

SUMMARY OF CAUCUS DISCUSSION AND MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025.

The Council of the City of Strongsville met in the Caucus Room at the Mike Kalinich Sr. City Council Chamber, 18688 Royalton Road, on **Monday, November 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Council Members: Gordon C. Short, James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Annmarie P. Roff, Thomas M. Clark, and Brian M. Spring. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, Finance Director Eric Dean, Human Resources Director Steve Kilo, Fire Chief Jack Draves, and Public Safety Director Charles Goss.

Council President Gordon C. Short, called the caucus to order at 6:33 p.m.

Public Service & Conservation Committee:

Chairwoman Roff – I just have one ordinance. Ordinance No. 2025-131; this is just giving permission to auction off and/or dispose of items no longer needed. That's it.

Mr. Short – Suspend and adopt?

Chairwoman Roff – I would like that, yes. Thank you.

Mr. Short – Any questions for Ms. Roff?

(No questions)

Mr. Short – Thank you.

Public Safety & Health Committee:

Chairwoman Kosek – I have some for both this time. Ordinance No. 2025-132 is an ordinance that would amend the Strongsville Administrative Code to re-establish the maximum number of members in the fire department. It's looking to decrease the number from two to one for the assistant chief. I did have an opportunity to talk with Chief Draves today. I think that my recommendation is that we talk about this some more. I would like to put it on first reading if that's possible. I just talked to some other folks who had some other concerns as well.

Mr. Short – I mean, I think we will have some discussion about it, but if everybody agrees, that's fine.

Chairwoman Kosek – Okay, I am happy to open the floor if people want to talk about it now.

Mr. Short – Do you guys want to discuss now, or...?

Ms. Roff – I guess we need more information from higher up as far as...what are you thinking, Kelly?

Mr. Jamison – We can have a discussion about this. At the end of the day, I know some of you have talked to the chief about this. We will get you the information that you requested. I know there is going to be some more discussions with this, and then we will go from there.

Chairwoman Kosek – Okay, so let's for now...

Ms. Roff – Yes, I would like to have a little bit more time too; especially since we didn't get the agenda until Friday. Then, you guys are always at meetings on Monday, so it's been hard to get answers.

Mr. Short – Well, we can go ahead (unintelligible) then, we could decide.

Mr. Carbone – I think that's a good idea. We will have discussions, and then if there are any questions, we could reach out to the chief, Neal, or the Mayor.

Mr. Short – That is fine for now.

Chairwoman Kosek – Okay. Then, we have Resolution No. 2025-133; this would authorize the Mayor to advertise for an RFP (Request for Proposal) for emergency medical services billing. I think this is just to go out for the RFP. I don't know if anybody wants to give further explanation. I think understand exactly what it is, but...

Mayor Perciak – The chief is here, let him explain.

Chairwoman Kosek – Sure.

Chief Draves – Sure, thanks Ms. Kosek. We have an EMS billing contract with Emergency Management...EMS Management Consultants – they do our billing for us. They are coming to the end of their five-year contract. We are required to go out to gather RFPs, and see what else is out there in the market, check for other companies, and try and find the best competitive arrangements for the city. This is just the initial step in making that process happen. We have been with our vendor for...we've had two five-year contracts with them. It was the recommendation of the law department that we go out and see what else is in the market to make sure we are getting the best. Once we get all those RFPs in, they will be due at the end of December. We will review those, interview the top companies, and then make a recommendation to Council for final approval. Our contract does expire on April 30, 2026. Time will be of the essence to get through all this and get it approved. If we would end up changing companies, there's a lot of work to be done in the background to make sure that the transition is smooth.

Chairwoman Kosek – Thank you. The recommendation there would be to suspend and adopt.

Communications & Technology Committee:

Chairwoman Kosek - I have Ordinance No. 2025-134; this is the cybersecurity that I mentioned at the last meeting. As we discussed, for security reasons, we all need to speak with Mr. Sems. To make sure that everybody has an opportunity to do that, I'd ask that we put this on first reading tonight.

Mr. Short – That's fine. I would just like to say if you haven't had a chance to talk to Mr. Sems, please do so by the next meeting. It is critical of the city that we get this passed and implemented before the year end.

Chairwoman Kosek – Before the end of the year, right?

