Wellston City Council
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 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: Rhonda Downey, Fred Duby, Karen Boch, Angela Spangler, Keith Woolum, Tami Phillips, and Roaby Browning.

Excusal of Previous Absence(s)

- none

Public Comments

- none

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

Correspondence

- Council received and acknowledged an advisory opinion from the Ohio Ethics Commission regarding Council President Rick Hudson.

Reports of Special Committees

- Health and Safety Committee- none
- Public Service Committee- none
- Planning Committee- The Planning Committee was requested to review proposed revisions to the City's water and sewer billing ordinances and related policies to address outdated provisions and improve consistency with current operations.
- Recreation Committee- none
- Finance Committee- Councilperson Bennett reported the Finance Committee feels confident to add the budget to the next meeting's agenda.
- Community Action- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- none

Old Business

- Council discussed matters related to the Downtown Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA), including operational concerns and possible amendments to existing regulations. Following discussion, the matter was referred to the Health and Safety Committee for further evaluation and recommendations.
- Boch inquired as to the status of assets and inventory. Service Director Walton stated it was in process and due by February for insurance purposes.
- The status of the Rumpke leachate agreement was discussed. Director Walton said the contract has been adjusted and sent back to Rumpke for their review.

- Council then discussed painting of stop bars.

New Business

- None

Legislation

- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2026-51- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wellston, Ohio, to execute an amendment to the bargaining agreement between the City of Wellston and City Employees Bargaining Unit (OCSEA) and declaring an emergency.
  Sponsor: Downey
  Discussion: Walton explained the amendment eliminates the Street Superintendent position and reallocates responsibilities, resulting in cost savings and compensation adjustments for affected employees.
- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2026-52- A Resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Ohio Department of Transportation Winter Fill Program.
  Sponsor: Phillips
  Discussion: Annual authorization allowing the purchase of road salt through the state program.
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-54- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations from the 606 Sewer Fund to the North Sewer Engineering and Professional Services Fund.
  Sponsor: Woolum
  Discussion: Walton explained this is moving OWDA grant funds for engineering from expense to revenue.
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-55- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations from the 606 Sewer Fund to the North Sewer Loan Payment Fund.
  Sponsor: Bennett
  Discussion: Administration explained the appropriation is related to paying off the FlexNet water meter reading system loan obligation.
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-56- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations from the 611 Garbage Fund to the Garbage Loan Payment Fund.
  Sponsor: Downey
  Discussion: The appropriation will allow the City to pay off the remaining garbage truck loan balance to avoid interest.
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-58- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations from the 201 Fire Fund totaling $46,000 to multiple expense funds from the loan balance of the Coalton Fire Trucks purchase and Declaring an Emergency.
  Sponsor: Bennett
  Discussion: This is pertaining to the Coalton acquisition and does not need to be an emergency until the 3rd Reading.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2026-61- A Resolution authorizing Anthony Brenner, Mayor, to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program(s) and to execute contracts as required and Declaring an Emergency.
  Sponsor: Woolum
  Discussion: This is for the Lake Road leak repair reimbursement request. The City is potentially receiving just under $62,000 for the repairs.

A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Bennett, seconded by Woolum, and approved by all in attendance.
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Bennett, seconded by Downey, and approved by all in attendance.

- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-62- An Ordinance authorizing journal entry corrections to the City's financial records and declaring an emergency.
  Sponsor: Bennett
  Discussion: These fixes are recommended by the audit reports. No emergency was deemed necessary, but is needed on the 3rd Reading.

Mayor

- Not present
- Consideration of Kathy Cline for appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission was tabled. She is not registered to vote at her Wellston address to date. Council would like the Mayor to consider publicly posting the vacancy.

Service Director

- The bid opening for the dirt work at the RV Park will take place on Wednesday. Several contractors have voiced interest.
- Director Walton went over the Trick or Treat and Halloween event schedule.
- Pavement repairs and patching are taking place.
- There was a major water leak on State Route 93 North at the county line that was repaired.
- Lead service line inventory has been in the works. There are approximately 1,300 meter pits to check for lead service lines. This is an EPA requirement.
- 2 demo projects will be taking place soon.

Law Director

- None

Auditor

- not present
- Expense Report, Statement of Cash Position w MTD totals, September credit card statement, and statement of cash position after CD removal were all received. Council then voted unanimously to approve the line-item transfer as presented.

City Clerk's Reports

- Sales and Consumption report received.

Treasurer's Report

- Not present

Recreation

- Not present

Fire

- Not present

Zoning/Code

- Not present
- Reports received

Police

- Not present
- September calls and Activity Summary received.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Council Clerk

CITY COUNCIL CLERK NOTARIAL SEAL STATE OF OHIO WELLSTON, OHIO

Council President