

The Lorain Civil Service Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in Lorain Council Chambers – First Floor Lorain City Hall.

Present: **Juanita Senquiz**, President; **Victor Takacs**, Vice-President, **Joseph Smith**, Secretary, Tim Williams, Deputy Safety Service Director, Melinda Stoyka, Parks and Rec Superintendent, Jason Stoyka, Mike Darnos, Street Superintendent, Alex Berki, Superintendent of Black River Waste Water Treatment Plant and Mark Tomlin, Police Sergeant

Rose Maffei, Administrative Assistant

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES:

On a motion made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Smith, the Minutes from the January 13, 2026, Civil Service meeting were certified and signed. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

A motion was made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to receive and file all correspondence received since the last meeting of January 13, 2026, including Mr. Smith's reappointment letter to the Lorain Civil Service Commission. Motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT:

Ltr. to Mr. Rey Carrion, Safety Service Director, (1/14/26) unanimously approving the Exceptional appointment of Mr. Rich Resendez to the part-time position of Police Officer in the Lorain Police Department.

Memo to all Appointing Authorities and Department Heads, (1/23/26) regarding Employee Evaluations for 2025

Memo to all Elected and Appointed Officials, (1/23/26) regarding Designation of Classification Exemptions

Score letters sent (1/21/26) to all individuals that took the entry level Firefighter exam (written portion given 11/17/25 and agility exam administered at Tri-C on 1/04/26)

Score letters sent (2/23/26) to the three Assistant Fire Chief candidates that took the Promotional Assistant Fire Chief exam (2/21/26)

Ltr. to Tia Kearney, Lorain City Schools Treasurer releasing the classified payroll for Lorain City Schools for 3/06/26.

Ltr. to Anita Harper, City of Lorain Auditor releasing the classified payroll for the City of Lorain for 3/06/26.

PERSONNEL CORRESPONDENCE:

Agenda item 6 (a) Request from Safety Service Director Carrion for the appointment of Mr. Christopher Sulyma to the position of Laborer I in the Lorain Building, Housing and Planning Department per Ohio Administrative Code 123: 1-17-01 C (4)(6).

Mindy Stoyka: “Yes, my name is Mindy Stoyka, Parks & Rec Superintendent in Public Property Department. The position of Laborer was advertised on a continuous basis since last year. Multiple people have been interviewed, There were five of us that interviewed Mr. Sulyma in January. He was interviewed by Lori Garcia, Public Property Director, Lori Kokoski, Human Resource Director, Ed Sedivy, Assistant Street Superintendent, Mike Darnos, Street Superintendent and myself. All five of us agreed that he has the skill set and knowledge necessary to perform the duties of this position and that he would be a good fit in the Parks Department.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to approve the appointment of Mr. Sulyma to the position of Laborer I in the Parks division per Ohio Administrative Code 123: 1-17-01 C (4)(6). Motion carried 3-0.

6 (b) A motion was made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to establish the eligibility for the position of Assistant Fire Chief. Motion carried 3-0.

6 (c) A motion was made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to establish the eligibility list for the position of Firefighter. Motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to waive the 72-hour rule to add another item to the agenda for consideration. Motion carried 3-0.

6 (d) Request from Safety Service Director Carrion for the Exceptional appointment of Mr. Jim Sutter to the position of Maintenance Supervisor at the Black River Waste Water Treatment Plant in the Lorain Utilities Department per Ohio Revised Code 124.30 A(2).

Mr. Takacs: “The first order of business would be the desire to waive the testing provision for this hire since it would be impracticable to test for the position to determine competency. Instead, there are qualifications, licenses, certifications that are more relevant than consideration of the testing requirement.”

Mr. Alex Berki: “We conducted an interview in which (comprised of the following individuals: Tim Cox, my assistant, Brent Stoll, Joseph Carbonaro, Director of Utilities (via Teams Meeting)”

Mr. Smith: “Mr. Berki, the first item, we have to take care of...”

Mr. Berki: “Can I ask to have the Exceptional appointment considered?”

Mr. Smith: “And the reason why you want to waive the testing provision?”

Mr. Berki: “Because he has a Class III Certification.”

Mr. Smith: “So licensing for the position is needed?”

Mr. Takacs: “So he certainly meets the requirement.”

A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to waive the provision of duty which requires competitive testing in this case based on the Class III Wastewater certification that the candidate holds per Ohio Revised Code 124.30 A(2). Motion carried 3-0.

Mr. Takacs: “Now we can discuss the candidate.”

Mr. Berki: “I’m going to get it one of these times... We conducted interviews with Tim, Brent, Joe and myself. There was an internal posting and Jim was the only qualified candidate that signed it. We had an interview with him and he’s also been doing the job at higher position, for the last twenty-four months. He’s done an exceptional job and we felt it was time to promote him.”

Mrs. Senquiz: “And what was his title?”

Mr. Berki: “He is called a Lead Millwright and he’ll be in charge of six millwrights and two utility workers.”

Mrs. Senquiz: “And he’s been there twenty-four months?”

Mr. Berki: “He has worked for the City since 2015. He came up through the ranks as a millwright and got all three of his classifications 1, 2 and three.”

Mr. Takacs: Based on these certifications and the interview process, I will make a motion to approve the request for the Exceptional appointment of Mr. Jim Sutter to the position of Maintenance Supervisor at the Black River Waste Water Treatment Plant in the Lorain Utilities Department –seconded by Mrs. Senquiz and was approved per Ohio Revised Code 124.30 A(2.) Motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to waive the 72-hour rule to add an item to the agenda. Motion carried 3-0.

6 (e) Request from Safety Service Director Carrion for the Exceptional appointment of Mr. Mark Carpentiere to the part-time position of Police Officer in the Lorain Police Department per Ohio Revised Code 124.30 A(2).

