REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2026 – 7:00 PM
EXECUTIVE SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

CALL TO ORDER

President Jim Fodor called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. City Council convened for a regular meeting in Council Chambers – Courtroom #1.

ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE

Councilpersons Derrick Abney, Nick Augustine, Lori DiNallo, Jim Fodor, and Christine Shoop were present. Paul Hach arrived at 7:04. Mario Rodriguez was not able to attend.

Mrs. Shoop moved to excuse Mr. Rodriguez from tonight's meeting, seconded by Mrs. DiNallo. All Council members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried.

Other City Staff in attendance: City Manager Doug Lewis, Law Director Jim Lyons, Economic Development Director Susan Crotty, Police Chief Dan Waterman, Director of Planning Sarah Sitterle, Finance Director Bill Parkinson, Human Resources Director Kris Young, Water Superintendent Orin McMonigle, Electric Superintendent Joe Price, and Clerk of Council Samantha Danielson.

APPROVE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED

Mr. Fodor asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Mr. Augustine moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Shoop. All Council members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried. Agenda approved.

INVOCATION was given by Councilperson Derrick Abney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

MINUTES: Regular Meeting 01.20.26

Mr. Fodor asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on January 20, 2026.

Mr. Augustine moved to approve the amended minutes from the Regular Meeting on January 20, 2026, seconded by Mrs. Shoop. All Council members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ray Sternot, President of the Heisley Park HOA, addressed the Council regarding snowplow trucks damaging mailboxes in Heisley Park. He explained he came before Council to talk about snowplow trucks taking out mailboxes and mailbox posts in Heisley Park. This is still happening, and Mr. Lewis and Mr. Hach were provided with a video of it continuing to occur. As he previously indicated, the HOA Board voted to require that all replacement posts be 4x4 posts covered with white vinyl as part of the Heisley Park like-for-like replacement policy. He noted that the like-for-like and white vinyl post policy was established with the developer under the City's Planning Commission design review and approval process. Those standards were established to make Heisley Park the jewel of the city. His discussions with Mr. Lewis at that time indicated that the City would possibly be establishing an inventory of white vinyl posts replacements for Heisley Park. Further, he was led to believe that Heisley residents might be charged the approximate difference in costs of about $30. He hoped this is still the case as City replacement of wooden ones in Heisley Park would cause residents to have an HOA non-conformance fee. He suggested another option. In order to minimize the cost difference to Heisley Park residents and avoid design requirement fees and to maintain the City approved design aesthetics, why not standardize the placement of vinyl covered posts throughout the city rather than continuing to use the cheap unpainted wooden ones?

COMMITTEE REPORT: None

LEGISLATION:
ITEM #1 ORDINANCE

***2nd Reading* – An Ordinance amending the District Map and the Setback Map referred to in Section 1113.03 of the Painesville Code of 1998 Rezoning a 5-acre portion of Permanent Parcel Numbers 35-A-001-0-00-004-0, and 35-A-001-0-00-011-0 located at Shamrock**

Boulevard, from B-2, General Business District, to B-1, Business/Residential District. ***(1st Reading 01.20.26)***

Director of Planning Sarah Sitterle spoke on this piece of legislation and presented the information regarding rezoning. She explained this is property located on the east side of Shamrock Boulevard. The property is currently zoned B-2 General Business and consists of 2 parcels owned by Shamrock North Commercial, LLC to be subdivided into a 5-acre parcel for the development of the Silver Birch Assisted Living Facility. This proposal is to accommodate age restricted housing under Section 1115.02 of the Unified Development Code. These parcels and the surrounding parcels owned by Shamrock Commercial, LLC and Shamrock Commercial, LLC are currently undeveloped and will be part of a business park development that is currently being reviewed by the Planning Commission. Planning Commission have a development agreement draft that is being reviewed, and also have covenants, conditions, and restrictions being reviewed as well. That will be part of the Planning Commission's task for the business part. This will go to a third reading of public hearing at the February 17, 2026 meeting and staff recommends approval of this proposal. Mrs. Shoop expressed concern about ensuring the remainder of the property would be developed commercially as originally intended rather than additional senior housing. City Manager Doug Lewis explained that they were working with the developer on specific uses for the remaining site, with a focus on including industrial development for additional jobs and income tax base. The developer recently provided concept plans that staff would be reviewing. There was further discussion about the price per acre for the property, with Mrs. Shoop mentioning rumors about high pricing that might deter average development until an interchange is built. City Manger Doug Lewis explained how it does meet the requirement of the Comprehensive Plan, and the development is consistent with the intent of the Unified Development Code in several aspects of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan. Loredo Iaselice, representing Shamrock Commercial, reiterated what Ms. Sitterle stated that they are here on behalf of Shamrock Commercial. They are the ones who will be doing the business park overlay, now being called Renaissance 2, and then Darrin Jolas is here on behalf of Vermillion Development. They will be part of this business park, Renaissance II. They attended tonight's meeting to answer any questions, and will be attending the public hearing at the next council meeting. Mr. Fodor encouraged Council Members to get any additional questions to Doug Lewis before the third reading and public hearing scheduled for February 17, 2026, so the public can hear both questions and answers.

