CITY OF FAIRBORN
COUNCIL MEETING
April 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

COUNCIL MEMBERS	Present	Absent
Dan Kirkpatrick, Mayor	☒	☐
Clint Allen, Councilman	☐	☒
Sylvia Chess, Councilwoman	☒	☐
Adam Fritzsche, Councilman	☒	☐
Rodney McCubbins, Councilman	☒	☐
Mary Reaster, Deputy Mayor	☒	☐
Tana Stanton, Councilwoman	☒	☐

Councilman Fritzsche moved to excuse Councilman Allen from the meeting. Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick excused Councilman Allen from the meeting.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Floyd, Gay, Taylor, Wellbaum, and Williams

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Chess moved to approve the April 7, 2025, Work Session Meeting Minutes. Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared the minutes approved as written.

Councilman McCubbins moved to approve the April 7, 2025, Regular Council Meeting minutes. Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared the minutes approved as written.

PRESCHEDULED

Mayor Kirkpatrick read a proclamation declaring May as Motorcycle Awareness Month. Members of the Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association, and Greyriders of Fairborn accepted the proclamation. JoAnn Collins accepted the proclamation on behalf of the U.S. Veterans M.C. who could not attend.

Mayor Kirkpatrick read a proclamation declaring April 21-28, 2025, as International Dark Sky Week. Brad Kerry accepted the proclamation.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 31-24 AUTHORIZNG A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT FROM LIGHT INDUSTRIAL TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROVAL OF A PRELIMINARY PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN, AND FINAL PLAT FOR PARCEL NOS. A020000100440000100 & A01000100180001900.

Deputy Mayor Reaster moved to remove Ordinance 31-24 from the table. Councilman Fritzsche seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Reaster moved to read Ordinance 31-24 for the first time by title only. Councilwoman Stanton seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 31-24 by title only.

Mayor Kirkpatrick set the public hearing of Ordinance 31-24 for Monday, May 5, 2025

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 7-25 MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET OF THE CITY OF FAIRBORN, STATE OF OHIO, AND AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Fritzsche motioned to read Ordinance 7-25 for the first time by title only declaring an emergency. Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 7-25 by title only declaring an emergency.

Matt Wellbaum, Asst. Finance Director, reviewed the adjustments included in the legislation.

Deputy Mayor Reaster moved to adopt Ordinance 7-25 declaring an emergency. Councilman McCubbins seconded. Yeas, six: Reaster, McCubbins, Chess, Fritzsche, Stanton and Kirkpatrick, Nays, none. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared Ordinance 7-25 declaring an emergency duly adopted.

ORDINANCE 8-25. AN ORDINANCE EXPRESSING THE CITY OF FAIRBORN'S INTENT TO NEGOTIATE JOINTLY WITH OTHER CITIES IN THE REGION THROUGH THE MIAMI VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL ("MVCC") ON ONE PRICE SCHEDULE FOR ELECTRIC LIGHT SERVICES THAT BE FURNISHED TO RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF FAIRBORN FOR PURPOSES OF STREET LIGHT.

Councilman McCubbins motioned to read Ordinance 8-25 for the first time by title only. Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 8-25 by title only.

Mayor Kirkpatrick set the public hearing of Ordinance 8-25 for Monday, May 5, 2025.

RESOLUTION 12-25 AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 44-23 TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING FOR THE ATHERTON AMPHITHEATER RENOVATION PROJECT.

Councilwoman Chess motioned to read Resolution 12-25 for the first time by title only. Councilman Fritsche seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Resolution 12-25 by title only.

April Floyd, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, explained Resolution 44-23 was passed in November of 2023 for renovation of the Amphitheater at Community Park. It was not to exceed the amount of $515,000. The original budget for this project consisted of the following: $250,000 was originally planned from the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement budget, $80,000 from a fund balance in the Capital Improvement and the $185,000 was from ARPA funds. Staff is requesting to increase that budget by $31,647.46 for the total of $546,647.46. The adjustment is necessary as there were multiple change orders throughout the project that they did not see until once the work commenced. The architect's costs were not included in the original. She provided the updated $546,647.46 breakdown which now includes $200,000 from the ARPA funds and the rest will be from the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Funds. Staff recommends approval of Resolution 12-25.

Councilwoman Stanton stated we would need to be more careful next time to make sure we include fees. Ms. Floyd stated the change orders originated once they started the foundation work.

Mayor Kirkpatrick stated he went out there and looked at it about a week ago and it looks great. This will be a huge plus for the community once it is complete.

Deputy Mayor Reaster moved to adopt Resolution 12-25. Councilman Fritzsche seconded. Yeas, six: Reaster, Fritzsche, Chess, McCubbins, Stanton, and Kirkpatrick, Nays, none. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared Resolution 12-25 duly adopted.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mayor Kirkpatrick opened Citizens Comments.

