

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – FINANCE MEETING
OF WADSWORTH CITY COUNCIL
January 20, 2026 6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of Wadsworth City Council, Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., was held in-person at City Council Chambers.

PRESIDING: Dan Rospert, *President of Council*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Reese, Jon Yurchiak, Jeanne Hines, Angela May, Chris Maxwell, Zach Berger, Tom Stugmyer

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Robin Laubaugh, Safety Dir. Dan Chafin, Service Dir. Matt Hiscock, Law Dir. Bradley Proudfoot, Auditor Cathy Fix, Asst. Public Service Dir. Mike Testa, Economic & Development Director Tom Morris, Asst. Auditor Lee-Ann Dunkle (audience) Clerk of Council Julie Darlington.

PRESS REPRESENTATIVES: Patrick Rhonemus, *Medina Gazette*

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Rospert called the **January 20, 2026** Committee of The Whole – Finance meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** The Clerk called the roll.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** President Rospert reported that the minutes for the Regular City Council meeting January 6, 2026 would be approved at the next meeting.
- IV. **DRAFT LEGISLATION**

1. **ORDINANCE NO. 26-002** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 34.36 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH TO PROVIDE FOR THE ALLOCATION OF INCOME TAX RECEIPTS OF \$4,767,961.00 DURING FISCAL YEAR 2026 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Auditor Fix said they were bringing a tax allocation as was presented in the Service Director and Mayor's budget for 2026. The revenue was all included there and she sent out a spreadsheet that showed comparisons for prior years. The total allocation was almost 4.8 million of the 15 million that was estimated to come in that year. She asked if there were any questions on that distribution.

President Rospert asked if that was something, they should move forward and suspend the rule. Auditor Fix said it could go three readings. President Rospert asked Council Member Reese if he would like to sponsor that. **Council Member Reese** said he would. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-002.

2. **ORDINANCE NO. 26-003** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FOR

FOOD, MEALS, OR REFRESHMENTS TO BE SERVED AT VARIOUS EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Asst. Service Director Testa said that was an annual operating expense item. The legislation was based on a 1982 Ohio Attorney General opinion where the legislative body needs to approve food-related expenditures. Those would be expenditures related typically to meetings and events like chamber luncheons, the employee health fair, those types of things. The auditor's office goes through two different checks when food-related requests were submitted. They look to see that there was available budget dollars, and making sure that the item was on the authorized list of expenditures, which was the attachment that was included with this legislation.

He continued to say that the amounts on the schedule represent a subset of budgeted amounts, meaning there were budget dollars that most of the operating departments have related to education and meeting. A subset of that could be used on food purchases, but the portion that could be used on food purchases were limited by the caps in that particular ordinance. He said what was not included in there would be conference meals, per diems, call-out meals, those type of things, and de minimis expenditures. For example, if a department buys a bunch of candy to pass out at the Blue Tip Parade, as long as the expenses calculate out to less than \$3 per person, legislation would not be needed. The request would be to suspend and call, as folks would start to use those budget dollars now that the year has started.

President Rospert asked for any questions. There was none. He asked Council Member Reese if he would suspend and call. Council Member Reese said he would. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-003.

3. ORDINANCE NO. 26-004 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$24,100.00 IN 110 GENERAL FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Auditor Fix said that the supplemental was prepared at the request of the Council Clerk as there was an error made in the budgeting. That was to provide appropriations for the Council Clerk's Department.

Council Member Maxwell asked what it was for. President Rospert said for the Council Clerk office supplies, expenditures that they have in making notifications, legal notifications, mail, postage, things like that. Auditor Fix said for operating expenditures. Council Member Stugmyer said operating expenses for the Council. He thought it was accidentally left out of the budget and the line item was zero.

President Rospert asked Council Member May to sponsor it and suspend a call. **Council Member May** said they would. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-004.

4. ORDINANCE NO. 26-005 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PROCURE POWER FROM AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER OR ITS SUBSIDIARIES FOR RESALE BY THE CITY'S ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa said it was an annual operating expense for purchased power, the electric supply. The dollar amount in the legislation was based on forecasts from American Municipal Power. They had a bunch of smart people down there that looked at anticipated weather forecasts, usage patterns, and then the aggregate power costs.

