



Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting
 Held November 17, 2025
 7:00 PM.

A regular meeting of the Oberlin City Council was held on November 17, 2025, in the Council Chambers of the Oberlin City Hall, located at 85 S. Main Street, Oberlin, Ohio. President of Council Eboni Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll Call was taken as follows:

1. COUNCIL BUSINESS

- (a) Call Regular City Council Meeting to Order and Roll Call – 7:00 PM.

Council Members:	Present	Absent
Joseph Waltzer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jessa D. New	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael McFarlin, Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ray English	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Libni Lopez	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kristin Peterson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eboni A. Johnson, President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Appointees:

- Greg Holcomb, City Manager
- Jon Clark, Law Director
- Marin Fowler, Interim Finance Director
- Belinda Anderson, Clerk of Council

- (b) Approval of Minutes –Regular City Council Meeting – November 3, 2025

The minutes were approved as submitted.

- (c) Hear a Report from the City Council Liaison to the Public Utilities Commission on the Commission’s Recommendations Regarding Utility Budgets and Rates for 2026

Councilmember Peterson gave an update regarding the recommended utility budgets and rate for 2026.

- (d) Hear an update from Oberlin Community Services

Members of Council heard from Margie Flood, Executive Director and Jason Hawk, Communications and Development Coordinator of Oberlin Community Services (OCS) as they gave an update.

A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

McFarlin asked about those that need to reapply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and if there is any impact on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) orders that Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio gets. Flood replied that in order to get SNAP benefits someone has to reapply every year anyway and there are hoops to always jump. She couldn't answer the question on whether they are adding additional barrier at this time. Hawk continues by stating that SNAP is already set to have some major changes coming at the beginning of next year that will be a hardship for some as there will be work requirements for recipients.

Johnson asked if there were any more ways to help OCS help the community. Hawk answered that the community is already helping and they were always open to more assistance.

Peterson asked in addition to food, is there a need for diapers. Flood replied they need diapers, toiletries, laundry detergent, and really anything. Flood continued to say that It's an honor that people can trust OCS as a community resource. If someone would like to give back to the community, please reach out to OCS as we're always happy to direct you in the right direction.

Johnson asked if pet food was an acceptable donation. Hawk responded that OCS get a bulk order through Second Harvest Food Bank approximately twice a year. We focus on people, but the request people have asked for pet food in the past. We usually direct them to Saint Andrews Episcopal Church in Elyria as they have the Lorain County Pet Food Pantry. However, if anyone has pet food and they want to donate it, we will take it.

2. ANY CONCERNS NOT ON THE AGENDA MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL AT THIS TIME

Johnson read the proclamation from the Ohio Senate for honoring the City of Oberlin for Tremendous Attainment and presenting the City for the 2025 Norman Krumholz Equity Award by the American Planning Association Ohio Chapter. She thanked Terri Rirchardson-Sanders, Community Liaison and the Social Equity Committee for leading the City in the effort to approve the social equity plan.

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR A REPORT FROM A CITY BOARD OR COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE

N/A

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR A REPORT FROM AN ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE

N/A

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. ORDINANCE No. 25-55 AC CMS: An Ordinance Adopting the Recommendation of the Planning Commission to Approve the Final Development Plan for the Oberlin Place Senior Housing Project.

7. OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHER APPOINTEES TO REPORT:

Marin Fowler, Finance Director

- Announced that the City received its audit report from the Auditor of State for 2024. There is a copy available to look at in the finance office and its available online on the City’s website.
- Announced the budget work sessions are Monday, November 24th and Tuesday, November 25th, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Oberlin Enrichment and Activities Center located at 36 South Prospect Street.
 - Johnson sought clarification on the time of the meeting. Holcomb commented that the initial plan was to go until 6:30 pm, but we’re trying to condense the presentations.
 - English asked if there was a chance to receive the budget PowerPoint presentation in advance. Holcomb responded in the affirmative.

Belinda Anderson, Clerk of Council

- Noted the budget book is also located at the Oberlin Public Library for members of the public.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

N/A

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Being that there was no additional business before Council, the regular meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Prepared by:



 Briana Reynolds
 Clerk of Council’s Assistant

Attest:



