

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026.

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Mike Kalinich Sr. City Council Chamber, 18688 Royalton Road, on **Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:45 p.m.**

Present: Council Members: Gordon C. Short, Thomas M. Clark, James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Annmarie P. Roff, and Anthony J. Zacharyasz, Jr. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, and Finance Director Eric Dean.

Council President, Gordon C. Short, called the caucus to order at 6:48 p.m.

The following Council Committees met to review legislation on the agenda:

Planning, Zoning, and Engineering Committee:

Chairman Zacharyasz – Thank you, President Short. Tonight, we have two ordinances starting with Ordinance No. 2025-128, which concerns the potential rezoning of certain real estate located at 19156 Pearl Road in Strongsville from Public Facilities (PF) classification to General Business classification (GB). It's my understanding, and Mr. Jamison, I would appreciate if you wouldn't mind explaining in further detail, that the applicant has submitted correspondence with the city to formally withdraw their application.

Mr. Jamison – Correct, they submitted an email last week to myself; and I think the Mayor and Mr. Short as well as Ms. Pientka, asking that it be withdrawn from consideration going forward. We still have to do the public hearing tonight just because it has already been noticed and put out there. We can let anyone come up who is for or against; but at the appropriate time during Council, you'll vote on it your conscious going forward. That will put this to bed. We just don't want to let it sit there. What if someone else wants to potentially rezone it down the road? You don't want this hanging out there - not that we have any knowledge of that. I don't want to start that. We just want to put this to bed. We will do the public hearing tonight. If anybody wants to get up at the appropriate time in the Council meeting, you'll address it and follow their wishes, thank you.

Mr. Short – As everybody knows, the applicant did withdraw its application for the rezone. I ask that we respect those wishes.

Chairman Zacharyasz – Based on all this information, the recommendation tonight is to adopt with Council voting no to defeat the legislation per the applicant's withdraw.

Ms. Roff – Do we know if there is an intention to come back at any point?

Mr. Jamison – Not that I have heard.

Ms. Roff - Is that something that they voiced that they are looking for...?

Mayor Perciak – As far as I know, the land is for sale.

Ms. Roff – Okay, thank you.

Mayor Perciak – Two different companies have called already.

Ms. Roff – Okay, thank you.

Chairman Zacharyasz – The second tonight is Ordinance No. 2025-144. This is in regards to the city enacting a new Chapter in our Codified Ordinances titled "Fiber Optic Installers." After Council placed it on first reading on December 15, 2025, it was referred to the Planning Commission whom gave it a favorable recommendation on December 18, 2025. At our last Council meeting on January 5, 2026, Council voted to amend the legislation. At that meeting, Mr. Jamison explained in detail what the amendment was to that. Additionally, Council placed it on second reading, as amended, and sent it back to the Planning Commission to review again as amended. At the Planning Commission's last meeting on January 15, 2026, they gave it a favorable recommendation to the legislation as amended. It is now back to us, and the recommendation tonight is to place it on a third reading and set it for public hearing for March 2, 2026. That ends my report.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Zacharyasz. Any questions for Mr. Zacharyasz?

(No questions)

Public Safety and Health Committee:

Chairman Kaminski – Yes, we have one ordinance this evening - Ordinance No. 2026-006. This is a contract with University Hospitals of Cleveland in connection with the Cuyahoga County OVI Task Force Grant Award, which we received from the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The recommendation for that is suspension and adoption. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short – Thank you Mr. Kaminski, any questions for Mr. Kaminski?

(No questions)

Recreation and Community Services Committee:

Chairwoman Kosek – Thank you, Mr. Short. We have one ordinance tonight...excuse me, we have one resolution not an ordinance. Resolution No. 2026-007; this would be to accept a donation of \$2,000.00 from the Strongsville Community Theatre in appreciation of the good work of our personnel over at the Strongsville Recreation and Senior center, and for usage of various meeting rooms. We appreciate the generosity of the Strongsville Community Theatre. I ask that we suspend and adopt tonight to accept that donation.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Ms. Kosek. Any questions?

(No questions)

Mr. Short – Any questions that the administration might have for Council?