They had a power portfolio made up of several sources. The power from those various sources could vary based on the provider, but AMP factors all of that in to an estimate of what they think their total buy is going to be for the year. In 2026, the estimate is \$25 million.

President Rospert asked Council Member Stugmyer to sponsor that. **Council Member Stugmyer** said they would suspend and call that evening so they could buy electric. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-005.

5. ORDINANCE NO. 26-006 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ASPEN SMART NETWORKS FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE FTTH (FIBER TO THE HOME) PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY SUSPEND

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa said Aspen Smart Networks was the original designer of the Fiber-To-The-Home Project that they were implementing then. The services covered by their project management services were really construction management services where they were interfacing with contractors, managing project documentation, handling the design changes, and managing any out-of-scope work for new developments that were not in the original plan.

President Rospert asked Council Member Stugmyer to sponsor that. Council Member Stugmyer said they would suspend and call that so we could keep moving with the fiber.

Council Member May asked if they knew how they got to that number of 216,000.

Asst. Service Director Testa said it was based on a proposal they submitted. Services are \$18,000 a month. He also mentioned that their project management person actually moved there and lives in Wadsworth, so part of the costs were paying for his rent while he was there.

Council Member Stugmyer agreed to sponsor it. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-006.

6. ORDINANCE NO. 26-007 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH ASPEN SMART NETWORKS FOR NETWORK AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES RELATED TO THE FIBER-TO-THE-HOME (FTTH) PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa said that particular item, the budgeted amount is \$85,000, but less could be spent. This is an estimate on potential expenditures related to provisioning for new network equipment. In essence, it was all the programming and the technical aspects that went behind making everything they put on the network talk to each other, as well as monitoring of the overall network health and monitoring and checking on cabinet temperatures, battery status, all of the things going on within their network on a 24-7 basis.

Council Member Stugmyer said they would suspend and call so they can, again, keep moving on the fiber. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-007.

7. ORDINANCE NO. 26-008 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH EVERSTREAM SOLUTIONS, LLC FOR BANDWIDTH REQUIRED TO SUPPORT CITYLINK OPERATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa said that items 7 and 8 were related in that they were both for network bandwidth from two different providers, Everstream and Cogent. The City actually had three circuits for redundancy purposes. The Everstream item in particular provides a 40-gigabyte circuit on what was called 100-gig hardware. So, if they needed to expand that, they could. Cogent provides a 100-gigabyte circuit. They also had, not in this legislation, but the Ohio IX, which was a fairly long gig, which makes it faster to connect to big sites like Amazon, Netflix, those type of things. Specifically, though, related to Everstream, the cost was \$88,000, roughly \$7,300 a month for the circuit.

Council Member Stugmyer said they would suspend and call that again to keep moving with the project. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-008.

8. ORDINANCE NO. 26-009 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH COGENT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC FOR BANDWIDTH REQUIRED TO SUPPORT CITYLINK OPERATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa said the same explanation would apply to that one. It worked out to about \$6,800 per month for Cogent.

Council Member Stugmyer said they would suspend and call that. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-009

9. ORDINANCE NO. 26-010 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO REMIT PAYMENT TO TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CITY'S BILLING OPERATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa it was an annual operating expense and was basically for the processing fees for electronic utility bill payments, things like credit card payments and e-check. It included fees for the payment portal, which they might know as the e-services platform, as well as bank fees and card fees. The bulk of the fees were actually the fees that were passed on by Visa and MasterCard. The rates for different cards vary based on the card and the credit worthiness of the cardholder.

One of the things that would be looked at that year, was could they find an alternative payment solution, number one, or number two, if they stayed with the same provider, were there different

payment arrangements. Meaning instead of the City fully absorbing the cost of these fees, maybe they would look at some type of hybrid model or even a model where the customer pays the fee when they choose to use their card.

So one of the things that happened, and that was by way of background for the newer members, was that Tyler Payments were the same company that has their accounting system. They sprung it on them about a year ago, that, they, were coming up with their own payment processing system, and they basically had to use them if they want everything to work nice with their accounting system. They did not have much of a choice because the only alternative would have been really starting a search for something different and then everybody that paid and had recurring credit card payments or paid with eCheck would be kind of stuck for a little while. So they absorbed it for a year, and that year they wanted to take a hard look to see if they could find a better deal for the City that would lower their expenses.

