

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday March 03, 2025, at 6pm
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President John Torma **called to order** this Regular Meeting of East Liverpool City Council at 6:00PM.

ROLL CALL:

The Clerk read aloud the **call of the roll** and was recorded as follows:

First Ward Council member Tom Beagle:	present
Second Ward Council member C. Fred Rayl:	not present
Third Ward Council member Jeffrey Kreefer:	present
Fourth Ward Council member Scott Barrett:	present
Council member At-Large Brian Kerr:	present
Council Member At-Large John Mercer:	present
Council member At-Large Thomas Clark:	present

MOTION TO EXCUSE:

Council President Torma **entertained a motion to excuse** Mr. Rayl from this regular meeting of East Liverpool City Council. **Moved** by Council member Kerr and **seconded** by Council member Beagle, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE:

Council member Kreefer led the **Prayer and Pledge**.

MINUTES-CORRECT:

Council President John Torma **entertained a motion to accept the minutes** from the Regular meeting of February 03, 2025, and the special meeting of February 18, 2025, as there were no additions or corrections. **Moved** by Council member Kerr and **Seconded** by Council member Kreefer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:

Council President John Torma **entertained a motion that Personal Privilege be granted. Moved** by Council member Kreefer and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Josh Ingram, 824 Avondale Street inquired as to why the Board of Public Utilities meetings are held in the early afternoon when working people are not able to attend and voice their concerns and ask questions. One of the questions Mr. Ingram has was do server rate increases cover the cost of supervisory wages.

Although it appears those inquires should be made at a Board of Public Utilities meeting, board member Tim Clark, who was present, did provide Mr. Ingram with some background information and tried to answer Mr. Ingrams questions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business.

COMMUNICATIONS OR PETITIONS:

The Clerk did report council was in receipt of a letter from the Department of Commerce regarding a liquor permit name change request that had previously been before Mr. Mercer’s committee and was passed on to the same.

For his part, Mr. Mercer indicated that his committee and council as a whole did not have a problem with the change and had not requested a hearing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Refuse and Recycling / Public Utilities / Franchise Committee: Brian Kerr, Chair of the Refuse and Recycling / Public Utilities / Franchise Committee reported the committee met at 5:30pm, just prior to this regular meeting of city council to discuss with members of the Board of Public Utilities a possible rate increase for the wastewater department for upgrades and equipment purchases.

Mr. Kerr also reported the committee was asked to consider sponsoring legislation authorizing the Board of Control to advertise for bids and enter into a contract with the lowest and best bidder(s) for the purchase of air monitoring equipment for the Fire department with Kerr indicating a seven-day waiver had been asked for.

License and Economic Development Committee: John Mercer, Chair of the License and Economic Development Committee made no report but did call a meeting of the committee for March 19, 2025, at 6pm in chambers.

Recreation and Ordinance Committee: Thomas Clark, Chair of the Recreation and Ordinance Committee made no report.

Streets / Lands and Buildings Committee: Scott Barrett, Chair of the Streets / Lands and Buildings Committee made no report.

Safety and Rules Committee: Jeffrey Kreefer, Chair of the Safety / Rules Committee made no report.

Finance and Labor Committee: C. Fred Rayl, Chair of the Finance / Labor Committee was not available, and the meeting was chaired by Mr. Kerr.

Mr. Kerr reported the committee met on February 25, 2025, at 3pm and agreed to pass on to the full council for its consideration the following three proposals.

1. **An ordinance to pay vendors.**
2. **An ordinance making permanent appropriations for the year beginning January 01, 2025, and ending June 30, 2025.**
3. **An ordinance to amend the Capitol Improvements percentage from 7% to 5% to help defray the Chris Green settlement.**

Mr. Kerr called the next meeting of the committee for 3pm Tuesday April 02, 2025, in council chambers.

Planning and Expansion Committee: Tom Beagle, Chair of the Planning and Expansion Committee made no report.

OFFICER REPORTS:

CHIEF OF POLICE: Police Chief John Lane was not present.

FIRE CHIEF: Fire Chief Antony Cumo gave his year end report.

UTILITIES DIRECTOR: Utilities Director Paul McCarthy was not present.

STREET SUPERINTENDENT: Street Superintendent Dan Galeoti was not present.

HOUSING INSPECTOR: Housing Inspector was not present.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT: City Planning Director William Cowan was not present.

OFFICE OF THE LAW DIRECTOR: Law Director Charles Payne made no report.

OFFICE OF CITY AUDITOR: City Auditor Marilyn Bosco was not present.

OFFICE OF INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT: Tax Commissioner Sharon Williams was not present.

OFFICE OF CITY TREASURER: City Treasurer Deborah Fickes was not present.

