

# Wellston City Council

## Meeting Minutes

### April 16, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Rick Hudson by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge. He then called for the roll call.

Councilpersons answering the roll call included: Fred Duby, Karen Boch, Angela Spangler, Rhonda Downey, Keith Woolum, and Roaby Browning. Tami Phillips was absent.

#### **Excusal of Previous Absence(s)**

- None

#### **Reading of Proclamation(s)**

- Mayor Brenner proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month (Pinwheels by Jackson County Job and Family Services, April 6<sup>th</sup> pinwheel planting)
- A Proclamation was given to Goodwill Industries of South-Central Ohio for beautification and bringing jobs to Wellston. (April 9<sup>th</sup> Award Banquet)
- Mayor Brenner proclaimed May 22, 2026, as American Legion Poppy Day (Donna Smith, Women's Auxiliary accepted)
- Mayor Brenner recognized the Jackson County Fair Board for their public service. This proclamation was given as part of the America250.
- Mayor Brenner recognized the Wellston OHillCo Society for their public service. This proclamation was given as part of the America250.

#### **Public Comments**

- Willard Ford, 628 West D Street, addressed Council. He complained about a collapsing drainage pipe in his yard. The Service Director is currently working with him to achieve a resolution.

**Minutes-** All in attendance voted to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

#### **Correspondence**

- Ethics Commission Filing Reminder

#### **Reports of Special Committees**

- Health and Safety Committee- none
- Public Service Committee- none
- Planning Committee- none

- Recreation Committee- none
- Finance Committee- none
- Community Action- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- none

### **Old Business**

- none

### **New Business**

- none

### **Legislation**

- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2026-15- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor, Service Director, and any other necessary official to enter into an agreement with the County of Washington regarding the custody, supervision, confinement, and board of prisoners.  
Sponsor: Downey  
Discussion: Yearly; cost is \$100 per day
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-12- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations in certain line items of the Recreation Fund from Recreation Fund Carryover Funds and Declaring an Emergency.  
Sponsor: Spangler  
Discussion: The Service Director explained that this will give the Parks and Recreation Director the ability to write her own Purchase Order Requests.  
A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Woolum, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendane.  
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Boch, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance.
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-16- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations in the Sewer Transfer Out Fund from the 606 Sewer Fund and Declaring an Emergency.  
Sponsor: Boch  
Discussion: The Mayor stated this does not need to be an emergency and will offer more discussion at the next meeting.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2026-17- A Resolution authorizing the Service-Safety Director to enter into an agreement with the Jackson County Land Reutilization Corporation for mowing certain property located within the City and authorizing the Director to establish fees sufficient to cover the City's costs and Declaring an Emergency.  
Sponsor: Downey  
Discussion: The Mayor explained there is no emergency needed. The Land Bank will be charged \$40 per property.
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-18- An Ordinance to repeal in its entirety Ordinance 2021-63 that established the position of Public Works Supervisor.  
Sponsor: Downey  
Discussion: none
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-19- An Ordinance repealing Ord. 3206 and removing Section 30.04 from the Codified Ordinances of the City.  
Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: This completely removed Public Works/Utility Supervisor from the Codified Ordinances, along with Ordinance 2026-18.

- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-20- An Ordinance authorizing the annual salary increase of one and one-half (1.5%) for the Service-Safety Director.

Sponsor: Downey

Discussion: The salary increase was not listed. This legislation will need to be amended prior to the next meeting.

- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-21- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations in Police Vehicle Maintenance from General Carryover Funds and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Boch

Discussion: This will pay for the repairs to the three cruisers that have been out of service.

A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Woolum, seconded by Browning, and approved by all in attendance.

A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Browning, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance.

### **Mayor**

- Mayor Brenner began by thanking Make Wellston Beautiful and the group of students who cleaned downtown, The Depot, Pride Park, and the Bike Path.
- The City was awarded just under \$200,000 for the State Transportation Block Grant Program. This will be used for the Pennsylvania Avenue turn lane project.
- Phase 2 of the Water Treatment Plant was put out for bid.
- The New York Avenue project came under the projections for the bidding, so the Mayor is hoping to extend the project.
- The Campground project should be put out for bid soon.
- Opening Day went well. Over 400 kids were in attendance. (33 teams)
- The Ohio EPA Recycle Ohio grant submission was successful. The city will see \$200,000 for equipment- a truck and a woodchipper.

### **Service Director**

- Director Walton stated the crews are still searching for the major leak.
- Mowing has started for Code Enforcement and the cemetery.
- BWC training will take place next week.
- Big Haul is the week of the 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Law Director**

- none

### **Auditor**

- Line-item transfers approved
- Statement of Cash Position, Expense Report, and Cash Balance received.

### **City Clerk's Reports**

- March Sales and Consumption received

**Treasurer's Report**

- none

**Recreation**

- Not present

**Fire**

- Not present

**Zoning/Code**

- Not present

**Police**

- The Chief reported that he will be seeking an officer soon.

All in attendance voted to go into Executive Session was made by Woolum at 7:43 p.m., and seconded by Spangler, with all members in agreement. The purpose of this executive session is personnel, as reflected in ORC 121.22. No action will follow.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

  
Council Clerk



The seal is circular with a double border. The outer border contains the text "CITY OF WELLSTON, OHIO" at the top and "WELLSTON, OHIO" at the bottom. The inner border contains "NOTARIAL SEAL" at the top and "STATE OF OHIO" at the bottom. In the center is a sunburst design over a landscape with a river and hills.

  
Council President