

CITY OF BRUNSWICK, OHIO

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

Monday, July 27, 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. Mayor Falconi requested a moment of silence in memory of former City employee, David Smerek, who recently passed away.

Roll Call of Members showed the following Council Members present: Nate Witsaman, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Joseph Delsanter, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper.

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

Joseph Delsanter moved to excuse Nicholas Hanek for just cause, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Correspondence There was none.

Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated July 13, 2026:

Joseph Delsanter moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated July 13, 2026, as written, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Mayor's Report:

Motion to reappoint Sarah Alfano to the Juvenile Diversion Board:

Joseph Delsanter moved to reappoint Sarah Alfano to the Juvenile Diversion Board, seconded by Michael Abella. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Proclamation in recognition of Sheila Watson's service to the Brunswick Community:

Mayor Falconi presented a proclamation to Sheila Watson in recognition of her dedicated service to the community, reviving the Brunswick Parade, and outstanding work as a realtor. Mr. Kuczma noted that in the past she was instrumental in youth cross-country football. He had the pleasure of working with Ms. Watson at Re/Max. Ms. Watson thanked the Police Department, veterans, and the Fire Department for their help with the parade. She added that it was important to honor veterans and that the parade could not be pulled off without a lot of people doing their part.

Mayor's Update:

Mayor Falconi stated he was horrified to learn of the tragic passing of North Royalton Building Commissioner, David Smerek. He revealed that, in the past, Mr. Smerek had worked in the City of Brunswick Building Department, and he was a true public servant. He read a brief statement and concluded that Brunswick shares in the Smerek and Rocha families' grief and prays for them.

Clerk of Council's Report Mrs. Timura had no report this evening.

Council Committee Reports:

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

Economic Development Committee Minutes dated July 13, 2026:

Nate Witsaman moved to approve the Economic Development Committee Minutes dated July 13, 2026, as written, seconded by Tim Smith. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

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

Mr. Smith had no formal reports this evening.

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:

Mr. Delsanter had no formal reports this evening.

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 July 13, 2026:

Joseph Delsanter moved to approve the Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes dated July 13, 2026, as written, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Petitions from the Public on Legislation There were none.

Reading of Legislation and Action on Legislation:

3rd Reading(s)

2nd Reading(s)

ORD. NO. 14-2026 - An ordinance adopting an updated Planning & Zoning Code and repealing the existing Planning & Zoning Code. - **2nd Reading** (Planning & Zoning Committee, *Administration/Grant Aungst*):

Mr. Delsanter moved this ordinance to third reading.

RES. NO. 36-2026 - A resolution appointing Nicholas J. Hanek as City Manager/Safety Director of the City of Brunswick. - **2nd Reading** (Committee-of-the-Whole, *Council/Joseph Delsanter*):

Mr. Delsanter moved this resolution to third reading.

1st Reading(s)

ORD. NO. 37-2026 - An emergency ordinance amending Ordinances #95-2025, #6-2026 and #30-2026 to include amendments to the Appropriation Budget for the year ending December 31, 2026, as incorporated in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Michael Abella moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Nate Witsaman. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Michael Abella moved to adopt Ordinance Number 37-2026, seconded by Nate Witsaman. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 38-2026 - An emergency ordinance to advance funds. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Michael Abella moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Nate Witsaman. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Michael Abella moved to adopt Ordinance Number 38-2026, seconded by Nate Witsaman. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

RES. NO. 39-2026 - An emergency resolution authorizing the City Manager and City Engineer to submit a grant application to the Ohio Public Works Commission Issue 1 Program for the Westchester Drive-Magnolia Drive Improvement Project and, if awarded, authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents to accept such grant award. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from Services, Utilities, Technology & Cable Committee, *Administration/Jenny Zoldak*):

Tim Smith moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Tim Smith moved to adopt Resolution Number 39-2026, seconded by Kristy Piper. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

ORD. NO. 40-2026 - An emergency ordinance authorizing a rebate payment to the United States Treasury in connection with the City's Fire Station Improvement Bonds, Series 2024. - **1st Reading** (To be brought from the Finance Committee, *Administration/Todd Fischer*):

Michael Abella moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Tim Smith. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

Michael Abella moved to adopt Ordinance Number 40-2026, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

City Manager's Report City Manager/Safety Director, Carl DeForest reminded residents that the final Summer Concert would be held on August 3 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center, rain or shine. He also reminded motorists that students would return to school on August 18 and encouraged everyone to use caution in school zones. Mr. DeForest further announced that registration remained open to children ages 3 to 12 for the annual Trike and Bike event benefiting the Cleveland Clinic's pediatric cancer research. The ride would occur on September 11 at the Brunswick High School at 6 p.m. He reported that the event had raised approximately \$238,000 over the previous seven years and was expected to surpass \$250,000 this year.

Open Forum Lucas Merkel (131 Falmouth Court) addressed Council regarding the City's use of Flock automated license plate reader cameras. He expressed concerns about privacy, the collection and storage of vehicle location data, and public access to audit records. He requested greater transparency and urged Council to direct the Administration to release audit information related to the system.

Logan Isley (1973 Windsor Drive) spoke regarding Flock cameras, expressing concerns about privacy, oversight, and the potential misuse of collected data. He referenced examples from other jurisdictions and encouraged Council to suspend the City's contract with Flock or place the matter before Brunswick voters.

Jennifer Arida (664 Sandra Drive) addressed Council regarding Flock cameras. She expressed concerns regarding constitutional privacy rights, questioned the effectiveness of the technology, and urged Council to prohibit its use within the City.

Unfinished Business Mrs. Piper reminded residents about the Summer Concert scheduled for August 3 with Ace Molnar performing from 6-8 p.m. at the Recreation Center. She announced the upcoming Back-to-School Rally at Holy Trinity Church on August 6 from 5-7 p.m.

New Business Mr. Delsanter announced that a Special Council Meeting would be held on Monday, August 3 at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers to address time-sensitive matters.

Law Director, Dennis Nevar, reported that the Administration, Division of Police, and Law Department were developing an automated license plate reader audit policy. The purpose of the policy would be to maintain transparency, accountability, and efficiency in response to public records requests. He explained that the City was working with the Information Technology Department to create a share link website that would include the following information: authorized law enforcement agencies, event logs, internal audit reports, reports of audit outcomes, network audit, authorized user list, contract documents, and email correspondence, with monthly updates intended to improve transparency and streamline responses to future public records requests.

Mr. Delsanter thanked Mayor Falconi for his remarks honoring Dave Smerek and offered additional condolences to the Smerek and Rocha families. He reflected on Mr. Smerek's character, dedication to public service, and the profound impact of the tragedy on the community.

Mr. Smith announced an upcoming Bike Medina County ride scheduled for July 30 at the Chippewa Rail Trail and encouraged participation. He also promoted the upcoming Lake-to-Lake Bike Tour fundraiser on September 11 and reported on the successful fundraiser recently held by the Oaks Family Care Center.

Adjournment Joseph Delsanter moved to adjourn, seconded by Keith Kuczma. Roll Call - Ayes - 6, Joseph Delsanter, Michael Abella Jr., Keith Kuczma, Tim Smith, Kristy Piper, Nate Witsaman. Nays - 0. Motion Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Timura, MMC
Clerk of Council



Mayor Ron Falconi

August 3, 2026

Adopted