Council Member Berger said they would suspend and call as well. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-010.

10. ORDINANCE NO. 26-011 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO REMIT PAYMENT TO PEREGRINE SERVICES, INC. FOR POSTAGE AND MAILING SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF UTILITY BILLS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa it was an annual operating expense. It was to pay for the postage and the distribution of hard copy or print copies of monthly utility bills. That, too, would be another area that they were going to take a look at, to see if they could find some different providers to consider in 2026. The company that they dealt with, Peregrine was actually based in Monroe, Louisiana. Part of the problem there was that it was not a matter of simply printing the bill because most printers were not involved in that particular service.

It had more to do with kind of the technical piece behind it and working with their accounting system. He would say that that company had been good in terms of their pricing. They had actually maintained relatively level pricing over the five years that he had been there, so the bulk of the cost was actually for postage.

They did hear complaints about how long it was taking, they knew, they mailed the bills out on the first of the month and they did not get theirs on the 15th or the 18th or the 7th. That variability had to do, he thought, just with the distance of that particular provider. The annual expense, but throughout the year they were going to be looking at some alternatives that may hopefully reduce that cost or at least provide quicker service for their citizens.

President Rospert asked if a building or a home had more than one meter, could they not combine the bills into one piece of mail.

Asst. Service Director Testa said that was a good question. He did not know off the top of his head, but would find out and report back to Council. President Rospert thanked him

Council Member Berger said he would recommend a suspending call. The clerk assigned the

Ordinance No. 26-011.

11. ORDINANCE NO. 26-012 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO PAY THE MEDINA COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT FOR TIPPING FEES AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE AND GENERATION FEES TO CONTINUE DISPOSAL SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Asst. Service Director Testa said it was basically for their sanitation department, the costs for basically dumping trash. Current tipping fees were \$55 a ton, so the budgeted amount of the \$1,330,000 would cover approximately 24,180 tons.

Council Member Berger said he would recommend suspending and call as well. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-012.

12. ORDINANCE NO. 26-013 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH FOR PLANNING, DESIGN, AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2025 SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW (SSO) REDUCTION PROJECT; DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOANS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said he could take the next couple of items. That ordinance would authorize them to apply for the WPCLF Fund Loan. That was an agreement that they had talked about a couple different times in Public Service.

They had several different loan programs that they were now actively engaged in applying or within process. The WPCLF funding allows them to secure a lower interest rate at that point in time. It was 3.14% for a 20-year loan. That particular project, the SSO reduction project, would include areas 2, 3, 5, 7, and 10 in terms of the EPA mandates and the operations in regards to the SSO reduction. They estimated that the application for that particular funding item might be up to \$2 million. It was a significant savings to leverage that particular WPCLF opportunity.

Council Member Berger said he would recommend suspending and calling. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-013.

13. ORDINANCE NO. 26-014 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR, RECEIVE BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE 2025 SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW (SSO) REDUCTION PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation 3RDG

Service Director Hiscock said it that was a statutory requirement related to the funding application, but that it was more related to the going out to bids and seeking qualified applicants to construct the

2025 Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reduction Project and the same amount involved there. It was potentially up to a \$2 million project.

President Rospert asked if they were good to go to second reading. Service Director Hiscock said that it could go to second reading. Council Member Berger said he would move it to second reading. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-014.

14. ORDINANCE NO. 26-015 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR DESIGN OF THE 2026 SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOW (SSO) REDUCTION PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation 2RDG

Service Director Hiscock said while it seemed similar, many of the same words in the title of that ordinance, it was slightly different. That was for the 2026 Sanitary Sewer Overflow Project, and that was strictly for design services. A budgeted number was about \$184,000; a little bit more than that, for design services and that was something they were required to do, obviously, before they proceeded to a construction project on the 2026 SSO project.

President Rospert asked it that could go to a second reading. Director Hiscock said it could. Council Member Maxwell would move it to second reading. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-015.

15. ORDINANCE NO. 26-016 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR, RECEIVE BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF PRIMARY DIGESTER COVER PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation 3 RDG

Service Director Hiscock said that was a project that had been talked about quite a bit at Public Service over time. They were now ready to go out and seek bids for the construction or replacement of the primary digester cover out at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. That was approximately \$2.5 million construction project that was budgeted for in the 2026 budget.