 BELINDA B. ANDERSON, MMC
 CLERK OF COUNCIL



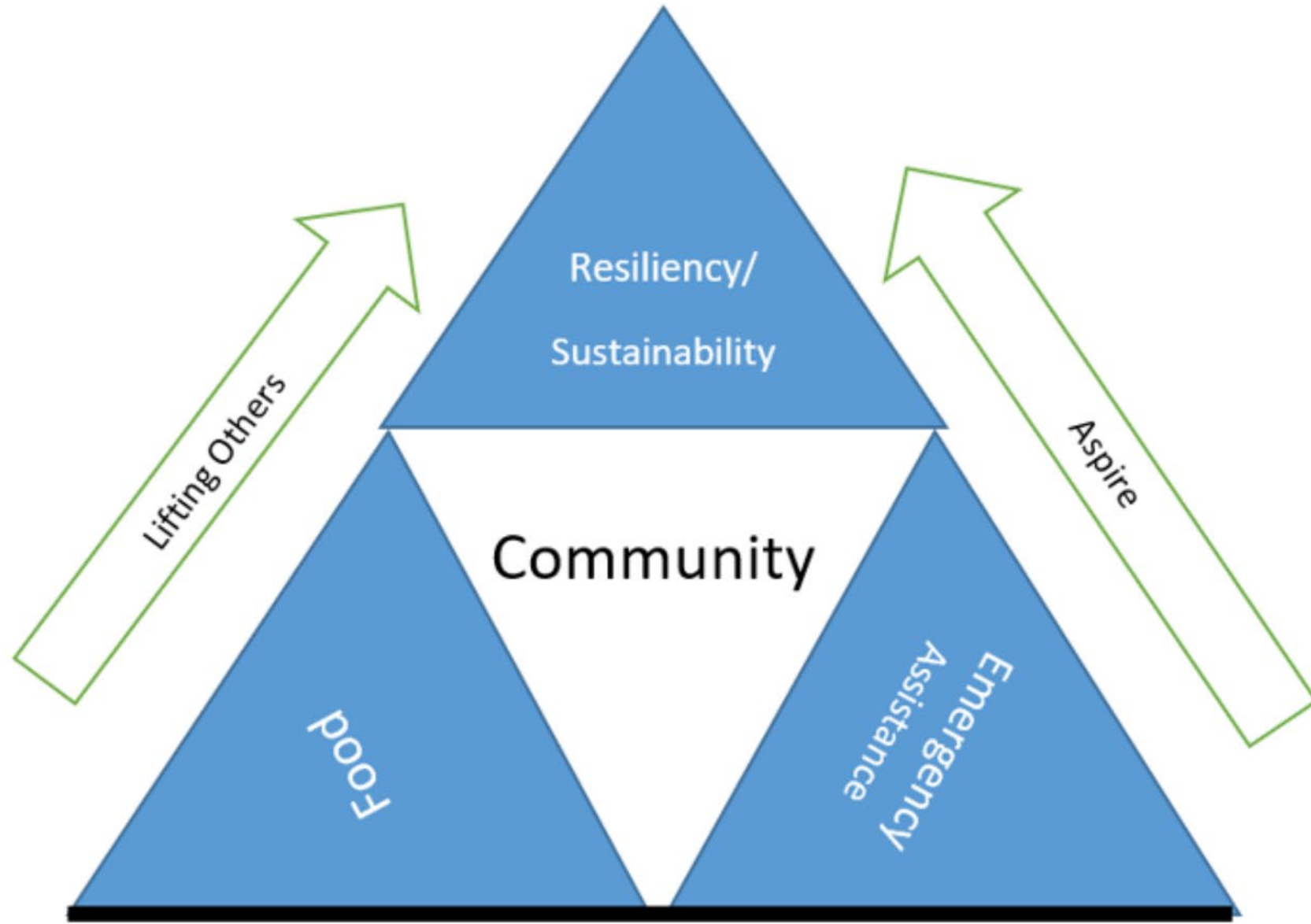
 EBONI A. JOHNSON
 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: 12/01/2025

POSTED: 12/02/2025



OBERLIN
COMMUNITY
SERVICES



THE FEDERAL SHUTDOWN HALTED:

