

CITY OF BRUNSWICK, OHIO

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

Monday, May 18, 2026

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance The regular meeting of Brunswick City Council was called to order by Mayor Ron Falconi at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex.

Roll Call of Members Nicholas Hanek, Nate Witsaman, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper.

Others Present: City Manager/Safety Director Carl DeForest, Law Director Dennis Nevar, Clerk of Council Laura Timura.

Michael Abella moved to excuse Mayor Falconi, Joseph Delsanter, and Tim Smith for just cause, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Correspondence There was none.

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated May 11, 2026:

Michael Abella moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes date May 11, 2026, as written, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Mayor’s Report:

Proclamations in recognition of Juried Exhibition of Student Art (JESA) Regional Winners Faith Bartoul, Lindsey Beljin, and Hailey Potts:

Vice Mayor Hanek revealed that he was excited to recognize the first-grade students from Huntington Elementary along with Councilwoman Piper. Art teacher, Erin Kraly announced that the students completed a mixed media project, which they proudly displayed. Over 8,000 artworks were submitted by students in the State of Ohio and their artwork was one of 150 regional winners and 120 regional finalists.

Mayor's Update:

Vice Mayor Hanek announced that William Furman would be starting an initiative in the community called Random Acts of Kindness Day which would occur on March 6, 2027. Everyone was encouraged to do acts of kindness both big and small. He added that he felt this was a great idea and that both Council and the Mayor would follow up with both a proclamation and resolution to show their support.

Clerk of Council’s Report Mrs. Timura wished everyone a happy Memorial Day and mentioned that the next Council Meeting would be on June 8.

Council Committee Reports:

Economic Development Committee..... Mr. Witsaman:

Mr. Witsaman had no formal reports this evening.

Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee.....Mr. Smith:

Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee Minutes dated May 11, 2026:

Michael Abella moved to approve the Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee Minutes dated

May 11, 2026, as written, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Finance Committee.....Mr. Hanek:

Mr. Hanek had no formal reports this evening.

Safety & Environment Committee.....Mr. Kuczma:

Mr. Kuczma had no formal reports this evening.

Planning & Zoning Committee.....Mr. Delsanter:

Planning & Zoning Committee Minutes dated May 11, 2026:

Keith Kuczma moved to approve the Planning & Zoning Committee Minutes dated May 11, 2026, as written, seconded by Nate Witsaman. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Parks, Recreation & Community Committee.....Mrs. Piper:

Mrs. Piper had no formal reports this evening.

Building & Building Code Committee.....Mr. Abella:

Mr. Abella had no formal reports this evening.

Other Committees, Boards and Commissions

Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes dated May 11, 2026:

Michael Abella moved to approve the Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes dated May 11, 2026, as written, seconded by Nate Witsaman. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Petitions from the Public on Legislation

Reading of Legislation and Action on Legislation:

3rd Reading(s)

ORD. NO. 26-2026 - An emergency ordinance authorizing and adopting the proposed tax budget for the City of Brunswick, Ohio for the year beginning January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027. - **3rd Reading** (Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Michael Abella moved to adopt Ordinance Number 26-2026, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

2nd Reading(s)

1st Reading(s)

City Manager's Report Mr. DeForest reminded that there would be a program and parade for Memorial Day beginning at Brunswick Middle School which was sponsored by both the American Legion and VFW. The program would start at 9 a.m. followed by a parade that would go to Westview Cemetery. Traffic would be detoured, and the intersection closed from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Trash would be delayed one day due to Memorial Day.

Laurel Road eastbound would be closed between Coventry Drive and Pinewood Drive on Wednesday, May 20. Westbound traffic would be maintained, while Maxwell Boulevard southbound would be closed at Chelsea Drive and traffic detoured. Similarly, Rockland Road would be closed northbound at Applewood Road and detoured. This would be due to construction of the roundabout, which would take 3 to 4 months for completion.

Open Forum Jennifer Arida (664 Sandra Drive) felt the Flock Cameras were a fourth amendment overreach. She felt there was a need for strong safeguards to be put into place and that there could be potential issues with cybersecurity, errors, and misuse. Ms. Arida disclosed that the risks far outweighed the benefits in a low-crime community. She revealed that the two-factor authentication was not sufficient protection against hackers. She was concerned about data sharing and lack of privacy protection.

Colleen Crowley (4614 Persimmon Lane) explained that the Flock Cameras could be trained to recognize faces and sexual orientation. She suggested the cameras could be hacked and used to look at more than license plates. The company that runs the cameras had no accountability and could easily misuse the cameras without the City's knowledge. She pointed out that in one city, the cameras falsely identified someone as having a warrant. Ms. Crowley added that she was not aware of the cameras and did not feel the City informed residents.

Richard Hudson (140 Broadway Street, Medina, Ohio) recognized that Council took the role of protecting its citizens seriously. Mr. Hudson questioned whether the City had the oversight to responsibly govern a new surveillance technology without eroding citizens' public trust and civil liberties. He conveyed his concern that Flock Safety Cameras would be misused and urged everyone to search for Flock on Google News. He concluded that Council should reconsider Flock particularly before expanding surveillance.

Unfinished Business There was none.

New Business Mr. Kuczma informed that on Wednesday, June 3, the Chardon Polka band would be playing at the Recreation Center from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.. This was one of three concerts that would be held with close to 200 people in attendance.

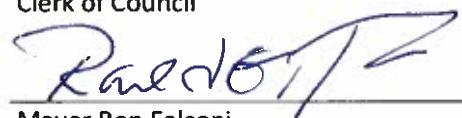
Adjournment Michael Abella moved to adjourn, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 5, Nicholas Hanek, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Timura, MMC
Clerk of Council



Mayor Ron Falconi

June 8, 2026

Adopted