(No questions)

Other Business:

Ms. Kosek - While we have some minutes, do you mind if I...? We all have our new assignments, and one thing that came up in the last couple of days since the assignments came out, is that some cities in Northeast Ohio are speaking up about the request for First Energy to allow additional time for outages...of power outages to be extended. There are cities like Bay Village and Lakewood that have gone on record...I think they are opposed to allowing power outages to last for longer than they already do. We often have some power outages here that the residents are very unhappy about. I have asked the law director if he would put together a resolution that would be similar to what they have done in the other communities. I hope that we will have that on the agenda for the next Council meeting. I just wanted to put that on everybody's radar; then, we can certainly circulate what they have used in Bay Village if everyone wanted to take a look at that.

Mr. Short – Yes, that would be helpful. I agree, that is much needed.

Mr. Jamison – Yes, I will get it for you.

Mayor Perciak – They have made significant progress. I agree with Kelly, and these other cities. The underground...everything we have underground is aging. As you can see, even in this cold weather, they are still replacing electric boxes - all the underground in a lot of the subdivisions. We really can't let that go because sometimes there were instances where people were down for 12, or 24 hours. In situations where we have healthcare issues in people's homes, they cannot be without power. Whatever we can do to encourage Columbus to make certain that the law stays the same would be helpful to those residents.

Ms. Roff – Also too, as you know I'm sure Mayor, is that a lot of the areas where we are at, there were places that would have been (down) two or three times a month as far as outages went with an extended amount of time. They have replaced a good amount of those. The only thing when they are replacing those is if they could send out some verbiage, or put a note on people's door. I know some people got caught in their driveways. I'm sure you have gotten some of those calls over the past year.

Mayor Perciak – You know, Ann...

Ms. Roff – I know.

Mayor Perciak – I wish they would do that. We have talked, our building commissioner has talked, our service department representatives have talked to these people. At the end of the day, they have the easement and they are going to do what they want.

Ms. Roff – I absolutely understand that part, but...

Mayor Perciak – I don't know how else to say it because there is no way to sugar coat this.

Ms. Roff – Maybe if we could, from the engineering department, just when we know that they are working in a certain area, try to get a little bit more of a handle on their schedule. I know it is hard to predict, but I know people have been caught off guard before, so thank you. Kelly, when you are done, I have an item.

Ms. Kosek – I think we have talked about everything that I wanted to talk about for Building and Utilities, so thank you.

Ms. Roff – I have one small one, and I know we've talked about it before. While David is here, if we could get a Council phone – a mobile phone in the Council office just for both of the people in the office to share. They don't have to take it home with them, but just something there at the office so that we don't have to...sometimes I will have a picture of something, but I don't want to send stuff from my personal phone necessarily or bog up anybody else's personal phones. If we could have one of the phones, David. We just need a phone that is left in the office for the ladies, the Council area to share, just to keep at the office so that we could use it to communicate with them during the day if we are on our mobile phone—our Council mobile phones. Just as far as a text or something, so that we don't have to try to use their personal phones, or something like that. I thought that was pretty simple. Also, while you are standing there—and Mayor, if we could just do at some point in the next couple of months—a Communications and Technology Committee meeting? This is just to kind of go over now that some of the responsibilities have been taken from us as far as our dispatch center...just to see where we are at and where the jobs are lying as far as jobs that have...

Mayor Perciak – I agree, we will do that. We have to give these people a couple of months to get...

Ms. Roff – To get...

Mayor Perciak – Correct. After that, I would be happy to.

Ms. Roff – That would be great, thank you so much, I appreciate it.

Mr. Short – Alright, anything else?

(No comments)

*****Please note – The legislation discussed above on tonight's agenda can be viewed in entirety at: <https://www.strongsville.org/government/city-council/minutes-agendas> by clicking on the January 20, 2026 agenda link. *****

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Gordon C. Short called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING:

The Clerk of Council certified that the meeting had been posted in accordance with Ordinance No. 2023-182.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members: Gordon C. Short, Thomas M. Clark, James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Annmarie P. Roff, and Anthony J. Zacharyasz, Jr. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, and Finance Director Eric Dean.

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Organizational and Regular Council Meeting held on January 5, 2026 were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

(None)

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Short – Just for those in attendance, I want to let you know that this was for an initial rezoning from Public Facilities (PF) to General Business (GB) on a parcel of land on Pearl Road (South). The applicant, last week in correspondence to the administration and to the Council, has withdrawn its application for the rezone. However, in accordance with our codes, ordinances and procedures - since this was noticed and is a public hearing, we must proceed with the public hearing. Council is fully aware, and I anticipate that we will respect the applicant's decision to withdraw its application for this rezoning.

