

**NORTH RIDGEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Swenk called the Council meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, to order at 7:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION:**

Led by President Swenk.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Led by President Swenk.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present were Council members President Holly A. Swenk, Kathryn Rogerson, Robert Holub, Bruce F. Abens, Clifford Winkel, Paul Wolanski, and Cali Zingale.

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.

Law Director Brian Moriarty was excused.

**MINUTES - Corrections (if any) and approval:**

President Swenk asked if there were any corrections to the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes dated February 2, 2026. No discussion was offered. The meeting minutes stand approved as submitted.

President Swenk noted the following:

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes dated February 10, 2026.

**LOBBY:**

President Swenk opened the lobby session. She asked that anyone who comes up to speak state their name and address for the record at the podium, and that they have three minutes to discuss any topic of their choice.

### Public Records Request Concern

Robert Baumgardner of 6327 Stony Ridge Road noted that the Law Director was not present to respond, but expressed concern that more than twelve outstanding public records requests had not been fulfilled. He stated that many of those requests involved documented behavior within the Police Department. He added that, according to a past study, the situation had become so serious that officers raised concerns. A comprehensive command climate survey was conducted, and the results were delivered to the Mayor, Law Director, and City Council. According to Mr. Baumgardner, the Mayor held a meeting in which he acknowledged that the results were disturbing but expressed concern about keeping the findings confidential. Mr. Baumgardner further claimed that the Law Director pulled an officer aside to stress that the community should not be informed of the survey due to concerns about public confidence. He reported that he requested a copy of the climate survey through the City's public records system on November 20, 2025. On December 9, 2025, the Law Director's office denied the request, stating that the item had never been used by the City and that no official action involving it was contemplated or taken. Mr. Baumgardner also stated that the Law Director's office remained in constructive denial of over a dozen additional public records requests. He encouraged City Council to take action where he believed the City's leadership had failed and to support the police officers.

### **ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS:**

#### **1. Mayor:**

Mayor Corcoran reported the following:

- He discussed the following legislation:
  - Ordinance No. 2026-20 regarding pedestrian improvements at the Lear Nagle, Lorain, and Cook Road intersection. The legislation would authorize the City to bid on the project and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder. Dispensing with the second and third readings and adopting under an emergency clause is needed to move the project forward because the improvements were prompted by a recent fatality in the area. He referenced the display showing the proposed improvements.
    - Existing crosswalks across Lear Nagle and Lorain near Sheetz and BP would be slightly modified.
    - Both crosswalks would be redirected to meet at a single point on the Sheetz side, requiring ADA ramp upgrades.
    - The crosswalk across Lear Nagle would be shortened.
    - New crosswalks were proposed from the car wash to Starbucks and from Starbucks to BP.

- Pedestrian signals would be coordinated with existing signals, with new pedestals and sidewalks added.
  - Ordinance No. 2026-11 would be discussed further in executive session with the Police Chief.
  - Ordinance No. 2026-4, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, will need the emergency clause and would provide additional detail when the item is reached.
- Reminded everyone of the “Meet the Elected Officials Night” at the North Ridgeville Branch Library on Monday, February 23, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.
  - Announced that “Coffee and Conversation” would be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers, featuring Kevin Fougere from the Parks and Recreation Department.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to go into an Executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, specifically to discuss personnel matters relating to an ordinance and to meet with the Chief of Police.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 6            No – 1 (Zingale)

Adjourned into Executive Session at 7:08 p.m.

Reconvened into the Regular City Council meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Wolanski to adjourn from executive session and return to the regular City Council session.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7            No – 0

Mayor Corcoran concluded his report.

**2. Engineer:**

City Engineer Christina Eavenson reported the following:

- Annual capital improvement projects introduced by legislation - the catch basin rehabilitation project was included, and the \$130,000 allocated was expected to fund repairs for approximately 50 catch basins.

- Annual capital improvement projects introduced by legislation - the full depth concrete replacement project was also before Council. With \$2 million approved in the annual budget—twice the previous year’s amount—she anticipated the replacement of approximately 2.3 lane miles of roadway. She clarified that “lane miles” referred to a single lane, and that the City owned approximately 93 centerline miles of concrete roadway, or roughly 200 lane miles.
- Explained that Engineering and Public Works would conduct a field review once weather permitted to determine priority locations for both catch basin repairs and roadway replacement. A public list would be released once finalized, with an anticipated completion in late April.
- Annual capital improvement projects introduced by legislation - the traffic striping project was also included. A field review of existing striping was performed each year, with an emphasis on major thoroughfares.
- Discussed Ordinance No. 2026-21, requesting an amendment to Ordinance No. 2024-85. She explained that the original ordinance had been prepared in anticipation of replacing the Sugar Ridge pressure-reducing vault, which was beyond repair. The current engineer’s estimate was approximately \$630,000, an increase of about \$110,000 due to updated vault costs and additional scope added at the request of Public Works. She further explained that the project had originally been intended for contract award the prior year, but other projects with grant-funding deadlines took precedence, pushing the vault project into the current year. The delay was not communicated to the Finance Department, resulting in the funds not being raised. She asked Council to consider the ordinance amendment and dispense with the reading of the emergency clause.