This will go to third reading.

ITEM #2 ORDINANCE

2nd Reading **– An Ordinance amending appropriations for the current expenses and expenditures of the City of Painesville, State of Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and adopting the operating budget, and declaring an emergency.** ***(1st Reading 01.20.26)***

Finance Director Bill Parkinson spoke on this piece of legislation. He stated there were a few budget adjustments: 1.) An adjustment to the Fire Levy Fund of moving $40,000 from a capital account (ambulance remount project) to a contractual service for pest control, AED maintenance, and fire/EMS records maintenance; 2.) Adding $28,000.00 for DPO to the general fund budget; 3.) Allocating $1,500,000.00 for sewer plant fire repairs due to a fire, with $1,400,000.00 expected from insurance (the City has a $100,000 deductible). This would increase the revenue line item in the sewer fund by $1,400,000.00 and increase expenditure lines by $1,500,000.00 ($100,000.00 for supplies and $1,400,000.00 for professional services); and 4.) Adding $2,700,000.00 to the federal grant fund for the solar field project, which is fully reimbursable by the solar grant. This is related to the EITRI Consulting contract for the construction of the solar field. There was discussion about the fire at the wastewater plant, with Mrs. DiNallo asking what parts of the plant were operational. City Manager Doug Lewis explained that the bay where the truck caught fire was damaged, but the plant was otherwise operational. The insurance company was assessing the damage, which included melted electrical components, and the press itself would need replacement at a cost of around $1.2 million. A temporary sludge press trailer had been rented to maintain operations.

Mr. Augustine moved to suspend, seconded by Mr. Abney.

On roll call, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Augustine moved to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Shoop.

On roll call, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCE 01-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #3 ORDINANCE

***1st Reading* – An Ordinance amending Section 167.07 of the Painesville Code of 1998 relating to the Classification and Compensation Plan, and declaring an emergency.**

Human Resources Director Kris Young spoke on this piece of legislation. She explained this legislation in 2024, the City of Painesville was awarded $80,665,000 through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. To manage the scope and responsibilities associated with these projects, a job description for an Electric Project Manager position was developed in August 2025. The position was advertised through multiple professional and local platforms; however, only two applications were received, neither of which met the minimum qualifications for the role. In November 2025, approved by Council, the position title was revised to Solar/BESS and Sustainability Project Manager to broaden the candidate pool. One qualified applicant was identified through this process. During the interview process, it became clear that the candidate's extensive public electric utility experience would also support succession planning needs within the City's Electric Department, including both generation and distribution operations. This ordinance proposes revising the position title to include the duties of Assistant Electric Superintendent. With this change, the position would be trained to support and learn the responsibilities of the Electric Superintendent, Electric Generation Supervisor, and Electric Distribution Supervisor, providing operational continuity and long-term workforce planning benefits. The new title will be Sustainability Project Manager/Assistant Electric Superintendent. The position will remain a Class Grade 25. In recognition of the expanded scope of responsibilities, the position will be supplemented with the following stipends: (1) An annual education/degree stipend; (2) An annual Certified Maintenance and Reliability Professional (CMRP) stipend; and (3) A stipend for serving as Backup to the Electric Generation Supervisor as part of succession planning efforts. Approximately 87% of the annual salary will be funded through the CPRG grant, with the remaining 13% funded by the City Electric Fund. The total salary will be $135,000. City Administration respectfully requests that City Council waive the three readings and approve the renaming of the full-time position to Sustainability Project Manager/Assistant Electric Superintendent, allowing administration to proceed with a conditional offer of employment. The stipends would be approximately $10,000.

Mrs. Shoop moved to suspend, seconded by Mr. Augustine.

On roll call, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mrs. Shoop moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Augustine.

