

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 6:03p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

ABSENT - 0

**DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:**

a.) April 20, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Moved by Mrs. Springowski, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Dimacchia, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to suspend the regular order of business and consider items 8a and b. Motion carried unanimously.

**LEGISLATION – FIRST READING:**

Resolution 22-26 a.) Introduced by Mrs. Carter, a resolution recognizing May 8, 2026, as Child Care Provider Appreciation Day in the City of Lorain, Ohio.

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.

REMARKS: COUNCILMEMBER CARTER: Thanked all of the child care providers in the City of Lorain. Gave a shout out to Irene Carter, her mother in law, who made her home a daycare and took care of her grandchildren and neighborhood children.

COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: During Covid, child care providers were essential workers, even today, they are necessary.

Moved by Mrs. Carter, 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.

Resolution 23-26 b.) Introduced by Mr. Arroyo, a resolution commending Karalena Rodriguez on her wrestling season success and championship win.

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.

REMARKS: COUNCILMEMBER DIMACCHIA: Congratulated Karalena on her hard work, efforts and success that she has had. If continuing to work with people like Coach Eric Burnett and continuing to work hard, she will have one heck of a future.

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 a copy of the resolution to Karalena.*

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR:**

a.) Mayor Bradley’s request for Council to approve the re-appointments of Joyce Arredondo, Evelisse Atkinson, Gary Fischer, Andrea Neal and Jon Veard Jr. to the Design Review Board effective May 16, 2026, through May 15, 2028. Moved by Mr. Thornsberry, supported by Mr. Dimacchia, to concur with the appointments. Motion carried unanimously.

- b.) Mayor Bradley shares letters addressed to Senator Jon Husted and Congressman Bob Latta thanking them for selecting the City of Lorain's FY27 project requests. Without objection, receive and file.
- c.) Mayor Bradley's request for Council to approve the appointment of Jim Cordes to the Lorain Port and Finance Authority Board effective May 7, 2026, through May 6, 2030.

COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: Will not concur due to under the ORC it is with the advice, concurrence/consent of council; and understands Mr. Cordes has an impressive resume; however, when it comes to the City Port, she believes it should be a Lorain resident, is employed or has a business in Lorain, Mr. Cordes has none of those. Received numerous phone calls from members of labor; at AFLCIO's spaghetti dinner for Sherrod Brown, was approached by leaders who expressed their displeasure with this. Labor and Mr. Cordes have had issues in the past, including JFS strikes and other issues. The mayor has the right to appoint, but it is with council's concurrence, recommended a discussion to determine who would be an advisable person for the board.

PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: Appointments by the mayor are his prerogative. Council can approve it or not.

COUNCILMEMBER TORRES: Very impressed with his resume, he has a wealth of experience. As a pro-labor person, that is one person out of 9, and the other 8 are not all against labor, labor unions and labor regulations. An added benefit is that he is married to Marcia Ballinger. Having two people with a lot of experience, credibility, standing academically, is a plus. The tentacles of Lorain Port Authority reach beyond Lorain City.

PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: I would like a motion and a second, and then we will have discussion. It is the mayor's prerogative, it doesn't matter what council says.

ASST. LAW DIRECTOR ZALESKI: Council has to consent to the appointment.

PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: I stand corrected.

Moved by Mrs. Carter, supported by Mr. Drwal, to concur with the appointment.

COUNCILMEMBER CARTER: The concern I have, there is no address for Mr. Cordes. Learned that you do not have to put an address on a resume, but you can use google. Understands this is the mayor's appointment, respects it, but is concerned that he doesn't live in Lorain. He has an impressive resume. Economic development has been discussed, but we have never had a direct answer on who brings it into the city. Inquired who's wheelhouse this falls in. Learned that it is the Port Authority's and they should be working with BHP. Comments have been made regarding how hard it is to work with the city. Lorain is on the cuff, we are either going to make it or break it. Wants to see something happen, we have a beautiful waterfront that we want to develop. Taking the politics out of it, his resume looks good.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: Clarified that not everyone has to live in the City of Lorain. Gave an analogy of business, you can have people that are outstanding in your organization, but sometimes it is good to get someone from outside the organization to come in who may have a different perspective. It is good to have someone who resides in Lorain, but what he brings to the table is his experience, which would be an asset to the Port Authority.

COUNCILMEMBER DRWAL: Agreed with Mr. Fallis, but we have to consider we have qualified people within the city, who built the city, and people who have brought pride to the city and a workforce. There are some concerns with the labor issues he has been involved in, but would like to see someone from the city who can do the job as well as he can.

PRESIDENT ARREDONDO: The people appointed receive no compensation, they serve at the pleasure of the mayor.

MAYOR BRADLEY: The goal is to add a member to the Port Authority that is in line with the Port Authority's strategic plan that was put in effect in 2018; they are in the process of drafting a new strategic plan this year. A goal from 2018 was, *the*

\_\_\_\_\_ issued work to establish formal, collaborative partnerships with Lorain County. While strained in the past, the authority, as the official economic development agency in the City of Lorain, should lead a proactive charge to bring county and city efforts in line. Achieving a collaborative partnership built around the areas of shared interest will allow for a more comprehensive and effective delivery of community and economic development resources. This is in line with the strategic plan that the port board introduced and approved in 2018. Hopes that will be part of their strategic plan in 2026. Agrees that this person has an impressive resume, one particular impressive item is he is currently the Director of the Lorain County Community College Foundation since 2004. If there is going to be any educational institutions besides Lorain City Schools that is going to be interested in making sure that our students are prepared for the jobs of the future, it is LCCC. His goal to make sure that we are interested in making sure that we have the students that can do the jobs of the future, believes that is the goal of the Port. The law says the majority of the members of the Port should be from the City of Lorain or work in the City of Lorain or have a business in the City of Lorain. People outside the city should be included, especially when talking about economic development that is being proposed in the city. When we wanted to do the go kart track, the commissioners gave \$2M towards that project, which the Port Authority was very involved in. The commissioners also gave \$1M to the Port to build the stage. He was the Lorain County Administrator for over 20 years, he has connections with people in Lorain, outside of Lorain and outside of the County. I think he will be a very good appointment, but he will work well with the board and will challenge the board. Never received calls from labor regarding this appointment.

COUNCILMEMBER SPRINGOWSKI: If you wish to hear from someone from labor, the person who heads it up is in the audience.

COUNCILMEMBER BEARER: Would appreciate more outreach to labor, to council, to give more time to research. He does have an impressive resume, but does not believe he would be a good fit.

Moved by Mrs. Carter, supported by Mr. Drwal, to concur with the appointment.

AYES- 7 Messrs. Dimacchia, Fallis, Kempton, Carter, Torres, Gonzalez, Arroyo.

NAYS- 4 Messrs. Springowski, Drwal, Bearer, Thornsberry. The motion carried.

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

- a.) Correspondence received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control advising of a New D5 Permit Application received for Driftwood Wine Co LLC., d/b/a Driftwood Wine Co. located at 209 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 44052 (2<sup>nd</sup> Ward). Moved by Ms. Kempton, supported by Mrs. Springowski, to request a 30-day extension. The motion carried unanimously.
- b.) Correspondence received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control advising of a New D5 Permit Application received for M and J Lounge, located at 1840 E. 28<sup>th</sup> Street, 44055 (6<sup>th</sup> Ward). Moved by Mr. Arroyo, supported by Mr. Fallis, to request a 30-day extension. Motion carried unanimously.
- c.) Correspondence received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control advising of a Transfer Application received for SIRIUSJ LLC to Raya Enterprises Inc., 7-Eleven Store #19743C, located at 3054 Leavitt Rd., 44052 (7<sup>th</sup> Ward). Moved by Mr. Bearer, supported by Mr. Thornsberry, to authorize the Clerk to notify the Board that no complaints have been received. Motion carried unanimously.
- d.) Correspondence received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control advising of a New C1, C2 Permit Application received for Over the Moon LLC located at 410 Broadway, 44052 (2<sup>nd</sup> Ward). Moved by Ms. Kempton, supported by Mrs. Carter, to authorize the Clerk to notify the Board that no complaints have been received. Motion carried unanimously.

