

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Jacobs called the Council meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025, to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Led by President Jacobs.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by President Jacobs.

ROLL CALL:

Present were Council members President Jason Jacobs, Holly A. Swenk, Eric Shaffer, Bruce Abens, Clifford Winkel, Georgia Awig, and Martin DeVries.

Others Present: Mayor Kevin Corcoran, Finance Director April Wilkerson, City Engineer Christina Eavenson, Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani, and Assistant Clerk of Council Fijabi Gallam.

MINUTES - Corrections (if any) and approval:

President Jacobs asked if there were any corrections to the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes dated October 6, 2025. No discussion was offered. The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Jacobs noted the following.:

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes dated September 24, 2025.

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes dated October 14, 2025.

LOBBY:

President Jacobs opened the lobby session. He reminded everyone that the lobby session was not meant to be an interactive question-and-answer session. However, it was an opportunity for the public to address City Council and its administration. He asked anyone

who would like to speak to come to the podium and state their name and address. He further added that each person was allowed three minutes to speak.

City of North Ridgeville Concerns

Robert Baumgardner at 6327 Stoney Ridge Road addressed Council and played an audio clip, expressing concern over a previous statement from the last council meeting. Mr. Bombgardner also addressed concerns about elected officials and urged them to exercise independent judgment, ask critical questions, and represent the community rather than act in compliance.

Moved by Shaffer and seconded by Swenk, an additional three minutes for Mr. Bombgardner to continue.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

He concluded by calling for honesty, transparency, and accountability from all elected officials, stating that public service requires truthfulness and that trust can only be rebuilt through responsible leadership.

Traffic Concerns About Trucks

Albert Krage at 37903 Sugar Ridge Road provided an update on ongoing concerns regarding commercial truck traffic in his neighborhood. He stated that enforcement remains minimal, with numerous trucks—many unmarked or lacking proper identification—regularly violating traffic laws. He cited frequent instances of speeding, including by armored vehicles, and expressed alarm over repeated sightings of fuel tankers, which he described as a serious safety hazard.

Mr. Krage criticized the lack of visible police presence and enforcement, noting that residents rarely see officers in the area despite the high volume of traffic. He also raised concerns about road deterioration, attributing it to excessive truck use, and questioned the effectiveness of current infrastructure investments.

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Abens, an additional three minutes for Mr. Krage to continue.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

He concluded by urging the City to take meaningful action, such as improved signage and stricter penalties, and expressed frustration over perceived inaction and past visits from City officials following his public comments.

Rally Concerns in the Community

Sandra Williams at 33909 Bainbridge Road commented on the recent “No Kings” rally held on Saturday. She expressed appreciation for the large turnout and commended those who participated, stating it was time for citizens to stand up for their rights.

Investigation Concerns

Douglas Hayes at 9316 Nash Lane urged City Council to consider the full context of matters before making decisions. He made an inquiry regarding whether any Council members were currently under investigation or facing trial for offenses such as tax evasion or welfare fraud. He did not expect a response but used the question to highlight concerns about accountability.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS:

1. Mayor:

Mayor Corcoran remarked as follows.:

- Paving - Public Works Department, Streets Division, was able to add one additional street to this year’s paving list based on available funding. They milled Chestnut Ridge Road from the roundabout west to the city limits in preparation for paving this week. The Mayor thanked Public Works staff for an outstanding job keeping the roads safe!
- Senior Center Annual Health & Wellness Fair - The Senior Center will be hosting the annual health & wellness fair for older adults on Thursday, October 23, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Senior Center. There will be numerous vendors on hand, including FREE flu shots and blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol, and vision screenings, to name just a few.
- Tots Trick or Treat - Bring out the little witches and goblins to City Hall on Friday, October 24, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. for the annual Tots Trick or Treat. This event is intended for children up to five years old. Please pre-register for the event through Parks & Recreation so there is plenty of treats for all to enjoy.
- Senior Center Spaghetti Dinner - Join us for the last of the Spaghetti Dinners for this year on Friday, October 24, 2025, from 5-7 PM at the Senior Center. Adults \$8, Seniors \$7, Children 10 and under \$5. The ticket gets an individual a full plate of spaghetti

with meatballs, garlic bread, and salad. Soda and dessert are available for \$1 each. The Mayor thanked the sponsor, the VFW Post 9871.