City Engineer Eavenson concluded her report.

### **3. Director of Finance:**

Director April Wilkerson remarked that she had provided Council with a memorandum in advance of the meeting outlining the financial legislation under first readings.

- Ordinance No. 2026-22 was an amendment to the annual appropriations. The amendment included electrical costs and maintenance for the City’s EV charging station, additional funding for landscaping services for the Fire Department, and the purchase of a dishwasher for the Senior Center, made possible through donations from the Nord Rotary of North Ridgeville and a private donor. It also included an advance from the General Fund to the State Grant Fund for the Ohio Department of Development grant and the Ohio Department of Transportation grant supporting the

Taylor Parkway resurfacing project. The City was budgeting both the expenditure of those grants and the required local match in the State Grant Fund.

- Resolution No. 2026-23 would authorize the related fund advances, allowing the movement of cash from the General Fund to the State Grant Fund. Once the Taylor Parkway resurfacing project was completed and reimbursement had been received from each granting agency, Council would be presented with new legislation authorizing the transfer of those reimbursed funds back to the General Fund.
- She noted that on February 3, 2025, Council approved Resolution No. 2025-10 accepting the Ohio Jobs Grant; on April 21, 2025, Council approved Resolution No. 2025-67 accepting the Ohio Department of Transportation grant; and on September 15, 2025, Council approved Ordinance No. 2025-128 authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract. The ODOT grant carried an expenditure deadline of June 30, 2026, making it important for the City to proceed without delay.

Finance Director Wilkerson concluded her report.

#### **4. Other Reports:**

President Swenk noted the following:

January 2026 Building Division Report  
January 2026 Water Distribution and EPA Report

#### **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT(S):**

There were none.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

There were none.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There were none.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The North Ridgeville Planning Commission took action on the following item at its regular meeting of February 10, 2026:



**Ordinance and Resolution submittal(s)**

**FIRST READINGS:**

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

- O 2026-14      An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Ridgeville, Ohio, to advertise for bids and negotiate contract(s) for a twelve-month period, according to law and in a manner prescribed by law, for the purchase of roadway materials to be used by the City of North Ridgeville, Ohio.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2026-14 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

- O 2026-15      An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Ridgeville to advertise for bids and negotiate a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law for the rental of equipment and related services for road repair and maintenance to be used by the Public Works Department.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2026-15 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

- O 2026-16      An Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a Request for Concept Proposals for the adaptive reuse of Old Town Hall.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance 2026-16 referred to the Building and Lands Committee for further discussion.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

- O 2026-17      An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with the lowest and best bidder for the 2026 Catch Basin Rehabilitation and other appurtenances.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2026-17 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

- O 2026-18 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with the lowest and best bidder for the 2026 Traffic Paint Striping and other appurtenances.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2026-18 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

- O 2026-19 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with the lowest and best bidder for the 2026 Full Depth Concrete Pavement Replacement and other appurtenances.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2026-19 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

- O 2026-20 An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to advertise for bids and enter into a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with the lowest and best bidder for the Lorain at Lear Nagle Pedestrian Improvements Project.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the second and third readings for 2026-20.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to add the emergency clause in order to move the project forward because the improvements were prompted by a recent fatality in the area.

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

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Winkel to adopt 2026-20 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for  
**Ordinance Number 2026-20.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

O 2026-21      An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2024-85, which authorized the Mayor of the City of North Ridgeville to advertise for bids and enter into a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with the lowest and best bidder for the Sugar Ridge P.V. Vault Replacement Project and other appurtenances.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2026-21 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

O 2026-22      An Ordinance amending Ordinance Number 2025-158 of the City of North Ridgeville, Ohio, providing appropriations for the period commencing January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2026.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Abens to dispense with the second and third readings for 2026-22.

Councilman Winkel stated that the Finance Director had referenced the matter earlier and explained that the legislation would allow the Taylor Parkway project to continue moving forward. He noted that the majority of the funding reflected in Ordinance No. 2026-22 involved the State Grant Fund in the amount of \$355,000, which the City was required to advance upfront and would later be reimbursed through the grant. The City's actual share of the cost was \$45,000. Councilman Winkel agreed with the City Engineer that the asphalt availability and timing are near the end.

City Engineer Eavenson confirmed that the goal was to have the project completed before October, with a target completion date of June to meet the grant deadline.