REMARKS: COUNCILMEMBER KEMPTON: Congratulated the business owners and stated they will be opening an additional business.

COUNCILMEMBER CARTER: Thanked the Clerks Office for including the wards. Inquired if we are verifying they are compliant with the Treasurer's Office as well?

TREASURER SOTO: Mentioned back in 2016, the mayor requested we look at businesses. Used to budget for a field investigator, no longer does that, but she does look at all of the agendas, as does another member of her staff. In the last ten years, there are two councilmembers who call her, but the Liquor Agency does send her the notifications too. Feels strongly about chapter 718.13, confidentiality, cannot express if they are in compliance. A lot are non-profits, they file a 990, they don't have to give to the Treasurer's Office.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Clerk Dull announced that there is one member of the public signed up to speak this evening.

JOANNE ZELINA, 2214 Wilson Dr.: Upset at the council people who don't do their homework and wait until the last minute. No one should be on the Lorain Port Authority other than city residents. Doesn't care what his qualifications are, he doesn't live in Lorain. As far as labor is concerned, she is pro-labor. This was not advertised enough. Feels as though there are people in the City of Lorain who have the qualifications for that appointment.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.**

**LEGISLATION – FIRST READING:**

Ordinance 62-26 c.) Introduced by Mr. Fallis, an ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Safety/Service to enter into a subrecipient agreement with the Erie County Health Department for a lead hazard testing and abatement program and declaring an emergency.

Moved by Mr. Fallis, supported by Ms. Kempton, 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 TORRES: Feels as though this is a tremendous program that will help, especially children, who are exposed to lead without the understanding of the hazardous conditions it presents to them and their future.

COUNCILMEMBER FALLIS: Agreed with Ms. Torres. Children need to be protected as the most vulnerable. Older homes have lead in windows, etc., and the more we can do to eliminate that threat the better. The General Health District of Erie County will be providing \$30,000 per house. The City of Lorain has determined they have \$126,000 that they can use to supplement this, which will be an allotment of \$15,000 per house. Each home will be eligible for up to \$45,000, much more than three or four years ago. Homes rehabilitation costs have risen.

MAYOR BRADLEY: Councilman Fallis introduced the Erie County Program. In meeting with the man from Erie County, they explained the program and how they can add up to \$15,000 to a project when an essential home repair is done; if a person qualifies for \$15,000, Erie County can add up to an additional \$15,000. We have had this program for a number of years.

Moved by Mr. Fallis, supported by Ms. Kempton, 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 63-26 d.) Introduced by Mrs. Carter, an ordinance authorizing the Auditor of the City of Lorain, Ohio to pay invoices submitted by the Safety Service Department that invoke the Then and Now Certification Exception Process as per Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41 and to pay for said invoices and declaring an emergency.

- Moved by Mrs. Carter, supported by Mr. Drwal, 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. Drwal, 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 64-26 e.) 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.

**LEGISLATION – SECOND READING: None.**

**LEGISLATION – THIRD READING: None.**

**COMMITTEE CALLS:**

- June 22, 2026 @ 5:30pm- Streets & Utilities Committee, discussion regarding several Codified Ordinance amendments.
- July 27, 2026 @ 5:30pm- Finance Committee - 2nd Quarter Budget Review.
- October 12, 2026 @ 5:30pm- Finance Committee - 3rd Quarter Budget Review.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Fallis, supported by Mr. Thornsberry, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 6:51pm.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Clerk of Council

Accepted: May 18, 2026