OFFICE OF SERVICE / SAFETY: Service / Safety Director William Jones reported the sidewalk will be repaired in May, the new salt barn plans are being finalized, and that the Street department has started putting cold patch on the streets and the new mower is being used and updated members regarding the remodel of the Council caucus room.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR: Mayor Robert Smith reported progress on the remodel of the Thompson Building in the Diamond, reported the Little Building project is being slowed down, cold patching is going on all over the city, water breaks are everywhere, reported the police department had made some great drug busts lately and that he had had some discussions regarding HB56 sponsored by Sen. Huffman and was assured the city would be getting its tax dollars. The Mayor also addressed parking issues and commended the Housing Department on the excellent work they do.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF CASH POSITION REPORT:

LEGISLATION:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY AUDITOR TO PAY CERTAIN VENDORS WHO SUPPLIED GOODS OR SERVICES TO THE CITY WITHOUT THE ISSUANCE OR AUTHORIZATION OF A PURCHASE ORDER.

CONSIDERATION:

Moved by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Kreefer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

FIRST READING:

Moved by Council member Clark, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes

Mr. Clark: yes Mr. Mercer: yes

Motion carried 6-0.

SUSPEND THE RULES:

Moved by Council member Beagle, and **Seconded** by Council member Mercer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett: yes Mr. Kerr: yes
Mr. Beagle: yes Mr. Kreefer: yes
Mr. Clark: yes Mr. Mercer: yes

Motion carried 6-0.

PASSAGE:

Moved by Council member Mercer, and **Seconded** by Council member Beagle, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett: yes Mr. Kerr: yes
Mr. Beagle: yes Mr. Kreefer: yes
Mr. Clark: yes Mr. Mercer: yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Council President Torma **declared** Ordinance Number 05, 2025, duly passed as read.

AN ORDINANCE MAKING PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 01, 2025 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

CONSIDERATION:

Moved by Council member Mercer, and **Seconded** by Council member Kerr, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett: yes Mr. Kerr: yes
Mr. Beagle: yes Mr. Kreefer: yes
Mr. Clark: yes Mr. Mercer: yes

Motion carried 6-0.

FIRST READING:

Moved by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett: yes Mr. Kerr: yes
Mr. Beagle: yes Mr. Kreefer: yes
Mr. Clark: yes Mr. Mercer: yes

Motion carried 6-0.

SUSPEND THE RULES:

Moved by Council member Beagle, and **Seconded** by Council member Clark, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

PASSAGE:

Moved by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Council President Torma **declared** Ordinance Number 07, 2025, duly passed as read.

** It should be noted that there was a discrepancy between the agenda and the legislation. The agenda has the budget running until December 31, 2025, as was read by the Clerk. But the legislation read “until June 30, 2025”. The assistant Law Director, John Gamble advised the legislation speaks for it’s self and will be enforced until June 30, 2025**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NUMBER 13, 1981, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NUMBER 39, 1982, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NUMBER 11, 1995, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NUMBER 07, 2003, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NUMBER 04, 2004, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NUMBER 22, 2015 TO ADJUST THE PERCENTAGE OF MONIES FROM THE CITY INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS THAT ARE TO BE SET ASIDE FOR CAPITOL IMPROVEMENTS.

CONSIDERATION:

Moved by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Kreefer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

FIRST READING:

Moved by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

SUSPEND THE RULES:

Moved by Council member Beagle, and **Seconded** by Council member Kerr, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

PASSAGE:

Moved by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Kerr, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Council President Torma **declared** Ordinance Number 08, 2025, duly passed as read.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF CONTROL ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF EAST LIVERPOOL TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER(S) FOR THE PURCHASE OF AIR MONITORING EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

CONSIDERATION:

Moved by Council member Clark, and **Seconded** by Council member Kreefer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

FIRST READING:

Moved by Council member Kreefer, and **Seconded** by Council member Mercer, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

SUSPEND THE RULES:

Moved by Council member Kerr, and **Seconded** by Council member Beagle, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

PASSAGE:

Moved by Council member Mercer, and **Seconded** by Council member Barrett, the call of the roll was recorded as follows:

Mr. Barrett:	yes	Mr. Kerr:	yes
Mr. Beagle:	yes	Mr. Kreefer:	yes
Mr. Clark:	yes	Mr. Mercer:	yes

Motion carried 6-0.

Council President Torma **declared** Ordinance Number 09, 2025, duly passed as read.

MISCELLANEOUS:

At-Large Council member Brian Kerr thanked everyone for coming out.

At-Large Council member John Mercer echoed Mr. Kerr.

At-Large Council member Thomas Clark made no comment.

Fourth Ward Council member Scott Barrett made no comment.

Third Ward Council member Jeffrey Kreefer wished Mr. Rayl the best.

Second Ward Council member C. Fred Rayl was excused.

First Ward Council member Thomas Beagle wished Mr. Rayl good health.

Council President John Torma made no comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

Council President Torma **entertained a motion to Adjourn.** Motion was made by Council member Clark.

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICK S. SCAFIDE, COUNCIL CLERK

JOHN TORMA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT