

Regular

October 15, 2025

Ontario City Council met in regular session on October 15, 2025, at the Municipal Building with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of October 1, 2025 were presented for approval. Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Sapp said the Parks Committee met this evening to discuss the 2026 Parks budget and the items that were added to the park.

Marshall Park

- Basketball courts are finished, and new backboards were ordered.
- Tennis courts are done.
- Electricity pedestals were installed by the baseball and soccer fields.
- A quote should be in soon for the military tank project.
- 2026 projects include the military memorial around the tank, and netting around the ballfields and backstops.
- The Law Director will prepare legislation to update the Parks Regulations prohibiting parking on the grass in the park.

Community Events

- The Craft Show is the first Saturday in December with several new vendors.
- The Christmas Tree lighting is December 4th. The Winter Parade, with golf carts and side-by-sides, will be expanded this year.
- No Haunted Trail this year due to several other similar activities in the area.
- New projects are being considered.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Gongwer reported:

- The Streets Department placed a No Over-Night Parking sign on Oxford Street.
- Bids were opened for the I/I sewer commitment to Mansfield for sewer repairs. The bids were within budget and the purchase order was approved to finish the Spring Village Lane neighborhood and begin work on Chambers Road for the Tappan Road Lift Station.
- Tomorrow the bids for the culvert repair under Home Road north of W. 4th Street will be opened. OPWC emergency funding provided \$80,000 for this project.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

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MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held before Council at 7:00 p.m. on November 19, 2025, at the Ontario Municipal Building, upon a proposal to rezone six parcels on the east side of Lex-Springmill Road, from Princeton Drive and continuing south, from R-1 Low Density Residential to Office Service. Planning Commission does not recommend this rezone. All persons interested in this issue are invited to attend and express their views.

President Gallo extended sympathy to the families of former Mayor/Council President Larry Collins, and former City Engineer/Service-Safety Director Chuck Au, who recently passed away.

Council members discussed and agreed to have one meeting in December.

Five members cast their votes aye, zero nay, to hold the December Council meeting on December 17, 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, asked if the Park Rules and Regulations should be reviewed since they are working on enforcing no parking on the grass. He also questioned people parking in front of no parking signs at the elementary school during drop off/pick up time.

- The new ordinance is specific to no parking on the grass. The Rules and Regulations are enforceable but do not address where people can park.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 25-12

A RESOLUTION RENEWING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF ONTARIO, OHIO AND THE RICHLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP TO FURTHER HELP WITH ESTABLISHING THE ONTARIO COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION.

Mr. Sapp read Resolution No. 25-12, for the first time, by title only.

At 7:29 p.m., Mr. Bilyj moved to enter into executive session per ORC 121.22 (G)(4) preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment, second by Mr. Sapp. At roll call, five members voted aye, zero nay, and the motion passed. Mayor Knapp, Director Gongwer, and Law Director Medwid were invited into the executive session.

At 8:47 p.m., the meeting reconvened into regular session upon a motion by Mr. Bilyj, second by Mr. Sapp.

At 8:48 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Sapp, second by Mr. Bilyj.

Edward J. Gallo, President of Council

Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council