Mr. Jamison – Yes, I sent that memo two weeks ago and invited all of you to reach out to him. I know some have and some have not. Please get that done.

Chairwoman Kosek – That's all I have.

Mr. Short – Okay, thank you. Any questions for Ms. Kosek?

(No questions)

Recreation & Community & Community Services Committee:

Chairman Kaminski – Yes, I just have one ordinance. Ordinance No. 2025-135; this is a sale by internet auction of obsolete property that is no longer needed by the recreation center and the senior center. The recommendation is suspension and adoption. That's it for me tonight.

Mr. Short – Thank you, any questions?

(No questions)

Finance Committee:

Chairman Short – Lastly, myself for the Finance Committee...we have several tonight, but Ordinance Nos. 2025-120, 2025-121, and 2025-122 all deal with the creation of the TIF Funds. Ordinance No. 2025-120 is for the Bruster's TIF Fund, Ordinance No. 2025-121 is for the Dollar General, and Ordinance No. 2025-122 is for the Sheetz. This will be the third reading. The recommendation is to adopt those this evening. Any questions on the TIFs?

(No questions)

Chairman Short – Next, we have Ordinance No. 2025-130; this is to approve the budget for 2026. As you recall, we had a Finance Committee meeting back on October 27th. We asked for more time to...some members asked for more time to review the budget. I think we are in a position now, with us going into the last part of the fiscal year here, to approve that for 2026. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt that tonight. Any questions on the budget?

Ms. Kosek – Thank you...thank you for giving us some additional time to look at it; I appreciate it. I had an opportunity to sit down with the finance director. I know that sidewalks have been an issue that we have been dealing with. I did ask him if he would look into seeing if we could include some sidewalk allocation in the budget. He was able to...I don't want to speak for him, Eric, why don't you go ahead and speak for yourself.

Mr. Dean – Yes, thank you Kelly. We had a fund that would pay for any construction of future sidewalks. Money was available for the Foltz Parkway Extension, which came under budget when that project was completed, so it was available. It was in the current budget, and we could move that to sidewalk construction if Council approves. It is in the same budget category and in the same fund, so there is no amendment needed for that ordinance. It's up to Council if they want to do that. When I put in the numbers for next year's budget, I will put it in the correct account.

Ms. Kosek – Thank you. The only other question I have is, I know that we all got the opinion about sidewalks and the ability to use TIF money for that – that came back positive. That's a great opportunity that we have to be able to use TIF money to work on sidewalks. I just want to make sure, Neal, are we covered for these new TIFs that we would be voting on tonight to include the language necessary for the sidewalks?

Mr. Jamison – So, if you read that opinion, basically, what it is saying is that if you are going to put a sidewalk in where a particular TIF covers that area, you can do it. As an example, if there is a residential neighborhood that does not have sidewalks and is not included in the TIF, you cannot use the TIF money for that. For your memory, and as you look at tonight's ordinances, they're major arteries in the city. Some streets are not even included in that TIF. If they are not stated in that, you cannot use the TIF money for that. Even though the TIF Fund has "X" amount in it collectively, you would have to look at each project as we go forward. That's why we are doing, as we mentioned at the last meeting, we are going to have it for the next meeting the RFP to go out for the master sidewalk program. That firm can identify those areas based on need for school, and other purposes that we can then go from there and properly plan on how to do it. Then we will see what funds are available from what particular TIF for what we then want to address down the road. We can use it; it just depends on where it's proposed to be. Remember, we are going to be doing this plan to identify how to do it, and how much it is going to cost, so that you can properly plan to do it. You can't just put a number and say, "We are going to put \$50,000.00 in ward 3 in 2026." It doesn't work that way. That is why I think the sidewalk master plan is going to be invaluable, so that we can identify the areas that need it, and then what those potential costs will be. We are early in the process for that. I would like to thank Blake Beachler for doing that. He provided that to Eric and myself. Yes, we will continue to go forward. It's a potential source of funds, but it's just...it's a proverbial...it's going to be a drop in the bucket particularly if you do certain areas that might not only need sidewalks, but storm sewers. There are some streets in our city that if you are going to put sidewalks in that have ditches at the present time, you're going to have to put storm sewers in - that obviously raises the cost. Then, the question becomes too...as we've always gone through this, is that if you decide that the city is going to pay for it, or whether we are going to assess it to individual homeowners or not? Those are questions that we have to address as we go through this process. Thank you.