President Rospert asked if that could go a couple of readings. Service Director Hiscock said it would be beneficial for them to consider less than full readings because they wanted to go out to bid and get a contract awarded. It could go another reading if Council chose.

Council Member Maxwell said he would move it to second reading. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-016.

Council Member Yurchiak asked did they really want to take that to a second reading if they were just going out to bid. They need to come back and approve the money. He thought the sooner they got it out to bid, the sooner they see the numbers.

President Rospert asked if they want to suspend and call. Council Member Maxwell agreed.

16. ORDINANCE NO. 26-017 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO WATER

POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH FOR PLANNING, DESIGN, AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF THE REPLACEMENT OF PRIMARY DIGESTER COVER PROJECT; DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOANS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said related to the last ordinance and the underlying project, that just authorizes him to go out and apply for WPCLF Loan Funding for that particular project.

Council Member Maxwell said he would suspend and call since those two work hand in hand. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-017.

17. ORDINANCE NO. 26-018 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND AGREEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH FOR PLANNING, DESIGN, AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF THE DURLING PARK CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT; DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOANS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said similar, they have probably understood the theme there. They need to apply for WPCLF funding for the Durling Park Culvert Project. That project had been in design for some time. The design was finishing up. It was estimated to be a \$750,000 budgeted project in terms of construction. There was probably an opportunity through the PCLF funding to also apply for a percentage of the design costs.

Council Member Stugmyer said he would suspend and call. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-018.

18. ORDINANCE NO. 26-019 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR, RECEIVE BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE DURLING PARK CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Service January 13, 2026, Recommendation 3 RDG

Service Director Hiscock said similar, that was only to go out for bids on that particular item. Again, it was a \$750,000 project as budgeted in the 26 budget. President Rospert asked for a recommendation. Director Hiscock said again, it was just seeking bids. The sooner they could go out to bids, the better they could find a qualified applicant and probably get on their schedule in an earlier position than if they wait.

Council Member Stugmyer said he would suspend and call. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-019.

19. ORDINANCE NO. 26-020 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR, RECEIVE BIDS AND AWARD CONTRACTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A PARKING LOT AT FRIEDT

PARK AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Ways January 12, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said again, that was part of the Freed Park Project that was pulled out of the 25 project. It was budgeted for a construction project of the parking lot. They had the opportunity to go out for bid.

They would like to do that early in the year to get on asphalt contractors' schedules. In addition, that was an opportune time to get the pricing, the best pricing for that particular type of project. They had budgeted in the 26 budget \$300,000 was an estimate for that particular project.

Mr. Yurchiak said he would suspend and call. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-020

20. ORDINANCE NO. 26-021 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO CONTINUE WITH A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE FINAL PHASE OF DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE STATE ROUTE 94 AND EAST REIMER ROUNDABOUT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Ways January 12, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said they discussed that particular item at Public Ways. It was an authorization for about \$96,000 of additional funding for completion of the roundabout design. Substantial design efforts had already been made on the total contract price of \$406,000. That would allow them to complete the design and get ready to meet ODOT regulation timelines in terms of the overall project.

Council Member Berger asked if that was an additional \$94,000, they were asking for on top of the \$406,000 that was budgeted.

Service Director Hiscock said no, it was part of that additional amount. What they did was they did not authorize the entire design amount until the decision was made whether to go forward or not with the roundabout process. That took a step where they did a traffic analysis. That traffic analysis determined that the roundabout was, in fact, the best alternative in terms of the process. The design teams continued up to a point of the design and then waited until they were able to get back to them and say, yes, move forward with it or no, not move forward with it. Since they told them yes to move forward with it, that was the remainder of their design cost in terms of the project.

Council Member Yurchiak said he would suspend and call. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-021

21. ORDINANCE NO. 26-022 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR, RECEIVE BIDS AND AWARD CONTRACTS FOR THE 2026 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND PAVEMENT REPAIRS FOR PARKING LOTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Pubic Ways January 12, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said pursuant to Council's instructions several years ago, they tried to get out early in the season to contractors for their SIP Program. That year they budgeted \$500,000 for SIP work. That, again, allows them to leverage the best case scenario pricing as well as get early and perhaps voluminous bids from qualified contractors early in the year so that they could set their

schedules in time.

