

Regular

August 6, 2025

Ontario City Council met in regular session on August 6, 2025, at the Municipal Building with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members Troy Sapp, Dave Rehfeldt, Kyle Webb, Josh Bradley, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland, Council President Eddie Gallo, Mayor Kris Knapp, Assistant Law Director Andrew Burton, Service-Safety Director Adam Gongwer, and Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of July 23, 2025 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Sapp scheduled a Parks Committee of the Whole meeting on August 20, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Webb reported the Utilities Committee discussed the sewer line between Marshall Park and Wal-Mart. The 12" forced main pipe is the oldest remaining line in the city. The quote to replace the pre-1980's line is \$1.5 - \$2 million. Breaks in the line are increasing. They are looking into an OPWC grant of \$350,000 and a \$150,000 loan at 0%. If possible, they would like to obtain back-to-back years of funding for the two-year project. Matching funds would be required. I/I problems continue to be checked for homes with downspouts, gutters and sump pumps tied into the sanitary sewer.

Ms. Feagin announced a Streets Committee of the Whole meeting on September 3, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Gongwer shared an incident when Clerk of Courts Janet Yeager was on the phone with someone owing fines and had a court date. This person was distraught, homeless, used drugs, and suicidal. Clerk Yeager was able to divert an escalating situation and encourage them to drive to Catalyst Life Services. She stayed on the phone with this person until she heard the Catalyst receptionist begin the intake process. Clerk Yeager will receive an award at the next police banquet for saving a life.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

President Gallo provided updates:

- Congratulations to the children who graduated from Safety Town and a thank you to the Lions Club for all the work they do.
- Three new officers were sworn in: Nathan Brown, Andrew Nicholls, and Aaron Kisling.
- Each year the Area Agency on Aging recognizes a Senior of the Year for each county. Merris Welge of Ontario is the recipient of the 2025 Outstanding Senior Award.

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- Michael Rohal, who was on the Ontario Planning Commission for ten years and served as chairman for eight years, recently passed away. The city is grateful for his dedication and contributions.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Paul Williams, 148 Sloboda Avenue, came forward to inquire about the catch basin on the vacant lot next to him. A new property owner wanted to move the catch basin which would cause more water issues. The basin pipe is 12" while all other surrounding pipes are 16".

- Director Gongwer said the trees were cut down on this property several months ago but nothing has been submitted to the Zoning Inspector. If the property owners submit plans then K.E. McCartney will be involved in those discussions.

Jim Barnes, 161 Claire Road, came forward to express his concerns about the previous water problems and the potential water run-off from the Sloboda Avenue property. If it flooded his property would be affected.

Cody Zigler, 100 Hilltop Road, asked Mr. Webb questions about the sewer line project, length of time to complete, and funding.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

ORDINANCE NO. 25-17

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING WAGES AND SALARIES FOR NON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES OF THIS CITY, REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 24-30, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sapp read Ordinance No. 25-17, for the second time, by title only.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-07

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE (SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR) TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND / OR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM(S) AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 25-07 on three separate days, second by Mr. Webb. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed.

Mr. Rehfeldt read Resolution No. 25-07, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Rehfeldt moved to adopt Resolution No. 25-07, second by Mr. Sapp.

Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 25-07 was adopted.

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ORDINANCE NO. 25-18

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AN APPROXIMATELY EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE (8,151) SQUARE FOOT SECTION OF BROOKSTONE DRIVE TO TW PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC, EXEMPTING THE ROADWAY FROM SECTION 1145.07 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Webb moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 25-18 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Webb read Ordinance No. 25-18, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Webb moved to adopt Ordinance No. 25-18, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 25-18 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-19

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICES (EAST), LLC D/B/A DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICES, LLC FOR THE ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PROGRAM, AT A RATE NOT TO EXCEED \$0.09 kwh, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Webb moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 25-19 on three separate days, second by Mr. Sapp. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Bradley read Ordinance No. 25-19, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Bradley moved to adopt Ordinance No. 25-19, second by Mr. Webb. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 25-19 was adopted.

At 7:29 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Webb, second by Ms. Feagin.

/s/ Edward J. Gallo, President of Council

/s/ Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council