- Heart & Sole - North Ridgeville Heart & Sole kicked off Indoor walking at the LCCC Ridge Campus. Get steps in on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. This is free and open to the community.
- Issue #8 – Proposed Income Tax Levy - Issue #8 Income Tax Increase for North Ridgeville will appear on the November 4 ballot. The city is asking voters to approve a 0.75% income tax increase. The city's current income tax rate is 1%. This proposal would bring the income tax rate to 1.75%. The proposal would also raise the income tax credit for those working outside the city from 0.1% to 1.0%. The new revenue would primarily support public safety but would also help maintain other essential city operations. Individuals will also find an Income Tax Calculator on the website so that they can plug in the numbers to see how this will impact them specifically. For more information, visit the City's website at nridgeville.org/IncomeTaxLevy.
- Town Hall Meeting – Everyone is invited to attend a Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the North Ridgeville Academic Center in the Community Room, where the City will explain the income tax proposal and answer any questions.
- Citywide Trick or Treat - Citywide trick or treat will be held from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2025. If planning to participate in passing out treats, please turn the porch light on. As a reminder, please drive carefully throughout the city to ensure the safety of children.
- Stache Dash - The 12th annual Stache Dash sponsored by our Parks & Recreation is scheduled for Saturday, November 1, 2025. If interested in registering, you can register online at nridgeville.org. As a reminder, Bainbridge Road will be closed between SR 83 and Mitchell Drive, along with the intersections of Root Road and Ranger Way, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. the day of the race. The streets will reopen immediately following the conclusion of the race.
- On September 10, 2025, Mayor's Court staff members Stacy Dennison and Haley Edleman responded to a call from a resident who was slurring her speech. Stacy Dennison recognized the signs of a medical emergency and contacted the fire department, while Haley Edleman remained on the line to keep the caller calm. The resident was later confirmed to have suffered a stroke. Both employees were commended for their quick thinking and efforts, which contributed to saving a life and demonstrated their dedication to the community.

Mayor Corcoran concluded his report.

2. Engineer:

City Engineer Christina Eavenson provided the following:

- The City's catch basin rehabilitations and crack sealing projects have been completed.
- Concrete full depth repairs are nearing completion, with remaining work focused on beam browning, ADA repairs, and curb restoration at the State Route 83 and Mills Road roundabout, which was damaged by an oversized vehicle in 2024. The traffic painting contractor has begun work but still needs to complete the long lines, including the center and edge lines.
- The Parks Division contractor for the Frontier Park bridge is expected to be on-site this week to prepare for the arrival of the prefabricated pedestrian bridge.
- Additionally, the pre-construction meeting for the Root Road Soccer Complex is scheduled for the end of October.
- On Tuesday, October 28, 2025, ODOT's contractor will pave the north side of the Center Road Bridge over Mills Creek to allow for a traffic shift and continued work on the south side of the bridge.
- In positive news, the City recently received its Army Corps permit for the wetland mitigation component of the Mills Creek Flood Control Project. This approval follows nearly five years and three rounds of review.

City Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

3. Director of Finance:

April Wilkerson, the Finance Director, reported the following:

A memorandum was provided to City Council addressing the pieces of legislation on the agenda.

Finance Director Wilkerson concluded her report.

4. Other Reports:

President Jacobs noted the following.:

September 2025 Parks and Recreation Division Report

September 2025 Fire Department Report
September 2025 Water Distribution and EPA Report

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT(S):

There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS:

There were none.

NEW BUSINESS:

There were none.

RECESS:

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with recess.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Ordinance and Resolution submittal(s)

FIRST READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

R 2025-141 A Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for 2025-141.

Director Wilkerson explained that the legislation under consideration represented the final step in the annual budget process. The resolution involved accepting the property tax rates and amounts as approved by the Lorain County Budget Commission. It was noted that Council had previously adopted Ordinance No. 2025-106 on July 7, 2025, which included the rates and estimates reviewed

by the Commission. Director Wilkerson asked City Council to adopt the resolution that evening to meet the Lorain County Auditor's deadline of October 31, 2025.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to meet the Lorain County deadline of October 31, 2025.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause, and the motion was carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt 2025-141 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for
Resolution Number 2025-141.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

R 2025-142 A Resolution authorizing fund transfers.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for 2025-142.