Council Member Yurchiak said he would suspend and call. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-022.

22. ORDINANCE NO. 26-023 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO NEGOTIATE, AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR ON-CALL GENERAL AVIATION ENGINEERING SERVICES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
Discussed at Pubic Ways January 12, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said that item was in furtherance of their work in terms of aligning and becoming more efficient with FAA required deadlines. That particular ordinance, if approved, would allow them to enter into a five-year contract for general aviation engineering services out at the airport and would allow them to seek a quality-based process for qualified candidates, which would allow them to streamline, not have to go out for the particular candidates again over a five-year period. It was something the FAA recommends and it was something in tune with some of the direction they had received from Council on being more efficient in terms of airport operations and projects in that regard.

Council Member Reese asked due to being new to Council, where did that come from, did that come from the airport commission or somebody at the airport, where did that need originate.

Service Director Hiscock asked which need.

Council Member Reese responded for the engineering services. He asked who was saying they needed that. He was just curious.

Service Director Hiscock replied it basically came from their FAA consultant that they used. They thought if they wanted to be a little bit more nimble on projects, they might want to explore the QBS process and get a consultant sort of sitting on the sidelines waiting for projects as they came through.

Council Member Yurchiak said he would take that. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-023.

23. ORDINANCE NO. 26-024 AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$1,184,128.00 IN VARIOUS FUNDS FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN PERSONAL SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026 AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY
Discussed at Pubic Ways January 12, 2026, Recommendation to Suspend and Call

Service Director Hiscock said that request was in regards to design services associated with the Downtown Infrastructure Project. In particular, they had received initially a design services agreement and consultant agreement which totaled about \$3.2 million. That agreement, once they went through scope discussions, was trimmed back to about \$2.8 million for the project. They did have these dollars appropriated in 2025, but because of an error in their process, that amount of money was essentially returned to the general fund and not used. They do need an appropriation because the design team was not complete with their work, as Council knew, and in order to complete their work in accordance with their scope agreement, that would be the remaining amount that would be needed to satisfy that contract.

Council Member May said when they looked at the actual details of the ordinance, it was showing that it was actually like six or seven different funds that it was going into and not just the downtown improvement.

Service Director Hiscock said that was correct. The downtown improvement project did not include all of those different funds because there were design costs that were attributed to water, design costs that were attributed to sanitary, electric, all of those different funds contributed to the total cost of the project. Likewise, they contribute to the total cost of the engineering design of the project.

Council Member Reese asked was that for just the utility and repair or was that also for the design cost of the facade once the utilities were repaired.

Service Director Hiscock said it was the entire cost. It was both infrastructure as well as streetscape designs.

Council Member Berger wanted to clarify that was an appropriation because of funds that were not used last year.

Service Director Hiscock said those funds were actually appropriated last year to be used. They were not used because they had not been invoiced for the total amount of the design fees. What happened was at the end of the year, the departments fill estimates out, they enter information that allows them to recapture funds that were not used, and those funds were returned to the respective funds, as they did in that case.

In that case, if he understood Mr. Davis, their City Engineer's description to him , he thought they did not use the correct numerical value in terms of what was remaining and that caused them to return funds which actually needed to be encumbered and were not.

Council Member Berger asked since they were kind of in discussions on the downtown project, does that need to be suspended, or can they move it to additional readings.

Service Director Hiscock replied that the underlying contract that this refers to had already been agreed to and entered into with the City so they had an obligation for the design. The current discussions on the project would not change the obligations under that current arrangement. In addition, if anything, it would only increase their costs to this but their design consultants had been excellent to work with and they did not anticipate any additional costs in terms of design.

Auditor Fix asked if they do needed to suspend and call that. Director Hiscock said they did.

Council Member Berger said he would suspend and call. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-024.

24. ORDINANCE NO. 26-025 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE, SEEK PROPOSALS, SELECT AND NEGOTIATE A CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK (CMAR) AGREEMENT TO PERFORM CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Public Ways January 12, 2026

Service Director Hiscock said that was an item that they did discuss at Public Ways. This ordinance just allows the City to get going on the quality-based selection process involved with a CMAR project delivery process associated with the downtown project. Essentially what they were asking was they believe the CMAR process was the right construction delivery model for the Downtown Infrastructure Project.