Ordinance No. 2025-128 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE ADOPTED BY SECTION 1250.03 OF TITLE SIX, PART TWELVE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF STRONGSVILLE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 19156 PEARL ROAD (PPN 394-31-007) IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE FROM PF (PUBLIC FACILITIES) CLASSIFICATION TO GB (GENERAL BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION, AND IN ADDITION, VACANT LAND LOCATED ON PEARL ROAD NEAR ROCKGLEN DRIVE (PPN 394-32-001) FROM PF (PUBLIC FACILITIES) CLASSIFICATION TO GB (GENERAL BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *First reading and referred to the Planning Commission 11-03-25. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 11-20-25. Second reading 12-01-25. Public Hearing 01-20-26.*

*Mr. Short opened the public hearing and invited anyone wishing to speak **IN FAVOR** of the Ordinance to approach the podium and address Council.*

(No comments)

*Mr. Short then invited anyone wishing to speak **IN OPPOSITION** of the Ordinance to approach the podium and address Council.*

(No comments)

Hearing no further comments in regard to this matter, Council President Short closed the Public Hearing on said Ordinance.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Ms. Roff:

(No report)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Clark: Thank you, President Short. Nothing to report this evening – just an announcement. Our next Economic Development Committee meeting will be on Monday, January 26, 2026. I will happily take any questions; but if none, that concludes my report.

(No questions)

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Clark.

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Zacharyasz: Thank you, President Short. Tonight, I have two pieces of legislation. The first up is Ordinance No. 2025-128; this is an ordinance to rezone property located at 19156 Pearl Road from Public Facilities (PF) to General Business (GB) classification. We had a discussion about this during caucus. While Mr. Jamison advised Council that the applicant has formally withdrawn their request for this rezoning; due to an advance notice given out to residents in the community, we had the public hearing on this matter. However, based on the applicant's request, the recommendation tonight is to adopt with Council voting no to defeat it. I also have Ordinance No. 2025-144 which is enacting a new chapter of the city's Codified Ordinances titled "Fiber Optic Installers." The first reading on this by Council was that it was referred to the Planning Commission on December 15, 2025. A favorable recommendation was made by the Planning Commission on December 18, 2025. This was amended and placed on second reading and referred back to the Planning Commission "As Amended" on January 5, 2026, to which the Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation "As Amended" on January 15, 2026. The recommendation is to place it on a third reading and set it for public hearing on March 2, 2026. That concludes my report, but I will be happy to take any questions.

(No questions)

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Zacharyasz.

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH – Mr. Kaminski: Yes, we have one ordinance this evening. Ordinance No. 2026-006; this is a contract with University Hospitals of Cleveland in connection with the Cuyahoga County OVI Task Force. It's a grant awarded from the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The recommendation is suspension and adoption on that ordinance. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Kaminski. Any questions?

(No questions)

PUBLIC SERVICE & CONSERVATION – Ms. Kosek:

(No report)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES – Ms. Kosek: Thank you there is one resolution tonight for Public Service and Conservation, and nothing for Recreation... excuse me, it's the other way around. I have one for Recreation and Community Services, which is Resolution 2026-007. This is a resolution accepting a donation from our Strongsville Community Theatre in appreciation of the good work of our personnel over at the Walter F. Ehrnfelt Recreation Center and also for various meeting rooms. This is a donation of \$2,000.00. I would ask that we suspend and adopt that this evening. In my other committee, which I tried to say we had an ordinance for, we have none. Unless there are any questions, I will yield the floor.

(No questions)

Mr. Short – Thank you, Ms. Kosek. Again, thank you to the Strongsville Community Theatre for their donation.