- PAY FOR FEDERAL WORKERS
- SNAP BENEFITS FOR 44 MILLION AMERICANS
- FOOD BANK ORDERS
- MANY VETERANS PROGRAMS



— SINCE SEPT. 1 —

THE OCS FOOD PANTRY HAS



SERVED
1,390
UNIQUE
FAMILIES



WELCOMED
286
NEW
FAMILIES

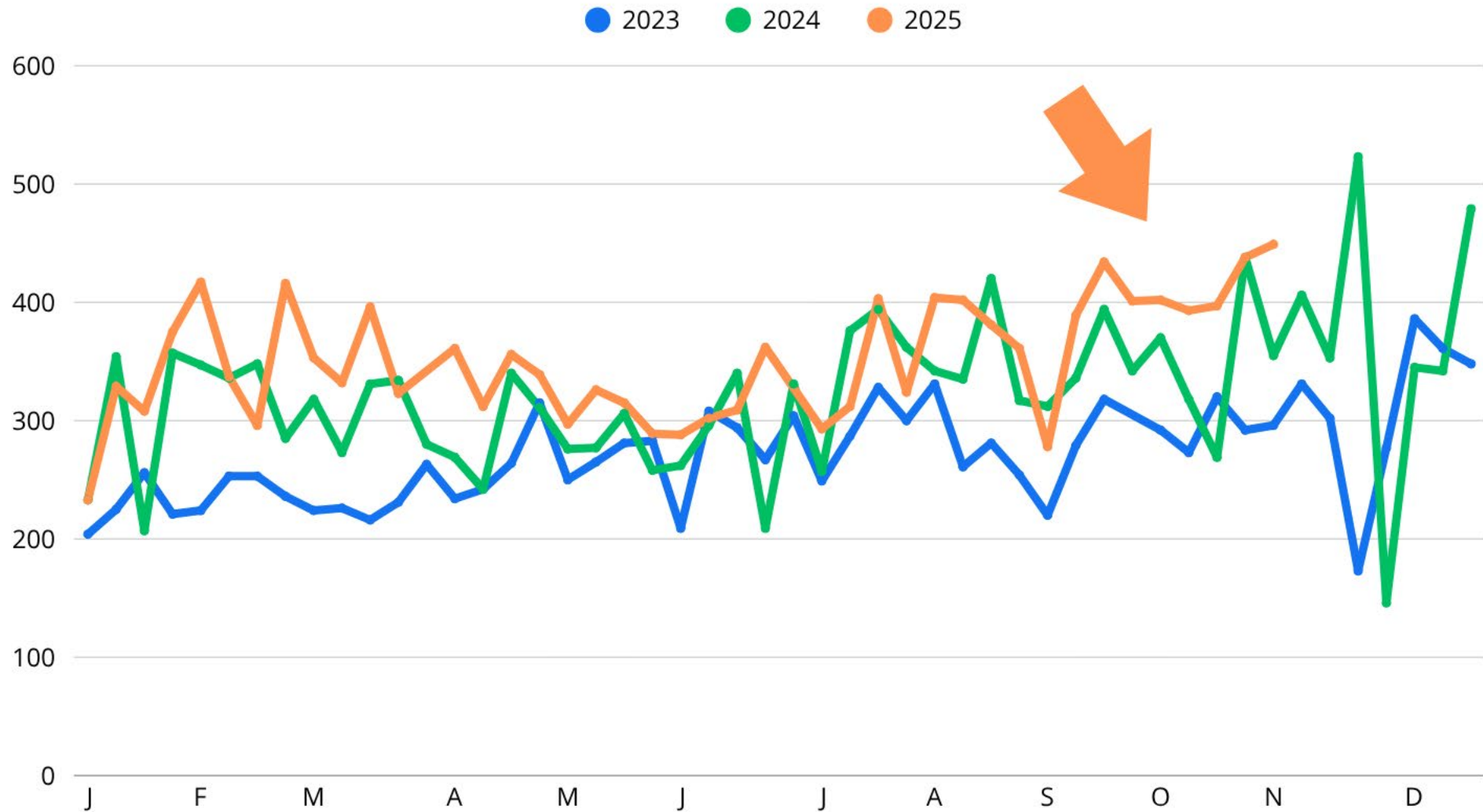


BEEN
VISITED
4,382
TIMES*

WHAT CLIENTS TOLD US



PANTRY VISITS AND DELIVERIES



ZOOM IN ON OCTOBER



FOOD PANTRY
USE WAS UP
23 PERCENT
THIS OCTOBER
COMPARED TO
OCTOBER '24,
INCLUDING
130 NEW
FAMILIES

THANK YOU TO SECOND HARVEST



EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- PROVIDED TO **98** SOUTHERN LORAIN CO. FAMILIES IN OCTOBER
- OF THOSE, **60** ARE OBERLIN FAMILIES
- **\$14,199** WAS USED FOR UTILITIES
- **\$12,331** WAS USED FOR HOUSING
- **TWO-THIRDS** OF THOSE FUNDS WERE USED FOR OBERLIN FAMILIES



LOTS OF POSITIVES TO CELEBRATE



WE'LL BE HERE
THROUGH THE
CHALLENGING
TIMES



WE HAVE
TREMENDOUS
DONOR
SUPPORT



SO MANY
PEOPLE WANT
TO VOLUNTEER
AT OCS





WE CAN
GET THROUGH
TOUGH TIMES
TOGETHER

QUESTIONS?