On roll call, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCE 02-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #4 RESOLUTION

2nd Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to advertise for bids and enter into a contract, including any and all ensuing change orders, with the lowest and best bidder for the Elm Street SRTS Sidewalk Installation, and declaring an emergency. *(1st Reading 01.20.26)

City Manager Doug Lewis spoke on this piece of legislation. He stated in 2025, the City applied for a grant through ODOT for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding for the installation of sidewalks along Elm Street from Lighthouse Pointe to Elm Street Elementary. The City received this grant and has completed the design of the project. This will continue from Lighthouse Pointe to State Street. The cost associated with this project is $310,000.00 and is accounted for in the Engineering Capital budget under a SRTS grant from ODOT. Staff is asking for permission to bid and award the project to move the project forward this spring. Mrs. DiNallo noted that residents have been extremely happy with the sidewalk work already completed in this area.

Mrs. Shoop moved to suspend, seconded by Mr. Augustine.

On roll call, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mrs. Shoop moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Hach.

On roll call, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 01-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #5 RESOLUTION

2nd Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to advertise for bids and enter into a contract, including any and all ensuing change orders, with the lowest and best bidder for Auburn Water Tank repairs and painting, and declaring an emergency. *(1st Reading 01.20.26)

Water Superintendent Orin McMonigle spoke on this piece of legislation. He explained that the Auburn water tank was last painted in the 1990s and the coating is failing, requiring painting before the metal inside rusts away. The work needs to be bid out as soon as possible to get it done before summer for better pricing and to avoid weather-related delays. The City has enough water capacity with two water towers for that pressure district, so there would be no disruption to water service during the project.

Mrs. Shoop moved to suspend, seconded by Mr. Hach.

On roll call, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mrs. DiNallo moved to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Shoop.

On roll call, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 02-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #6 RESOLUTION

2nd Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to advertise for bids and enter into a contract, including any and all ensuing change orders, with the lowest and best bidder for Chlorine Room Building and Feed System, and declaring an emergency. *(1st Reading 01.20.26)

Water Superintendent Orin McMonigle spoke on this piece of legislation. He explained that the current system uses large gas cylinders sitting outside that were originally installed in 1972. The EPA has determined this is no longer acceptable. The City plans to replace the chlorine gas, which is extremely dangerous, with sodium hypochlorite (industrial-strength bleach), which is much less hazardous in case of a spill. The project is expected to receive OPWC grant funding starting in June.

Mrs. Shoop moved to suspend, seconded by Mrs. DiNallo.

On roll call, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mrs. Shoop moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Hach.

On roll call, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 03-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #7 RESOLUTION

2nd Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to take all actions necessary to effect an Opt-Out Natural Gas Aggregation Program pursuant to Section 4929.26, Ohio Revised Code, directing the County Board of Elections to submit a ballot question to the electors, and declaring an emergency. *(1st Reading 01.20.26)

Ross McDonald, Director of Community Expansion – NOPEC (Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council), recapped information he presented at the January 20, 2026 Council Meeting regarding the merits of proposing opt-out natural gas aggregation to the voters. This would give residents a choice of whether or not to authorize Painesville to aggregate the retail natural gas loads on their behalf. An opt-out program is a program that residents receive a letter informing them that they been enrolled, and unless they fill out a form and send it in, they will be included with the aggregation program. Residents have a 21-day period to opt-out of the program. Mr. McDonald explained the benefit to aggregation regarding pricing.

An extensive discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of an opt-out program. He explained the difference between and opt-out vs. an opt-in program; He explained the NOPEC is

a nonprofit governmental entity and uses the monies for an annual grant program; It was clarified that the City could use NOPEC to serve as a broker who currently serve 245 communities in Northeast Ohio and all of Ohio. Mr. McDonald explained that before the City creates a program or chooses a provider like a broker or NOPEC, there must be two public hearings; It was questioned why NOPEC could not match individual rates that are available on the open market. Mr. McDonald explained that NOPEC provides stable, predictable pricing without termination fees, allowing customers to leave at any time if they find better rates; Residents will not be given an option or solicited by NOPEC if they are in a current contract with another gas supplier; A concern was brought forth regarding the City taking on the responsibility for residents' gas rates and potential backlash if rates aren't favorable; Debate between which, Enbridge or NOPEC, would be in the best interest of the residents and the expectation that council members are acting in the best interest of the residents; Mr. McDonald explained how NOPEC brings new individuals into the aggregation program once they come off their contract; and it was clarified that residents would be provided a consumer education curriculum.

