

Regular

January 7, 2026

Ontario City Council met in regular session on January 7, 2026, at the Municipal Building with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members Brennen Finfgeld, Rick Pauley, Anderson Roll, Jason Bilyj, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Clerk of Council Cathy VanAuker, and Assistant Clerk of Council Abbey Beaver. Absent: Sherry Branham-Fonner, Mayor Josh Bradley

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of December 17, 2025 were presented for approval.
Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Sunderland called a Safety Committee meeting of the Whole for January 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

LAW DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Law Director Medwid presented his annual report.

LAW DIRECTOR’S REPORT OF CASES AS OF 12-31-2025

2025 MAYOR’S COURT TOTALS

2025 Total number of tickets / summons issued = 994, decrease of 35% from 2024
2025 Total number of charges / counts issued = 1,251, decrease of 32.5% from 2024
2025 Total OVI charges = 6, decrease of 25% from 2024
2025 Total Income Tax Cases = 42, decrease of 49% from 2024
2025 Total Zoning Dept. Case = 0, down from 1 in 2024
2025 Total charges heard in Mayors Court = 1251, decrease of 33.5% from 2024
2025 Total waivers paid at Clerks office = 630, decrease of 42.7% from 2024
2025 Open arrest warrants = 244, decrease 23.8% from 2024

2025 MANSFIELD MUNICIPAL COURT TOTALS

2025 Total traffic = 52, decrease of 1 from 2024
2025 Total criminal = 115, increase of 62% from 2024

2025 Mayor’s Court Revenue \$183,006.10, decrease of 38% from 2024
Total paid to State of Ohio \$33,208.50
Total paid to Richland County \$1,137.50
Total paid to Collection Agency \$1,464.00
Total paid to Victims (Restitution) \$3,298.17
2025 Total Paid into the City of Ontario \$222,114.27, decrease of 4.1% from 2024

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MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

President Gallo said there will be a Public Hearing on January 21, 2026 for the proposed Rezone on Walker Lake Road from R-2 to PUD.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Bradley Swain, 5514 Lime Road, congratulated the new council members and asked about the type of build proposed on the property at Walker Lake Road and Spring Village Drive.

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Ave West, asked about Robert's Rules, Point of Order, and clarification on specific procedures.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 26 – 01

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO TO
SELL PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES
THROUGH AN INTERNET AUCTION\SALE DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2026.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 26-01 on three separate days, second by Mr. Bilyj. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Finfgeld read Resolution No. 26-01, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Finfgeld moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-01, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 26-01 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 26 – 01

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO ASSISTANT
LAW DIRECTORS, APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN D.
STUDENMUND AND ANDREW J. BURTON OF RENWICK, WELSH &
BURTON LLC TO THESE POSITIONS, ESTABLISHING THEIR
COMPENSATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Bilyj moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 26-01 on three separate days, second by Mr. Roll. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Pauley read Ordinance No. 26-01, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Pauley moved to adopt Ordinance No. 26-01, second by Ms. Feagin. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 26-01 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 26 – 02

AN ORDINANCE AWARDING A CONTRACT TO PARR PUBLIC SAFETY
EQUIPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO 2026 DODGE DURANGOS AND
THE UP FIT EQUIPMENT FOR THE TOTAL SUM OF \$155,848.58 THROUGH
THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY.

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Mr. Bilyj moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 26-02 on three separate days, second by Mr. Roll. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Roll read Ordinance No. 26-02, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Roll moved to adopt Ordinance No. 26-02, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 26-02 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 26 – 03

AN ORDINANCE AWARDING A CONTRACT TO VALLEY FREIGHTLINER FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2026 FREIGHTLINER CAB/CHASSIS TRUCK THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Feagin moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 26-03 on three separate days, second by Mr. Bilyj. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Bilyj read Ordinance No. 26-03, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Bilyj moved to adopt Ordinance No. 26-03, second by Mr. Sunderland. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 26-03 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 26 – 04

AN ORDINANCE AWARDING A CONTRACT TO HENDERSONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A SNOW AND ICE PACKAGE FOR NEW TRUCK THROUGH THE STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Sunderland moved to suspend the reading of Ordinance No. 26-04 on three separate days, second by Mr. Roll. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Ms. Feagin read Ordinance No. 26-04, for the first time, by title only.

Ms. Feagin moved to adopt Ordinance No. 26-04, second by Mr. Roll. Six members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Ordinance No. 26-04 was adopted.

At 7:33 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Sunderland, second by Mr. Roll.

/s/ Eddie Gallo
President of Council

/s/s Cathy VanAuker, Clerk of Council