

Regular

October 7, 2026

Ontario City Council met in regular session on October 7, 2026, at the Municipal Building with Council President Eddie Gallo presiding. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present during roll call were Council members Brennen Finfgeld, Rick Pauley, Anderson Roll, Jason Bilyj, Sherry Branham-Fonner, Rose Feagin, Nathan Sunderland; President Eddie Gallo, Mayor Josh Bradley, Law Director Andrew Medwid, Service-Safety Director Michael Morton, and Clerk of Council Abbey Beaver.

The minutes of the regular Council meeting of September 16, 2026, and special Council meeting of September 29, 2026, were presented for approval.

Hearing no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Finfgeld said the Utilities Committee of the Whole met today to discuss the condition of our water system and the state of our unencumbered fund. Mayor Bradley will provide additional calculations for the next meeting.

Mr. Roll called a Streets Committee meeting for October 21, 2026, at 5:15 p.m. to discuss the Walker Lake study.

Mr. Bilyj called a Finance Committee meeting of the Whole for October 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the temporary budget.

Mrs. Branham-Fonner stated the Personnel Committee met this evening in executive session.

Ms. Feagin updated:

- The Parks Department, Parks Committee Chair, OYS (Ontario Youth Sports), and Mayor Bradley had their quarterly meeting on September 24, 2026.
- On October 1, 2026, she met with the Veterans Memorial Panel to survey Marshall Park and the tank.
- The next meeting for the Veterans Memorial Panel is October 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.
- Mr. Kmetz, Chair of the Veterans Memorial Panel, will be at the Council meeting on October 21, 2026, to give an update.
- The Fall Festival is October 24, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bradley reported:

- The temporary budget is getting close to completion. He is waiting on the insurance rates and K.E. McCartney engineering costs for upcoming projects.
 - Mr. Bilyj will distribute the final draft to the Committee when it is complete.
- He met with the owner of Chick-Fil-A, Mr. Foster, who is very interested in becoming part of the community. We are lucky to have him and his business come to Ontario.
- He is assembling an application for TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) funding for the Marshall Park path. The application will be submitted in November.
- An OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) grant application has been submitted for assistance with the West Fourth Street paving project.
 - The most assistance they give is \$500,000.00 but we don't qualify for that amount. K.E. McCartney recommended we divide it, \$350,000.00 in grant money and \$150,000.00 in a loan.
 - The West Fourth Street paving project is estimated to be around \$2.6 million.
- Trick or Treat is October 31, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Sunderland asked for an update on the Walker Lake and Lexington Springmill study.

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Mr. Roll said the company to do the study will be decided during the Streets Committee meeting on October 21, 2026.

SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Morton advised:

- Phase 1 of the resurfacing project is mostly complete. They are finishing some driveway adjustments.
- Kokosing is scheduled to start Phase 2 in Autumn Ridge on October 23, 2026.
 - This will take approximately one week, depending on weather.
 - Kokosing assured us they will not interrupt Trick or Treat if they are behind schedule.
- The pre-construction meeting for the Sanitary Sewer Force Main is tomorrow.
 - The company would like to start right away, possibly by the end of the month.
 - The location is SR 309 from Rock Road toward Emerson.
- There are five firms that are interested in doing the Walker Lake planning study. The firm will be chosen by the end of the month.

Mr. Bilyj questioned if any communication about the roundabout at Lexington Springmill and Home Road was received.

Law Director Medwid advised the newspaper reported the Bike Trail will open two weeks behind schedule and the road will open three weeks behind schedule, possibly by the end of the month.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORT

President Gallo said donations for condolences and congratulations are getting low.

Mayor Bradley shared the passing of Claudia Mathews who was a Dispatcher with Ontario Police Department for many years.

President Gallo requested a moment of silence for the passing of a former employee.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Craig Hunt, 3680 Park Avenue West, inquired if the concrete building being constructed on Park Avenue West is a business or part of a residence then stated last week there was a male sitting in front of the Post Office counting people and cars.

Mayor Bradley stated the building on Park Avenue West is a residential garage.

Director Morton was not aware of the male by the Post Office, but it could have been some type of study.

Mayor Bradley recognized Mr. Hunt for graciously volunteering to mow the property at Shelby Ontario Road and Park Avenue West until the CIC (Community Improvement Corporation) had time to decide how they will maintain it. Appreciation was given for his time and efforts.

Mr. Hunt stated he will continue to take care of the property until spring.

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CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 26-19

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TPREPARE 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.

Mr. Roll moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 26-19 on three separate days, second by Mr. Finfgeld. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Mr. Sunderland read Resolution No. 26-19, for the first time, by title only.

Mr. Sunderland moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-19, second by Mr. Bilyj. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 26-19 was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-20

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PERFORM OVERHEAD SIGN SUPPORT IMPROVEMENTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS ON SR 309 IN THE CITY OF ONTARIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Roll moved to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 26-20 on three separate days, second by Mrs. Branham-Fonner. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and the motion passed. Ms. Feagin read Resolution No. 26-20, for the first time, by title only.

Ms. Feagin moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-20, second by Mr. Sunderland. Seven members cast their votes Aye, zero Nay, and Resolution No. 26-20 was adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 26-27

AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE, CONSIDERATION AND/OR GRANTING OF ANY APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL LICENSING APPROVAL, AND/OR ANY ZONING, OCCUPANCY, OR OTHER PERMITS RELATING TO DATA CENTERS SUPPORTING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WITHIN THE CITY OF ONTARIO FOR ANOTHER SIX (6) MONTHS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mrs. Branham-Fonner read Ordinance No. 26-27, for the first time, by title only.

At 7:20 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Mr. Sunderland, second by Ms. Feagin.

/s/ Eddie Gallo, President of Council

/s/ Abbey Beaver, Clerk of Council