Mayor Kirkpatrick closed Citizens Comments.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Ryan Williams, Acting City Manager, announced the new hires joining the City to include:
Brooks Loeb (P&R/PM- Seasonal)
Stephen Napier (P&R/PM – Seasonal)
Anthony Casey (FT Maintainer – W&S)
Jacob Hines (FT FF/Paramedic – Fire)
Georgia Goad (FT FF/Paramedic – Fire)

Gerald Leach (FT FF/Paramedic – Fire)
Gavin Vanmeter (FT Fire Recruit – Fire)
John Chesser (Court Bailiff Security – Court)
Mariah Morley (Recreation Program Coordinator – P&R)
Jack Boggs (P&R/PM – Seasonal)
Joshua McCoppin (P&R/PM-Seasonal)

He explained the ribbon cutting for the Spotted Turtle Trail at the James P. Amon Biodiversity Reserve is April 22nd at 1:00 p.m. It connects a 15-mile trail through the parks and reserves through the Beaver Creek Wetland corridor. The reserve is off Deercreek Trail. There have been questions about where to park. If you take Trebein Road to Windsong to Fawn to Deercreek, it is a right turn on Fawn and a left turn on Deercreek. Just take the dead end down there and that is where the reserve is for this ribbon cutting. He hopes to see everyone who can make it.

He stated last week was Dispatchers' appreciation week. They are called telecommunicators, but we have some wonderful dispatchers. The Mayor often talks about what great Fire and Police services we offer, and the dispatchers are such a critical component of those teams. They honored them and wanted to publicly thank them as well for their service. That is the first voice people hear on the worst day of their life. They wanted to give them all the thanks they deserve.

He also wanted to thank Jon Moeggenberg. He was able to get Fire and Police a training house. It is really hard to train in concrete structures that we have training facilities are fantastic, but when you can get in an acquired structure to train in that is important. Fairborn and Police and Fire Departments were able to utilize those structures over several days and really get some good training over on Vine Street. They were minimally disruptive to the citizens out there. They had some positive engagement while they were training as well.

The Fairborn Police Department has earned their accreditation through the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Accreditation Program under the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Fairborn Police Department is now one of 10 accredited departments of over 900 law enforcement agencies in the State of Ohio.

Captain Steve Holcomb was awarded the Chief Deputy Adam R. Clark Memorial Award for exceptional accreditation Manager actions. He knocked this out in a fantastic amount of time. He is very meticulous and did a really good job throughout this process. If you would like to learn more about this and what their staff did, including the officers in the department, please reach out to Chief Roman.

The Government Center will be closed at 11:00 a.m. on April 25, 2025, for the annual Employee appreciation lunch and awards ceremony. The awards will be presented at approximately 2:30 pm at Bowl 10. Public safety, public works and all the other critical departments will be available 24/7 and there will be no noted change in service during that time.

He acknowledged Mike Evers who has been a firefighter/paramedic for 18 years. As said they are sad to see him go, but they want to congratulate him as he is promoted to the rank of Captain in his hometown of Englewood. He is going to be the Captain of EMS. Losing people is tough but when they go on to do bigger things and take on new leadership positions it is a compliment to our staff here in Fairborn and the members of the Fairborn Fire Department. All the best to Mike.

Another big hit to the City is Detective Ryan Whittaker who will be retiring after 28 years with the Police Department. Detective Whittaker has the reputation of being an outstanding officer and detective. He is a fantastic person, and he wanted to congratulate Ryan as he retires on Friday.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Chess welcomed the new employees to the Fairborn family. She saw a lot of comments online about dispatchers. It is absolutely amazing. People were talking about how dispatchers in Fairborn are so helpful. That is refreshing to hear people actually say good things about what we do in the City of Fairborn. She thanked God for those dispatchers. She gave a shout out to the retirees of the City and to those who have moved on. She thanked Ryan Wiliams for stepping in as Acting City Manager and thanked Nate Rose for also stepping in for Mr. McNamee.

Councilman McCubbins congratulated the new hires and welcomed them into the Fairborn family. He also wished those well who were leaving, firefighter Evers on his promotion and Detective Whittaker on his retirement. He also congratulated the Police for obtaining that accreditation. Accreditation in any business or industry is really tough, so in order to get that and maintain it is a big goal. Congratulations to Captain Holcomb for being able to pull that off. Hopefully, everyone had a successful Spring Break and they come back safely and everything is going well. He hopes everyone had a happy Easter. The last thing he wanted to talk about were the roads for the City of Fairborn. For those who don't know we have approximately 140 miles of center lane or 308 lane miles of roads. We do have a structured road program where we do repairs. They kind of pick the roads ahead of time that they are going to do the repairs on and it is based on a very complicated formula that they call a pavement rating system. If you are interested, you can go to our home page. Go to the government site, then engineering and there is a link on the left called pavement condition and you can pull that up and you will get to see two lists. One is alphabetical and one is by rating. This year they are doing the ratings based on what they call the remaining surface life from a 0-20 scale. That is the estimated life left of a particular road based on all these factors and the algorithm. If you are ever curious as to where your road stands amongst those in the City go out there and take a look at that. It is a great tool that the City uses in order to project construction needs down the road. So, they can combine things in one where they do curbs, sidewalks, streets, water, and gas. They try to do it all at the same time if they can.