Ms. Kosek – Thank you. My question was...yes, I understand we can't use TIF Funds that don't directly benefit the property. For example, one of the ones that we have on the agenda tonight is Sheetz, which is on Prospect Road. Prospect Road is a road that has a need for sidewalks. What I am asking is, are we sure that the language that we have in the Sheetz TIF would cover the language that we would need based on this opinion to allow for sidewalks.

Mr. Jamison – My answer is...there is like twenty TIFs, and each one covers different areas, okay?

Ms. Kosek – Neal, I am talking about the ones that are on the agenda tonight. Are we good with the language that is on the agenda tonight regarding sidewalks? That's what I'm...

Mr. Jamison – Engineering, finance, as well as Brent Painter, have gone through them with our TIF expert John Veres. Yes, the areas that are identified are consistent with what we've done before. No one has raised an objection to those, and that is consistent with how we did it.

Ms. Roff – We've never also had this subject looked into as far as putting it towards the sidewalks. I'm sure with whatever verbiage that you can throw into there...Sheetz going on there...

Chairman Short – I don't think it's so much about the verbiage. I think it's...what I understand, Neal, if it's a capital improvement that is in the TIF zone, or the area allowed by the TIF...

Mr. Jamison – Correct.

Chairman Short - ...you can spend that money; whether it would be on sidewalks, storm sewers, or whatever. Right?

Mr. Jamison – Right.

Chairman Short - It has to be in that TIF zone and then you can appropriate the TIF money.

Mr. Jamison – Right, so you don't have to say sidewalks in it. That is correct, Mr. Short. It's just that it has to be encompassed in the area that's covered by the TIF.

Chairman Short – Of the zone...of the TIF, correct.

Ms. Kosek – Thank you.

Mayor Perciak – Remember, we are coming to you next week, or two weeks from now with authorization to go out and do this study. This is going to be a citywide study. They are going to have recommendations in there as to what, who, and how. In there, they will prioritize the areas that need sidewalks. If it abuts any of these TIFs or a part of the TIF area, they will recommend as to what we can or cannot do. They are going to look at the whole city, not just one corner or one ward – that's the fair way to do it.

Ms. Kosek – Agreed. Thank you, Gordon. That was the question that I was asking was whether we needed to have any language that was specific to the sidewalk. I appreciate the clarification.

Mr. Short – You don't, correct.

Mr. Jamison – If you read the TIF ordinance under Exhibit B, it talks about Prospect Road – Exhibit B/No. 2. It says, "Widening and other improvements to Prospect Road from terminus to terminus including curves - this isn't the whole list - sidewalks, lighting, and storm water management facilities." That is consistent with what we've had in all the other TIFs. Yes, you can use it, but just remember there are different buckets. You have to make sure...at the end of the day, this Sheetz is not going to be able to pay for all of the sidewalks on Prospect Road.

Chairman Short – Understood. When we get into the sidewalk plan, we can discuss this more, but the bottom line is that the TIF money is available for sidewalks.

Mr. Jamison – Correct.

Chairman Short – Yes, thank you. Any other questions on the budget?

Mr. Clark – Just a comment then. So, we talked about this, we have a recommendation, and we have three of these in front of us. We read the language in Exhibit 2 subsection ii, and it outlines the two things that were just suggested, which were sidewalks and storm water management systems – both of those are in there. The discussion that we are having now, does that give anyone any concern with the suspend and adopt that we have? Okay, so we are going to keep moving forward, thank you.

(Multiple unintelligible background conversations)

Chairman Short – The budget is to suspend and adopt – it's only on second reading. The TIFs are adopted, correct. Lastly for the Finance Committee is Ordinance No. 2025-136; this is to renew and purchase the property casualty insurance for the city for the fiscal year 2026 through the Traveler's Insurance program. As this is without public bidding, we will need all seven votes. I believe that there is really no market for this outside of Traveler's Insurance. Neal, is that correct that offers this type of service for the city?

