March 18, 2025 Cheviot City Council

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Council President Smyth called the meeting to order at 7:30PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer. Roll was then called, and the following members were in attendance:

President of Council	Kerry Smyth
Mayor	Sam Keller
Safety Services Director	Steve Braun
Council Ward 1	David Voss
Council Ward 2	John Hardig
Council Ward 3	Brian Smyth
Council Ward 4	Lindsay Keeble
Council At Large	Troy Borgmann
Council At Large	Stefanie Hawk
Council At Large	Amy Richter

Law Director Kimberlee Rohr was not present for roll call, but arrived after the start of the meeting.

Mr. Smyth motioned to approve the minutes from the March 4. Motion seconded by Mr. Voss.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Ms. Hawk summarized the Internal/External Affairs Committee meeting which was held prior to tonight's council meeting. Legislation showing support of State Issue 2, regarding SCIP funds, will be presented for full council vote this evening.

Public Recognition on Agenda Items:

No one from the public asked to address council.

Legislation:

Resolution 25-08 In Support Of State Issue 2, The Renewal Of The State Capital Improvement Program On The May 6, 2025 Statewide Ballot. Introduced by Ms. Hawk, second by Mr. Borgmann. Discussion suggested that support for a yes vote for the state issue should be given, as the City has benefitted greatly over the years from funding provided by this program. Motion to adopt was made by Mr. Smyth, second by Ms. Hawk.

Ordinance 25-05 To Continue To Allow The Use Of Harvest Home Park For The Annual Harvest Home Fair After The Deed Restrictions On The Property . For its third and final reading, Mrs. Richter read by title and motioned for adoption. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 25-05 To Continue To Allow The Use Of Harvest Home Park For The Annual Harvest Home Fair After The Deed Restrictions On The Property Expires. Mrs. Richter provided the third and final reading of the ordinance. It was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Ordinance 25-07 Annual Appropriation Ordinance For Calendar Year 2025 Ending December 31, 2025. Introduced by Mr. Voss, Second by Mr. Smyth. Motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Hardig, second by Ms. Hawk. Discussion: Mayor Keller offered input pertaining to the "free" healthcare provided to the administrative staff. Salaries for these employees are on average \$20k lower than the average salary, which is why they are not asked to contribute toward their health insurance coverage. Mayor Keller stated that finding middle ground is always his starting point for negotiating collective bargaining contracts that come due every three years. The salaries the city pays for these workers are commensurate with those of surrounding communities. Mayor further asked if everyone was clear on the \$40K in/out for the Hillebrand property. Motion to adopt was made by Ms. Hawk, second by Mr. Borgmann. Roll call vote was 6-1, with Mr. Smyth being the sole NO vote.

Ordinance 25-08 Amend The Name, Transfer Certain Funds, And To Declare An Emergency. Mr. Voss motioned for introduction, Mr. Borgmann seconded. Ms. Hawk motioned to suspend the rules. There was no discussion. Ms. Hawk motioned to adopt, Mr. Borgmann seconded.

Administrative Reports:

- -Mayor Keller stated that the RFPs for the former Cappel's building are due March 31. Following that, a meeting will be scheduled where the proposals will be presented to council. Each proposer will have an opportunity to present a privately in executive session. Law Director Rohr is asking for special counsel to draft the agreement between the party chosen for development of the property and the City. Council will decide in executive session which party will be chosen. The \$300k grant issued to the city can be used by the new owner.
- Safety Service Director Steve Braun had no report.
- -Law Director Kimberlee Rohr explained how the vote on Resolution 25-07 regarding the trexing of liquor license for CNR Entertainment was not considered as passing as the recorded vote was three yeses, two no's and one abstention. Ohio Revised Code states that affirmative vote of half the voting members of the legislative body is required for a resolution to pass. Cheviot's voting body consists of seven voting members, therefore four yes votes are required to pass any resolution. Lively discussion ensued.

Other Business:

VFW

- -Ms. Hawk stated that the Green Twp Veterans Organization will be taking over the Memorial Day Parade. If you know a group that would like to be represented, the application for participation is available at their website. Internal/External Affairs will meet following the Council meeting on April 15 to discuss the request of the Cheviot Historical Society for an ordinance to protect the archive and funds for future generations.
- -Mrs. Richter stated that 2025 pool passes are on sale now, and that lifeguards for the season are still needed.

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- -Treasurer's Report for February 2025 was received and filed with a motion by Mr. Hardig, second by Mrs. Richter.
- -Upcoming meetings: April 15 Zoning to discuss short term rental properties and other rental properties.
- -Tax Commissioner Steve Brown introduced Mary Dee Shreve to Council. She will be assisting in the Tax Department.

Seeing no further business before this council, Mrs. Richter motioned for adjournment. Mr. Smyth seconded and the meeting adjourned at 8:51PM.

All motions presented in this meeting were approved unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Jenny M. Eilermann, Clerk of Council

· Councilman

Kerry Smyth, President of Council

Third Party Signature