Councilwoman Stanton welcomed the new hires to the City. She thanked the retirees for their service. She congratulated the Police Department on their accreditation. She thanked Councilman McCubbins for sharing the information about the roads.

Councilman Fritzsche welcomed the new hires. He thinks they will be happy that they have chosen Fairborn. He said farewell to those that are leaving the City. He wishes them well on their endeavors.

Deputy Mayor Reaster welcomed the new hires. As always, thank you for choosing to serve the citizens of Fairborn. We do appreciate you. She wished Detective Whittaker well wishes saying may retirement be everything that he wants it to be. She did have the opportunity to meet and work with Mike Evers last year on the "Carry the Load" project. They walked 4.5 miles from Station Three all the way over to Wright State University. He is a super human. Our loss is their gain.

She gave a huge shout out to the girls' softball team at Baker Middle School. Last weekend they went up against the only other undefeated team in the league and they beat Greenville Green 6-0. That was an incredible game, and she was honored to be there and watch it happen. She explained the Baker Middle School demolition continues. If you have not seen it, they will start putting bricks out as they start to take down the facade. They are doing a great job of communicating on that progress. It is a long and tedious process but be patient it is happening.

Next Tuesday, April 29th they will be doing the groundbreaking at 4:30 p.m. for the new Middle School which will sit just south of the new high school. It is going to be a partial campus. It will be super exciting, and this is where we finish the dream. None of this could have happened without the voters and residents of the City of Fairborn approving this. Thank you. It is going to be incredible, if not more incredible, than the high school. Spring has sprung. The first mow of the season happened this past week for her. She just reminded everyone to keep their grass clippings off of the road for the motorcycles and also for the storm and sewer drains. She reiterated what Mr. McCubbins said she hopes that everyone had a great Easter. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for watching.

Mayor Kirkpatrick stated the Easter Bunny made an appearance at the Chamber Easter Egg Hunt at Central Park. They had a huge turnout for that. He stated there will be a lot of work going on at Memorial Park. For those that contributed bricks for the Veteran's Memorial be aware that they have picked up all of the bricks and removed them because they discovered that weeds were starting to grow through them. So, they are putting in a new foundation for all of the bricks over the next week or so. They will be resetting the bricks and putting in the second order of bricks. They will be starting on the walls for the memorial soon. The flagpoles are going in and they are doing some finishing work on the walkways. Our Memorial Park is truly going to be the envy of the Miami Valley. The Parks Department has done a fantastic job working with the contractors and thanks to everyone involved with that. They want to make sure that people are aware that if they go out there now or in the next day or two the bricks are no longer there because they are redoing the foundation because they discovered a problem with the weeds growing up. The veteran's group is still accepting brick forms and will be for several years until they fill up all the spaces. The Hometown Hero banner program is active. There are forms at various places throughout the City if you would like to do those. The Veteran Banners this year will be on Main Street downtown. Those will go up around the weekend of Memorial Day

toward the end of May. Kudos to the new hires. He tagged on to what the Chief said about the accreditation of the Police Department. They went to Columbus a little over a year ago for the start of that program where Governor DeWine met with them and read off what he was doing with it and it is as Chief Williams said to be one of only 10 across the entire state to be accredited is really a strong point for the Police Department especially to Captain Steve Holcomb.

As was also mentioned our awards ceremony for staff is this Friday. He congratulated retiring detective Ryan Whittaker for 28 years of service. Please congratulate him if you see him. The next Council Work Session will be Monday, May 5th at 5:00 p.m. in the Fire Training Room followed by the Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The next one after that will be Monday, May 19th with the Council Work Session at 5:00 p.m. in the Fire Training Room and then followed by the Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. There will not be a Citizens' Forum in April or May. They will see a lot more coming out about some enhanced opportunities for citizens, staff, and council member interactions. Our Communications Manager, Emily Gay, is working hard getting that program put together.

Regardless of your religious beliefs and values, they found out today that Pope Francis had passed. He had been the Pope and spiritual leader for the Catholic Church for many years. President Trump has ordered flags at half-staff. Again, regardless of your spiritual values and beliefs, please be aware that it is going on for many people and that is a significant part of their life. You will see the process of selecting a new Pope over the next few weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Reaster made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Fritzsche seconded the motion. Yeas, six: Reaster, Fritzsche, Chess, McCubbins, Stanton and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK, CITY OF FAIRBORN