They would like to begin advertising that they were interested in finding interested CMAR entities in the process. Once they move, if authorized, they would move forward with an advertising period, collect qualifications, invite firms who were qualified, interview those firms, and then ultimately rank the firms essentially top to bottom. He said what was most important statutorily was one through three, and then they would begin discussions and negotiations with consultant number one to determine if they were a right fit and get them to begin working on a process of providing them with a guaranteed maximum price for the work that they need on the Downtown Infrastructure Project. If all went well, it would be his position that he would then come back to that Council and ask for authority to enter into a CMAR contract with that entity at a certain guaranteed maximum price to deliver the project to them for, but that would come sort of in the next step after that. Essentially, they were merely asking the Council to authorize them to get started on the quality-based selection process for CMAR services related to the Downtown Infrastructure Project.

Council Member Maxwell said just for clarification for the people at home who were watching, it did not hold them or bind them to a specific design currently. That was ultimately just to get into a contract so that they can move forward with the process.

Director Hiscock said that was correct.

Council Member May asked was that money that was already in the budget that they were looking at, or was it additional.

Service Director Hiscock said there was no money being authorized with that particular ordinance. It was merely to move forward with the quality-based selection process. Once they determined and negotiated with a selected vendor, it was then when they would learn more about their fee structure. They could not ask about their fee structure statutorily. It was then when they would understand their fee structure. We did put some monies into the overall budget to potentially cover the cost of a CMAR, but at the time of the creation of the budget, they were not certain if they would go with a CMAR or a traditional design-bid-bill process. It all depended on what the negotiations and scope determined in terms of fees and costs. They were hopeful that it was covered in the costs that they already had planned. He just did not want this representation to Council to mean it was for sure in that budget, that it was all covered, only because he did not know where they were yet in terms of that negotiation and scope.

Council Member May said if it was different, it would be a minor tweak, not a humongous amount of money.

Service Director Hiscock could tell them that traditionally, and it can be different for different types of CMAR processes, right then in Northeast Ohio, CMAR processes that were anywhere between 5% and 15% of overall project costs. The lower that percentage was, the better off they had in terms

of being covered with what they had already talked about budget-wise. If it was outside of that scope by quite a bit, remember they could move to, if they could not negotiate a price that works for all of them, CMAR as well as the City, then they had the opportunity to move down the list of qualified entities as long as they move forward with this type of process.

Council Member Maxwell asked what they would like.

President Rospert thought because there was no monies obligated and they were not into a contract that it was just seeking out somebody and they want to move the project along, he would recommend suspending and calling so they can get this moving.

Council Member Maxwell agreed. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-025.

25. ORDINANCE NO. 26-026 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WADSWORTH COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION TO ACT AS AGENT FOR THE CITY PURSUANT TO SECTION 1724.10(B) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE FOR THE SALE OR LEASE OF LANDS OWNED BY THE CITY OF WADSWORTH, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF APPROXIMATELY .131 ACRE, PARCEL NO. 040-20C-17-060, OWNED BY THE CITY OF WADSWORTH TO GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, SETTING THE TERMS OF THE SAID SALE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Econ. Dev. & Planning Jan. 12, 2026, Recommend to Suspend and Call

Economic Development Director Morris said Council authorized Wadsworth CIC to sell some blighted property that they happened to own. They wanted to put a condition on that and that condition was that if they did not fix it, if they did not take it out of the blighted status, then it reverted to the City. They did a bidding process for that. That parking lot was between REMAX and the parking lot behind Grace Lutheran Church if they could visualize it. They sent out the bids or the request for bids. Those bids, multiple bids, came back. The one he would recommend to Council and happened to be the highest bid was from Grace Lutheran Church. They bid \$15,000, which exceeded the appraisal value from the County.

That piece of legislation would authorize the CIC to act as the Council or as the City's agent to sell that property so that they could put the condition on so that if there was a call back to make them fix it within two years.

Council Member Hines said she would like to suspend the call.