Councilman Wolanski stated that he agreed with Councilman Winkel's remarks and noted that the project had a June deadline. He explained the importance of starting the construction as soon as the weather permits to avoid running out of time. For this reason, he stated that he supports dispensing with the remaining readings.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Wolanski to add the emergency clause in order to provide the Department of Finance with the necessary financial resources and meet certain grant deadlines.

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

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Wolanski to adopt 2026-22 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2026-22.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

R 2026-23      A Resolution authorizing fund advances.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Wolanski to dispense with the second and third readings for 2026-23.

Councilman Winkel stated that the legislation under consideration was essentially the companion to Ordinance No. 2026-22. He explained that while Ordinance 2026-22 allowed the City to spend and front the necessary funds, the current legislation authorized the movement of those funds, and that both pieces worked together.

Councilman Wolanski added that some grants provided funding upfront, while others—such as this one—required the City to complete the work before receiving reimbursement. He explained that the City needed to advance funds from the General Fund to proceed with the project, and once the work was completed and reimbursement was received, the money would be returned to the General Fund.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Holub to add the emergency clause in order to provide the Department of Finance with the necessary financial resources.

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

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Rogerson to adopt 2026-23 with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Resolution Number 2026-23.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

O 2026-24      An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Ridgeville to advertise for bids and enter into a contract(s) with outside vendor(s) for the purchase of a sewer camera van and appurtenances for the Public Works Department according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with the lowest and best bidder(s).  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Ordinance Number 2026-24 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

R 2026-25      A Resolution to approve, with modification, the application made by James W. and Loretta A. King to have certain land owned by them designated as being located within an Agricultural District by the office of the Lorain County Auditor.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Resolution Number 2026-25 moved to Second Reading.

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

R 2026-26      A Resolution to approve, with modification, the application made by Raymond W. and Sarah M. Wroblewski to have certain land owned by them designated as being located within an Agricultural District by the office of the Lorain County Auditor.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran)

Resolution Number 2026-26 moved to Second Reading.

**SECOND READINGS:**

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

O 2026-11 An Ordinance amending Ordinance 2025-107 Exhibits A, B, and C.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on 02-02-2026)

Moved by President Swenk and seconded by Winkel to amend 2026-11 with the version that was submitted to City Council before the meeting by substitution.

A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by President Swenk and seconded by Winkel to dispense with the third reading for 2026-11 amended.

A voice vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Moved by President Swenk and seconded by Winkel to add the emergency clause in order to fill the positions for the safety, health, and welfare of the community.

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

Yes – 7                      No – 0

Mayor Corcoran explained that the emergency clause was needed because several positions had been identified for adjustment, including the City Garage Foreman, a pay rate change for the part-time dispatcher, and a pay rate change for the part-time Project Engineer. The ordinance had also originally included a part-time auxiliary officer; however, that position had been removed through an amendment already adopted and would be addressed separately at the next meeting. Mayor Corcoran noted that Council had already discussed the ordinance at two readings, and that the Public Works Department, particularly the City Garage, was in urgent need of a City Garage Foreman. He added that filling the part-time dispatcher and part-time Project Engineer positions was also important.

Moved by President Swenk and seconded by Holub to adopt 2026-11 amended with the emergency clause.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2026-11.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

**THIRD READINGS:**

**Clerk of Council Nicholas Ciofani:**

O 2026-4        An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Ridgeville to enter into a contract according to law and in a manner prescribed by law with McKenna for the City of North Ridgeville Parks & Recreation 2026 Master Plan, not to exceed \$149,000.00.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on 01-20-2026; Second Reading on 02-02-2026)

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Rogerson to adopt 2026-4.

Moved by Mayor Corcoran and seconded by Holub to add the emergency clause to move the project forward for extensive planning.

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

Yes – 7                      No – 0

A roll call vote was taken on adoption, with the emergency, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2026-4.**

Yes – 7                      No – 0

O 2026-5        An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor of the City of North Ridgeville, Ohio, to advertise for bids and enter into contract(s) for a twelve-month period, according to law and in a manner prescribed by law, for the purchase of chemicals to be used by the French Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.  
(Introduced by Mayor Corcoran; First Reading on 01-20-2026; Second Reading 02-02-2026)

Moved by Winkel and seconded by Abens to adopt 2026-5.

A roll call vote was taken on the adoption, and the motion carried for **Ordinance Number 2026-5.**

Yes – 7

No – 0

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

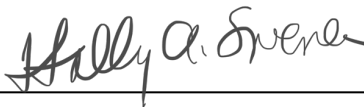
President Swenk noted the following:

1. A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, March 2, 2026, at 6:10 p.m. in Council Chambers, for the Agricultural District Applications.
2. A Committee of the Whole Meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2026, at 6:15 p.m. in the Council Chamber, for Bylaws amendments.
3. The next Regular City Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

President Swenk adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Approval of minutes on March 2, 2026:



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Holly A. Swenk  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL



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Nicholas Ciofani  
CLERK OF COUNCIL