OMR reserve fund; the WPCF.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR CARRION: Stated that this was the project we were waiting for four months for approval, and that we are now waiting on the date and timeline and asked for patience.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: Inquired if the flags are received and the work begins, how long it would take to complete.

DIRECTOR CARBONARO: The estimated time frame is a week/week and a half.

PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: Stated that the railroad is not easy to work with and thanked everyone for their patience.

Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to pass the ordinance.

AYES- 11 Messrs. Dimacchia, Springowski, Fallis, Drwal, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo, Bearer, Thornsberry.

NAYS- 0 None. The ordinance passed unanimously.

LEGISLATION – SECOND READING: None.

LEGISLATION – THIRD READING: None.

COMMITTEE CALLS:

- April 13, 2026 @ 5:30pm - Finance Committee for a quarterly budget update.

Councilmember Thornsberry called a Committee Meeting for Monday, April 6th at 5:00pm to discuss the Sewer Rate increases before the Regular Meeting.
Councilmember Carter called a continued budget hearing on March 23rd following the Public Hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Fallis, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with one dissenting vote from Mr. Dimacchia, the meeting adjourned at 6:56pm.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Clerk of Council

Accepted: April 20, 2026