Mr. Dean – Thank you, Gordon. If I could just add some details. We...our insurance broker marketed it to all of the available companies. We had three interested and one declined. We kind of had like a bidding war between two (insurance companies). We hadn't had an explanation of why...actually, the price was lower for Traveler's Insurance, which is our current carrier. That competition actually helped us a little bit. Not only was the Traveler's Insurance the lowest, they had the best coverage in the insurance for different lines. That's what we are recommending tonight. It was a 5% increase, which I believe was much lower than last year. Last year was almost 10%. If you saw the sheet that I handed out earlier, this is detailed by line in the policy of what went up and what went down. Also, (shows) the companies that were interested and their quotes.

Mr. Jamison – If I could point out, the other company that had looked, or had proposed; they had higher deductibles as well. We felt that was not in our interest to go with that just because it just wasn't to our advantage to do that. It wasn't just the price, but it was also that they were quoting us higher deductibles. We felt that was not a route that we wanted to go down. That was another reason, just to add on to what Eric said.

Chairman Short – Again, the recommendation there is to suspend and adopt and we will need all seven (votes).

Mr. Carbone made a motion to adjourn into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters concerning the Council office. It was seconded by Mr. Kaminski to adjourn from open session into executive session [Article XI, Section 9, City Charter]. All members present voted aye and the motion carried. Council adjourned into executive session at 6:50 p.m. Also present from the Administration: Law Director Neal Jamison. Neal Jamison left the executive session at 7:08 p.m. The executive session concluded at 7:28 p.m. and reconvened into open session.

*****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 November 17, 2025 agenda link. *****

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Gordon C. Short called the meeting to order at 7:30 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, James E. Carbone, James A. Kaminski, Kelly A. Kosek, Annmarie P. Roff, Thomas M. Clark, and Brian M. Spring. **Also Present:** Clerk of Council Aimee Pientka. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal Jamison, Finance Director Eric Dean, Human Resources Director Steve Kilo, Fire Chief Jack Draves, and Public Safety Director Charles Goss.

COMMENTS ON MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 03, 2025, were approved as submitted.

APPOINTMENTS, CONFIRMATIONS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

(None)

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Mr. Clark:

(No report)

BUILDING AND UTILITIES – Ms. Roff:

(No report)

PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATION – Ms. Roff: I have just one item. That is Ordinance No. 2025-131; this is just to put up for auction some vehicles that are no longer needed - suspend and adopt, please.

Mr. Short – Thank you. Any questions for Ms. Roff?

(No questions)

PUBLIC SAFETY & HEALTH – Ms. Kosek: Thank you, Mr. Short. We have two ordinances for Public Safety and Health, and one ordinance for Communications and Technology. Ordinance No. 2025-132 is an ordinance for Public Safety and Health. This would be to amend the ordinance that sets the number of roles for the fire department. Their request is to decrease the assistant chief from two to one. We did have a little discussion in caucus where we discussed that we might have some additional questions for the chief. I'd request that we put that on first reading tonight. We also have Resolution No. 2025-133; this is to authorize the Mayor to authorize...excuse me, to advertise an RFP for EMS billing, so this would allow us to bill private insurance companies – Medicare and Medicaid. I'd ask that we suspend and adopt that, so that he can start that RFP process. The chief was kind enough to tell us that the current contract ends in April, so we would like to get that moving. I'd ask that we suspend and adopt on that.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY – Ms. Kosek: We also have for Communications and Technology, Resolution No. 2025-134. This is a resolution to adopt and implement a cybersecurity policy for the city. This would also be put on first reading. This is something that everyone needs to meet with Mr. Sems about. I'd ask that everyone make that a priority, so that we can vote on it at the next meeting. This is something that has to be passed by the end of the year. There are only two meetings left, so please make that a priority everyone. If we can put that on first reading, also, Mr. Short. That's all I have; unless anyone has any questions.

(No questions)

Mr. Short – Thank you, Ms. Kosek.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES – Mr. Kaminski: Yes, just one ordinance this evening. Ordinance No. 2025-135; this is authorizing the sale by internet auction of obsolete property that is no longer needed by the recreation center and the senior department. The recommendation is suspension and adoption. That concludes my report.

Mr. Short – Any questions for Mr. Kaminski?

(No questions)

PLANNING, ZONING AND ENGINEERING – Mr. Spring: Thank you, President Short. I have no new ordinances or resolutions, but we do have a Planning Commission meeting coming up on Thursday, November 20th. That will conclude my report.