Council Member Berger asked where did they put those funds once they get them.

Economic Development Director Morris answered it was an asset of some part of the City and Lee-Ann, Asst. Auditor Dunkle, tells him where it is. Whatever it was an asset from would get fed from that fund it proceeded. He was not sure if she knew about that.

Asst. Auditor Dunkle spoke from the audience and said she did not, she would look to see what fund that proceeds (inaudible)

The Ordinance No. was assigned 26-026.

26. ORDINANCE NO. 26-027 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TO PROCEED TO ABATE THE PUBLIC NUISANCE AT 179 GRANDVIEW AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS FOR REMEDIATION AND DEMOLITION, ASSOCIATED WITH 179 GRANDVIEW PURSUANT TO WADSWORTH LOCAL ORDINANCE 156.11 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Public Safety January 14, 2026

Safety Director Chafin said he would be happy to speak to that. They had been discussing the property at 179 Grandview for several months for the benefit of the new members of Council; he would provide sort of a brief overview while their code enforcement process began formally in August of last year. That had been in response to years of issues and complaints by neighboring citizens on Grandview. Prior to that, there were some other important dates to note. In November of 2022, there was a fire on the property that damaged the fence and a shed and damaged neighboring properties.

There was no insurance on the home at that time and so those neighbors that were out, those damages were not able to make a claim while they did take civil proceedings. They had still not been paid to that day.

The electric was turned off on that property in July of 2023, and the water was turned off in November of 2023. Those utilities remain off today. The process on August 8, Code Enforcement Officer Caruso did an exterior inspection that triggered that and sent violation letters on the 11th.

The homeowner had a right to appeal those and later did so. On September 4, the Code Enforcement Officer conducted an administrative search warrant in conjunction with the Police Department, Fire Department, and Medina County Health Department. That interior inspection uncovered significant issues inside the home related to health and safety.

On September 15, the Appeals Board met and heard their Code Enforcement Officer, the homeowner and neighbors, and that appeal request was ultimately denied. On September 22 and 23, that home was boarded up, declared unsafe, unfit for human occupancy, and was condemned. On August 21, a public hearing was held there in Council Chambers.

That homeowner was given another opportunity to be heard, as well as their Code Enforcement Officer and the neighbors. Shortly after that public hearing, they were notified that that homeowner had filed a suit against the City and the Medina County Common Pleas Court, which effectively paused their process. On January 6 of that year, that lawsuit was dismissed and they were now in a position to move forward with the process.

Our City Code 156.11, Abatement of a Nuisance, requires that before they move forward with that process, that they had Councilmatic authority to do so, and that was what that ordinance did. Just for the member's benefit, the cost of the demolition will be billed to the homeowner. However, he would expect that it does not get paid, or at least in a timely manner.

If that was the case, then those costs could be levied against the property later. This legislation was made in conjunction, as was the process, with the Law Director, also their Public Service Director,

and they had discussed it at their prior Safety Committee. He asked Council if they had any questions.

Council Member Reese said just to be clear, once the demolition was completed, the lot itself still belonged to the homeowner.

Safety Director Chafin said that was a great question. Yes, So they were not taking ownership of that property. They were simply getting rid of the nuisance that the property was, and that in that case was through demolition.

Council Member Reese asked if that was something, they would still need to maintain so it doesn't become a blight, overgrown.

Safety Director Chafin said correct. The demolition process would remove all of the material off the site, they would also backfill the foundation, weather permitting that they seed and straw at some point, but yes, it was still his lot and still his responsibility to maintain.

Council Member Maxwell said he made the comment that obviously they did not know that that bill would be paid, so the City would be paying the bill up front, and then they would put a lien on the property once they settle, if it was sold. Safety Director Chafin said exactly.

Council Member Maxwell asked was there any amount of time that if it was not taken care of, or that situation with the bill was not handled, that the City would step in and then had some sort of remediation, how did that work.

Safety Director Chafin believed he had 30 days to pay it. After that was when it would be assessed against the property.

President Rospert asked what their recommendation on that was. He knew that it was a new area for them to tread into. He knew they had all the legal rights, but what would their recommendation be.