Mr. Takacs: “Again the first order of business is waiving the testing provision. We’ve discussed either licenses, certifications or relevant considerations to waive the testing provisions. In addition in the Police Department, lateral transfers are permissible due to the fact people are not testing for the position nor are they passing the background

investigations at this time—so it is the difficulty in the hiring process which is required to take these exceptions.”

Sgt. Tomlin: “In this case, the candidate in questions holds an OPOTA certification (that’s active), and has a wealth of certifications to his credit over the course of the last thirty years.”

Mr. Smith: “**Job experience also. Based on the certifications, licensing and the experience he has as a Police Officer I would waive the provision of duty which requires competitive testing per Ohio Revised Code 124.30 A(2); motion was seconded by Mrs. Senquiz.**”

Mr. Takacs: “Just a note again currently the lateral transfers are permissible at this time due the fact that people are not testing for the position; they are not passing the background investigations currently. Just note...”

Sgt. Tomlin: “This is not going to be a lateral—it’s going to be a part-time Police Officer. The laterals will apply to full-time, I believe.”

Mr. Smith: “A lateral would be, maybe from another department?”

Sgt. Tomlin: “Yes. Say for example an officer was coming from Amherst...”

Mrs. Senquiz: “He’s coming back as a new person.

Sgt. Tomlin: “He did work for us several years ago.

Mr. Smith: “So there’s a motion on the floor to waive the testing provision?”

Mr. Takacs: “It is.”

Mr. Smith: “All in favor?”

All Commissioners say Aye. Motion passes 3-0.

Sgt. Tomlin: “The candidate would be Mr. Mark Carpentiere. He’s a veteran of the Air Force. He did a few years as a Correction Officer at the Juvenile Detention Center in Elyria prior to coming to our Police Department in 1990. He was with us from ’90 to 2012. He rose through the ranks quickly to Sergeant, then Lieutenant in charge of our Detective Bureau. He was hired at Caesar Casino as an investigator for the Casino. He became the manager of their security at Horseshoe Casino in Cleveland before taking a job with the Ohio Gaming Commission as an investigator. H just retired from the Ohio Gaming Commission as the Special Agent in Charge of Investigations. His investigative experience is extremely valuable to us especially in the aspect he’s going to be doing our background investigations going forward. He has all the tools and skill set, experience above and beyond that than anyone we have currently on the rolls.”

Mrs. Senquiz: “What does the background information entail?”

Sgt. Tomlin: “Our background checks for new hires. So what he would be doing is making phone calls, doing all the background investigations for new hires, contacting former employers, references, searching databases to find out if they have felonies or history they’re trying to hide.”

A motion was made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to approve the Exceptional appointment of Mr. Mark Carpentiere to the part-time position of Police Officer in the City of Lorain Police Department per Ohio Revised Code 124.30 A(2). Motion carried 3-0.

THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRED NO ACTION BY THE COMMISSION:

NAME	DEPARTMENT	POSITION	EFFECT.
Anthony Bucci	Fire	CertAppt Firefighter	01/26/2026
Demea Edwards	Police	Reclass PolOfficer Ptlmn A	01/13/2026
Anthony Grundy	Fire	CertAppt Firefighter	01/26/2026
Terrianna Henderson	Police	Reclass Dispatcher \$27.15/hr	01/20/2026
Randy Hutchinson	Police	Reclass Dispatcher \$27.15/hr	01/20/2026
Tyler Keith	Fire	Reclass FF \$28.044/hr	01/09/2026
Allan Knall	PPD Garage	Reclass MasterMech Gr 28.95	01/14/2026
Jaxson Musser	Fire	Reclass FF 3 rd fire	01/08/2026
Ryan Parker	Utilities Purific	Reclass Operator III WaterTrt	01/08/2026
Richard Resendez	Police	ExAppt PT PolOfficer	01/14/2026
Amelia Sas	Police	Reclass Dispatcher \$27.15/hr	01/20/2026
Daniel Spencer	Fire	CertAppt Firefighter	01/26/2026
Melinda Stoyka	PPD Parks	Compl probation Gr A5	02/01/2026
Jake Sullenberger	PPD Garage	Reclass MasterMech Gr 28.95	01/02/2026
David Virant	Utilites PQM	Reclass Millwr II w/certify Gr30	12/29/2025
Riley Wade	Fire	CertAppt Firefighter	01/26/2026
Claudia Wilson	Police	Reclass PolOffcer Ptlmn A	01/06/2026

POSTINGS:

POSITION	DEPARTMENT	GRADE	DATE POSTED
Maint Supervisor	Utilities BRWWTP	A8	02/09/2026
Asst Superintendent	Utilities Purification	A10	02/09/2026
Millwright in Training	Utilities PQM	24	02/09/2024

REPORTS:

(None)

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

On a motion made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Senquiz the Commission approved the payment of the bills. Motion carried 3-0.

On a motion by Mr. Takacs seconded by Mrs. Senquiz the payrolls for the City of Lorain and the Lorain Board of Education were approved providing they are in accord with standard Civil Service policy and procedures. Motion carried 3-0.

On a motion made by Mr. Takacs and seconded by Mrs. Smith, the next regular meeting of the Lorain Civil Service Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in Lorain Council Chambers. Motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Takacs seconded by Mrs. Senquiz to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

***ALL REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR GIVING NOTICE AND NOTIFICATIONS OF THE MEETING WERE COMPLIED WITH UNDER SECTION 121.22 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE.**

JOSEPH SMITH
PRESIDENT

JUANITA SENQUIZ
VICE-PRESIDENT

VICTOR TAKACS
SECRETARY