Mr. Short – Any questions for Mr. Spring?

(No questions)

SCHOOL BOARD – Mr. Carbone: Yes, thank you. At the last school board meeting, there was something that I found interesting. The superintendent was looking to grant permission for the Strongsville High School social studies teacher to travel with anthropology and AP human geography students to Greece and Italy. That's a great experience for some of our students to share with the teacher. Also (mentioned) was the PowerSchool messenger communications license and subscription. The board also discussed different scenarios for the 070 Fund. This fund could be used for improvement projects, paying off buildings, and again, making improvements to buildings—nothing with the day-to-day operation of the school. The bulk of the meeting consisted of two presentations from marketing companies—Adcom and The Impact Group—to help the district communicate all the great things our students, staff, and our administration are doing. Personally, I think our schools do a phenomenal job. I think we have phenomenal families; we have phenomenal students and staff. I think this is a great idea, really, to tell the story of the great things that are going on day by day with our schools. Our next board meeting...their next board meeting is this Thursday. Any questions?

(No questions)

Mr. Carbone – Thank you.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Carbone.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (cont'd):

SOUTHWEST GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM – Mr. Short: We did not have a board meeting since our last Council meeting, and no report there this evening. Any questions for Southwest General Health System?

(No questions)

FINANCE – Mr. Short: First, I did not do this in caucus, but I would like to make a motion to approve the October 27, 2025, Finance Committee meeting minutes. There were some minor edits that the Clerk and I reviewed, and those will be corrected before they are submitted.

Motion by Mr. Short, second by Ms. Roff, to approve the Finance Committee meeting minutes of October 27, 2025. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Mr. Short – Tonight, we have several ordinances. The first—there are three: Ordinance No. 2025-120, 2025-121, and 2025-122. These are to establish Tax Incremental Funds (TIFs) for construction and infrastructure improvements. Ordinance No. 2025-120 is for the Bruster's project at Ellsworth Drive and Pearl Road, Ordinance No. 2025-121 is for the Dollar General on West 130th Street, and Ordinance No. 2025-122 is for the redevelopment of the Sheetz at Prospect Road and Royalton Road. This will be the third reading tonight. The recommendation is to adopt all three of those TIFs. Ordinance No. 2025-130 is to approve the fiscal year appropriations for 2026 for the City of Strongsville—our annual budget. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt. Ordinance No. 2025-136 is to renew our property and casualty insurance with Traveler's Insurance Company. As this is without public bidding, we will need all seven (votes) tonight. The recommendation there is to suspend and adopt. Are there any questions on those ordinances?

(No questions)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - Mr. Short:

(No report)

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

MAYOR PERCIAK: Thank you, Mr. President, and good evening, everyone. Just a reminder, on Sunday, Santa Claus officially comes to town at 5:30 p.m. We will have our Christmas lighting on The Commons. We look forward to seeing everybody there as we kick off the Christmas season here in the City of Strongsville. Again, Sunday, November 23rd at 5:30 p.m. Secondly, some great news. I will just read the press release by Moody's. It says, "On Friday, November 7, 2025, Moody's Investor Services reaffirmed the City of Strongsville's Aaa credit rating - the highest rating a municipality can receive. The City of Strongsville is one of only 14 cities in the State of Ohio, and roughly one of 250 cities nationwide to hold the Aaa bond rating. I just want to thank everybody. I especially want to thank Eric, our staff, all my directors, and all the people who have helped us maintain this rating. As most of you know, as indicated by Moody's, this is a very difficult rating to obtain and get reaffirmed. Thank you to all who are involved in this. I appreciate your time, hard work and everything that went into it, and also, to the Finance Committee. Really, this...again, when you really look at the data – 14 cities in the entire state and we are one of them. I just want to say thank you to everybody.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR, DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER OFFICERS (cont'd):

Mr. Short – On behalf of the Council – Mayor thank you, and Eric, and your staff, for the job you do. That is not an easy rating to get or maintain for all these years, so thank you. Thank you, Eric and your staff as well.