Safety Director Chafin stated that was a very good point, and not something that he thought he took lightly or any other administration officials took lightly. As he stated in the beginning, he would just be mindful of the fact that although formally this process started in August of last year, it had been a significant issue for the neighbors and the City for a period of years. He would also add that they had gone through all of the opportunities for that homeowner to be heard, whether it was at a public hearing there, whether it was in the form of filing a suit through the Court of Common Pleas, all of his opportunities for relief had been met and granted. He was heard at the Appeals Board, in front of City Council. Given the nature of the property and the current condition of the property, his recommendation would be to consider suspending and call.

Council Member May agreed to suspend and call. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-027.

27. ORDINANCE NO. 26-028 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO RETURN FOUR USED LIFE PAK 15 HEART MONITORS TO STRYKER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Discussed at Public Safety January 14, 2026

Safety Director Chafin said last year, their EMS Department needed to purchase new heart monitors. They were one of the most used and most critical pieces of equipment that they had. Those new monitors cost a little over \$199,000. As a part of that deal, they were also receiving trade-in value for their old monitors, and the total trade-in value was \$10,000. The purchase price required Council's approval, and as such, it was taken through the Safety Committee, presented to Committee of The Whole, and there was an authorized expenditure in February of 2025. For background, as a part of the discussions, both at the committee level and in full Council, that trade-in was discussed; however, the legislation did not specifically reference that trade-in. As they were closing out the year, the Fire Chief and he had to submit a Capital Asset Disposal Form to the Auditor's Office, and any amount over \$1,000 required Council approval to dispose of, and each trade-in unit was valued at \$2,500. In speaking with the Law Director and Auditor Fix, although the trade was discussed and was documented in those minutes, it was determined, that the best practice would be actually to have legislation on file that explicitly authorizes that trade. For full disclosure everyone was clear, those monitors had been traded in, and they were not there. They had been gone since about May. That trade was made in good faith, it was discussed at the committee, it was discussed and even questioned at full Council, so that was really a process that they needed to undertake to make sure that they met the required audit requirements. He said again, discussing that with Auditor Fix, the Law Director as well, now they had that formalized legislation to formally authorize the trade-in that was already made in 2025. He asked if there were any questions. There was none.

President Rospert asked Council Member May to suspend and call that so they can clean the house.

Council Member May agreed. The clerk assigned the Ordinance No. 26-028.

Council Member Stugmyer asked President Rospert before they moved on to the Agenda Review, could they jump back to item number 13, which was ordinance number 014. Just to be consistent on item number 15 and item number 18, where they went out to advertise for bids, they suspended and called that one, but to be consistent on 13, they were talking about going to second reading. Do they want to just suspend and call that one, as if they did item 15 and item 18, so they can go out for a bid?

President Rospert had no problem doing that and asked if anybody else had an issue with doing that. Council did not have an issue.

Council Member Stugmyer said that the other two in that chain of events they did that, so just to be consistent.

President Rospert agreed to suspend and call. He thanked Council Member Stugmyer for a good catch.

V. CITY COUNCIL AGNEDA REVIEW

ORDINANCE NO. 25-218 (3rd RDG) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 52.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH WITH REGARD TO ELECTRIC SERVICE RATES AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Tom Stugmyer
- Discussed at Public Service December 9, 2025

Council Member Stugmyer said he would call the ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-219 (3rd RDG) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 54.23 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH WITH REGARD TO WATER SERVICE RATES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Tom Stugmyer
- Discussed at Public Service December 9, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 25-220 (3rd RDG) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 53.35, 53.37 AND 53.38 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WADSWORTH TO INCREASE SEWER RATES AND DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

- Sponsored by Council Member Tom Stugmyer
- Discussed at Public Service December 9, 2025

President Rospert thought 26-019 and 26-020 flowed together. They were the rate increases, and they decided to go three readings. That would be their third and asked if Council Member Stugmyer wanted to call those.

Council Member Stugmyer agreed and said he would call them. He believed, as they discussed the last time, those never go into effect in the middle of the month. They would all go into effect February 1st, correct?

Asst. Service Director Testa said that was correct.

V. OTHER: President Rospert asked if there was anything else from Administration or Council. There was none and entertained a motion to adjourn.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Stugmyer made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Council Member Yurchiak. MEETING ADJOURNED at approximately 6:25 P.M.

Chairperson

Date Approved