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Mr. Carbone:

(No report)

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Carbone: At the first school board meeting of the year, I saw the Mayor swearing in our two newly elected school board members—Eric Wahl and Megan Haffner, who are in the audience this evening. Then, they had an organizational portion of their meeting. Laura Housum will continue to be president of the school board, and Megan Haffner will be the vice president. Our Council representatives here will be Richard Micko and Megan Haffner. Our Polaris representative will be Laura Housum. Lastly, two Fridays ago, we had an incident... an unfortunate incident—a bad decision made by one of our students. I just want to point out the efforts...really, the great collaboration with Bill Wingler, the principal, how he responded to the incident, and how they collaborated with the school resource officers and the Strongsville Police Department. We are all very blessed that it didn't escalate any further. With being in the profession for some time, seeing how that all went down, it makes me happy to know that we have these people in leadership. I'm very thankful for that. That concludes both of my committee reports. Thank you.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Carbone. Any questions?

Ms. Roff – I don't know if we could just recognize Jim and his team, in Cleveland, talking about safety and the good work that they did out there. I know that we have a little article here, too, about it. If people don't know, Jim Carbone is part of the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department down there. They did a good job with that carjacking and keeping things as safe as possible for everybody around.

Mr. Carbone – Thank you.

Ms. Roff – Thank you and your team.

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short:

(No report)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

FINANCE – Mr. Short:

(No report)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - Mr. Short:

(No report)

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS
AND OTHER OFFICERS:**

MAYOR PERCIAK:

(No report)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dean: Thank you Mr. President, I hereby certify that funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda requiring certification of funding. Thank you.

LAW DEPARTMENT – Mr. Jamison: All ordinances and resolutions are in proper legal form. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short - Thank you.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

(None)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2025-128 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE ADOPTED BY SECTION 1250.03 OF TITLE SIX, PART TWELVE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF STRONGSVILLE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE LOCATED AT 19156 PEARL ROAD (PPN 394-31-007) IN THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE FROM PF (PUBLIC FACILITIES) CLASSIFICATION TO GB (GENERAL BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION, AND IN ADDITION, VACANT LAND LOCATED ON PEARL ROAD NEAR ROCKGLEN DRIVE (PPN 394-32-001) FROM PF (PUBLIC FACILITIES) CLASSIFICATION TO GB (GENERAL BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *First reading and referred to the Planning Commission 11-03-25. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 11-20-25. Second reading 12-01-25. Public Hearing 01-20-26.*

Motion to adopt by Mr. Clark second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: Ayes: Roff.

Nays: Zacharyasz, Short, Carbone, Kaminski, Kosek, Clark.

Motion fails.

Ordinance No. 2025-128 **DEFEATED**.

Motion made by Mr. Clark, having voted with the prevailing side, to reconsider the vote on the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-128, due to an error in the recorded vote. Seconded by Ms. Kosek.

Roll Call: Ayes: Zacharyasz, Short, Carbone, Kaminski, Clark.

Abstain: Roff

Motion carries and adopted.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Clark second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All Nays. Motion fails.

Ordinance No. 2025-128 **DEFEATED**.

Ordinance No. 2025-144 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CHAPTER 878 "FIBER OPTIC INSTALLERS" OF TITLE TWO OF PART EIGHT-BUSINESS REGULATION AND TAXATION CODE OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY **AS AMENDED**. *First reading and referred to the Planning Commission 12-15-25. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 12-18-25. Amended, placed on second reading and referred back to the Planning Commission "As Amended" 01-05-26. Favorable recommendation by the Planning Commission 01-15-26.*

Placed on third reading and set for public hearing on March 2, 2026.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2026-006 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR'S ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS OF CLEVELAND IN CONNECTION WITH A CUYAHOGA COUNTY OVI TASK FORCE GRANT AWARD RECEIVED FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Clark to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2026-006 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2026-007 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF MONEY FROM THE STRONGSVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE IN APPRECIATION OF THE PERSONNEL AT THE WALTER F. EHRNFELT RECREATION & SENIOR CENTER AND FOR USAGE OF THE VARIOUS MEETING ROOMS.

Motion by Mr. Clark to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Ms. Roff. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Roff.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2026-007 ADOPTED.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

(None)

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

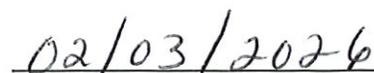
Establishment of the Ad Hoc Transportation and Infrastructure Committee:

Motion by Mr. Clark, second by Ms. Roff to establish an Ad Hoc Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, consisting of three Councilmembers, for the purpose of reviewing, evaluating and making recommendations to Council on transportation needs, roadway improvements, traffic safety and infrastructure planning. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Short adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.


Marialena Beach
Council Secretary


Date