Mayor Perciak – One last thing – on Wednesday and Thursday, NOACA (Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency) is holding a public...I will call it public meetings, again, to discuss the I-71 Crossroads Regional Transportation Study. It's not only going to be our study here at I-71 and State Route 82, but also at State Route 303. Our meeting is going to begin here at the Strongsville Recreation and Senior Center at 6:00 p.m. They will have their presentation ready at 6:30 p.m., and they will call the meeting to a close at 7:30 p.m., that is in Strongsville. Then, the Brunswick area public meeting will be on Thursday, again, the same presentation. They will conclude that meeting there at 7:30 p.m., also. Again, if you don't have it on your schedule to be there...this is something the presentation they are putting on. I don't know how much of a dialogue it's going to be back and forth; I think it's pretty much a listening session on our parts. That ends my report.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – Mr. Dean: Thank you, Council 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:

John Douglas, 17000 Prospect Road, Strongsville, OH 44149: Good evening, President, the rest of Council, and the Mayor. My name is John Douglas—17000 Prospect Road. I am the Strongsville Firefighter's Association Local #282 President. I would like to speak on Ordinance No. 2025-132 where we are reducing, once again, rank and file in the fire department. This isn't something that is new to the fire department. We seem to always want to manipulate the rank and structure of the fire department quite frequently. I will try to speak briefly on that. I would like to go back to 2012, where we decided to decrease the assistant chiefs from two to one. We have always had two assistant chiefs ever since the 1999/2000 year where we had Robert Moody and Greg Brown as the assistant chiefs under Chief Haney. In 2012, when Chief Jeff Branich became chief, he along with the Mayor as well as the police chief decided to decrease not only the assistant chief rank down to one, but the deputy chief in the police department down to one to save some money for the city. That lasted about 3 ½ years as those duties were piling up on the desk of the one assistant chief who is our current Fire Chief Jack Draves. I can remember even back then walking by Chief Drave's desk and seeing just piles upon piles of paper backup because there's not enough people to do the administrative functions to keep the department running efficiently. When Chief Jeff Branich retired in 2015, Chief Draves was promoted on March 2, 2015 to the fire chief. At the same time, at that Council meeting, it was decided that we would bring back the second assistant chief because of the efficiency of the department.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Mr. Douglas (cont'd) - I just want to read to you some quotes from Fire Chief Jack Draves about why a second assistant chief is needed. It goes on to say, and I quote, "With my experience as assistant chief over the last 3 ½ years, I can definitely say we need two of them." This was told by Chief Draves to the Northeast Ohio Media Group on Tuesday, the day after the Council meeting. He also goes to quote say, "There are too many things going on. With one assistant chief, you never have a chance to be proactive and look down the road. We are not doing things to be a progressive department." That's why we have two assistant chiefs today because we were falling behind other cities; falling behind efficiency with our own department where work was not getting done. One of my problems—not the only one—is that why are we going to go backwards and do this all over again? If in 2015, our own fire chief himself said, "We needed two assistant chiefs to run this department." What's different now? We have more staffing now than in 2015. We have more apparatus than 2015. We clearly are running more runs than 2015 by upwards of over 2,500 from that date. We are about to build a \$10,000,000.00 fifth fire station with more apparatus, more staffing, more runs to continue. Yet, we are going to reduce the staffing in the fire department. How efficient is it going to be when we have a training captain that has to do assistant chief duties? Is he going to be able to do his job as a training captain to train us firefighters, so that we could perform our functions for you residents efficiently and safely; so, you don't lose your house in a fire, or so no one gets killed in a fire, or has a medical emergency that goes untreated or treated improperly because we can't get the proper training? The delegation of duties from the administrative staff onto the members back here you see behind you: If the administration wants to continue to delegate assistant chief and administrative duties to the union, we will take those on because that's what we do. We have to make sure the department runs efficiently, so we will do it. The only thing I ask, if they are going to do that and they want that, then let's open up and give some management rights away. If they want us to do staffing and scheduling, allow us to do staffing and scheduling. You can take that management right away and you don't have to worry about it ever again—we will take care of it. If you want us to write grants—AFG grants, and SAFER grants to try to bring money into the city for the fire service, we will do it. Give up some management rights and we will go ahead and do that. It shouldn't be the job of the firefighters that are out there trying to do the best job they can to do assistant chief and chief level duties.

Ms. Pientka – Five minutes, Mr. President.

Mr. Douglas – I would like to yield more time.

Mr. Short – We usually don't allow...if you have another speaker, you could yield to somebody, but...or they could speak on behalf of you. We generally...it's five minutes per person in Council.