Director Wilkerson noted that City Council was presented with legislation to transfer funds from the Water Operating Fund and the Water Meter Service Fund to the Water Bond Retirement Fund. This transfer supports the annual debt service payment for the water meter replacement project. It was noted that nine months of water meter service fees had been collected, and the transfer would be used to pay the principal on notes maturing December 3, 2025. Director Wilkerson asked City Council to adopt the resolution with an emergency clause to ensure timely funding for the bond payment.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to make sure the funding is in place for the bond payment and to provide the Finance Department with the resources necessary to meet its financial obligations.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause, and the motion was carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt 2025-142 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for

Resolution Number 2025-142.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

R 2025-143 A Resolution authorizing the execution of then and now certificates by the City Fiscal Officer and the payment of amounts due for various purchase orders.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for 2025-143.

Director Wilkerson remarked that City Council was presented with legislation to authorize the annual lease payment for a 2024 Ford dump truck. The payment had been previously approved through the annual appropriation process and is now due. Director Wilkerson asked City Council to adopt the resolution with an emergency clause to ensure the timely payment of the invoice.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to provide the Finance Department the resources necessary to meet its financial obligations.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause, and the motion was carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt 2025-143 with the emergency clause.

Councilman Shaffer inquired if the City avoided paying this a few more times, would the City earn any interest on that money in the bank?

Director Wilkerson explained that there would be no fee; instead, the City would incur late fees if the invoice was not paid on time.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for
Resolution Number 2025-143.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

O 2025-144 An Ordinance amending Ordinance Number 2024-139 of the City of North Ridgeville, Ohio, providing appropriations for the period commencing January 1, 2025, and ending December 31, 2025.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to dispense with the second and third readings for 2025-144.

Director Wilkerson remarked that City Council was presented with a budget amendment ordinance that included compensatory cash-outs for the Public Works Department, property tax payments due to the North Ridgeville Library, and appropriations for two fund transfers previously discussed in Resolution 2025-142. Council was asked to adopt the ordinance with an emergency clause to ensure the City could meet its financial obligations.

President Jacobs reminded everyone that the library is not a taxing authority. The City is the taxing authority for the library, which is why the City has collected the property taxes and is now sending them to the library.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to add the emergency clause to provide the Finance Department the resources necessary to meet our financial obligations.

A voice vote was taken on the emergency clause, and the motion was carried.

Yes – 7 No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Awig to adopt 2025-144 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for
Ordinance Number 2025-144.

Yes – 7 No – 0

SECOND READINGS:

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

- O 2025-131 An Ordinance accepting up to two hundred (200) hours of sick time when an employee transfers from one public employer to the City of North Ridgeville, Ohio.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2025-131 was moved to Third Reading.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

- O 2025-133 An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to purchase two influent screening units from Or-Tec Inc. according to law and in a manner prescribed by law.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2025-133 was moved to Third Reading.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

- O 2025-134 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to negotiate and enter into a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with the lowest and best bidder for the installation of two new influent screening systems at the French Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2025-134 was moved to Third Reading.

Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:

- O 2025-135 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to contract for the Launder Covers purchase and installation according to law and in a manner prescribed by law, and to authorize the installation of alternative bid 3 as part of the replacement and upgrade of the complete mix tank aeration and mixing systems at the French Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2025-135 was moved to Third Reading.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jacobs noted the following:

1. The next Regular City Council meeting will be on Monday, November 3, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Final Comments and Recognition

President Jacobs took a moment to recognize Assistant Clerk of Council Fijabi Gallam for her selection as Vice President of the Ohio Municipal Clerks Association for 2026. President Jacobs commended Mrs. Gallam for her professionalism, dedication to public service, and the honor her leadership brings to the City of North Ridgeville.

Councilman Shaffer raised concerns about a banner near the highway roundabout that incorrectly stated a tax credit was on the ballot. He expressed frustration over the misinformation and noted the importance of unity within the community.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Approval of minutes on November 3, 2025:



Jason Jacobs
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



Nicholas Ciofani
CLERK OF COUNCIL