Mr. Douglas – Okay, I will leave it at that. I just don't understand why we are going backwards in time, so they can, five years from now, go to a second assistant chief again.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Douglas.

Mr. Douglas – My door is always open if you guys have questions. I will tell you the truth.

Richard Micko, 20520 Wildwood Lane, Strongsville, OH 44136: Richard Micko, 20520 Wildwood Lane. Council President Short, members of Council, Mayor Perciak, and administration, I just came to say thank you.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (cont'd):

Mr. Micko (cont'd) - You have three ordinances on your agenda tonight that are Tax Increment Financing (agreements). We have a history and a great partnership between the city, Council, administration, and along with the school district. Often times it becomes easy to forget that, and just assume that in these TIFs—as an example, in these TIF agreements—you are going to make sure that the school district receives the property tax money that would have been foregone. Other City Councils and other areas in the state make different decisions. I know City Council and the administration always work in partnership with the school district, but that's not assumed. I just wanted to say, thank you. Thank you to City Council, thank you to the Mayor and his office for remembering that, that partnership exists and we balance the needs of the city, the needs of development, and the needs of the school district. Thank you, and have a happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Short – Thank you, Mr. Micko.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2025-120 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE DECLARING IMPROVEMENTS TO A CERTAIN PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE, DESCRIBING THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE TO DIRECTLY BENEFIT SUCH PARCEL, REQUIRING THE OWNER OF THE IMPROVEMENTS ON SUCH PARCEL TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES, ESTABLISHING A BRUSTERS MUNICIPAL PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF SUCH SERVICE PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTIONS 5709.40, 5709.42 AND 5709.43, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *First reading 10-20-25. Second reading 11-03-2025.*

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-120 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-121 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE DECLARING IMPROVEMENTS TO A CERTAIN PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE, DESCRIBING THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE TO DIRECTLY BENEFIT SUCH PARCEL, REQUIRING THE OWNER OF THE IMPROVEMENTS ON SUCH PARCEL TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES, ESTABLISHING A DOLLAR GENERAL MUNICIPAL PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF SUCH SERVICE PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTIONS 5709.40, 5709.42 AND 5709.43, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *First reading 10-20-25. Second reading 11-03-25.*

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-121 ADOPTED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Ordinance No. 2025-122 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE DECLARING IMPROVEMENTS TO A CERTAIN PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE, DESCRIBING THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE TO DIRECTLY BENEFIT SUCH PARCEL, REQUIRING THE OWNER OF THE IMPROVEMENTS ON SUCH PARCEL TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES, ESTABLISHING A SHEETZ WEST MUNICIPAL PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF SUCH SERVICE PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTIONS 5709.40, 5709.42 AND 5709.43, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *First reading 10-20-25. Second reading 11-03-25.*

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-122 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-130 by Mayor Perciak. AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, OHIO, FOR THE YEAR 2026. *First reading 11-03-25.*

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-130 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-131 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE AND SURPLUS BUILDING AND SERVICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-131 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-132 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 252.01 OF TITLE SIX OF PART TWO-ADMINISTRATION CODE, IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN EACH RANK IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Placed on first reading and referred back to the committee.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Resolution No. 2025-133 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) BILLING SERVICE AND SYSTEM FOR THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Resolution No. 2025-133 ADOPTED.

Resolution No. 2025-134 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A CYBERSECURITY POLICY FOR THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, OHIO PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 9.64, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Placed on first reading and referred back to the committee.

Ordinance No. 2025-135 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE BY INTERNET AUCTION, OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE BY THE CITY'S RECREATION & SENIOR SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-135 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2025-136 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT(S) TO PURCHASE PROPERTY-CASUALTY AND RELATED INSURANCE COVERAGES, WITHOUT PUBLIC BIDDING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

Motion to adopt by Mr. Carbone, second by Mr. Kaminski.

Roll Call: All ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2025-136 ADOPTED.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND CLAIMS:

Application for Permit: REN – D-2, D-3, D-1: To: La Chula, LLC, 14795 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136 (Responses must be postmarked no later than 11/24/2025).

There were no objections to this permit.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

(None)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Short adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Marialena Beach
Marialena Beach
Council Secretary

12-1-25
Date