Law Director Mr. Lyons asked Mr. McDonald to clarify some of the processes: NOPEC is a government entity that is subject to being audited by the auditor of the state of Ohio; Passing this resolution doesn't obligate the City to sign up with NOPEC but does authorize the City to allow the voters to vote on it. If the voters say yes, the City would look at an aggregation program, and then then Council would have to decide what aggregation program to do or not. There's a process in statute that provides how that process happens. The City could end up with NOPEC or if a council wanted to go forward, could end up with another aggregator; The only people that would go immediately into that aggregation with NOPEC would be people that are not currently on a contract and a resident can opt-out without a penalty; NOPEC does provide information/education through their website and call center and would be able to know their eligibility to join the program and details of their current contract; Council has the ability to withdrawal the question from the ballot within a deadline date; and if the voters vote on establishing a program, Council has the ability to implement the start of the program at their discretion

Ray Sternot, President of the Heisley Park HOA, addressed Council stating at the last council meeting he listened intently to the NOPEC Natural Gas Opt-Out Aggregation Ballot Issue presentation, because many residents of Heisley Park would like to have a choice of an alternative gas provider. However, as a resident, he could not comment or ask questions during or after the presentation because of Council rules as to when residents can speak. His unaddressed concern at the time was how Heisley Park residents would benefit from this legislation since they do not currently have a choice of gas providers like the options described by Ms. Shoop or Mr. Lewis. He has since contacted Ohio PUCO and found out that Energy Choice is not required to be provided by all gas companies. It is optional whether they want to participate or not. In fact, currently only four gas companies in the state participate. They are Enbridge (formerly East Ohio); Columbia Gas; Centerpoint Energy (Vectren); and Duke Energy. Smaller gas companies do not have to participate, and the Ohio Legislature has not made participation a requirement. Bottom line is that there is currently no benefit to this program for Heisley Park or Encore Estates residents since they are not served by any of the four participating gas companies. He sees this as a definite issue for any person wanting to purchase a home in either Heisley Park or Encore Estates. As such, he would recommend that the city contact Hope Energy out of Indiana and request that they voluntarily join the program for Painesville residents. Alternatively, he would request initiate legislation that requires any gas company serving Painesville to be part of the Choice program. It might also be prudent to have the City approach state legislators to make this program mandatory for all Ohio residents. He has also contacted Senator Cerino and Hope Energy to consider joining NOPEC and would like the support of Council to help all residents.

Mr. McDonald concluded that NOPEC is a partner for residents and a partner for rate payers. They would do everything in their power to support our ability to serve. They would do what they could with the Ohio Consumers Council and through the PUCO to try to figure that out but that's on the utility side and their own decision.

Mr. Augustine moved to suspend, seconded by Mr. Abney.

On roll call, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Mrs. DiNallo and Mrs. Shoop answered "No". Motion failed to suspend.

This will go to third reading.

ITEM #8 RESOLUTION

***1st Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to advertise for bids and enter into a contract, including any and all ensuing change orders, with the**

lowest and best bidder for Filter Media Replacement in 7, 8, 9, and 10 Filters, and declaring an emergency.

Water Superintendent Orin McMonigle spoke on this piece of legislation. He explained that the filter media in these filters was last replaced in 2003 and needs replacement due to age. It is in the budget to be replaced with the engineering plans completed. The media consists of special filter sand and anthracite that must meet specific specifications approved by an independent laboratory and the EPA. Filters 2 and 6 were replaced previously due to other issues, and filters 1, 3, 4, and 5 are planned for replacement next year.

Mrs. DiNallo moved to suspend, seconded by Mrs. Shoop.

On roll call, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mrs. Shoop moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Hach.

On roll call, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 04-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #9 RESOLUTION

***1st Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to publish a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Engineering Procurement & Construction (EPC) provider/contractor for the specified BESS system project benefiting the customers of Painesville Electric and the City of Painesville, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.**

Superintendent Joe Price spoke on this piece of legislation. He stated that the City has been working since September on creating a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) document for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), which has undergone legal review and vetting. This resolution would authorize publishing an RFQ to hire an Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) contractor for a turnkey battery storage system, funded through the $80,665,000 awarded for solar and battery projects. The process would involve qualified companies submitting their qualifications, with the City selecting three finalists to enter into negotiations. It is in the best interest of the City of Painesville to publish an RFQ for a turnkey BESS system seeking our EPC contractor as funded in part by and through the 2024 CPRG award, and as allowed by law for material, supplies, and services defined in the CRPG Budget Narrative for BESS development in Painesville, Ohio. If everything proceeds as planned, a contract could be awarded by late April or early May. EITRI Foundry and Encompass Engineering are partnered up to provide services that will be related to this. Primarily, Encompass Engineering is going to design both of our interconnections at our substations for solar and for battery. Encompass will review the proposals from the battery energy storage companies that the City would be considering to build this project. EITRI primary focus is engineering, engineering, and the architectural design of the solar site, but they have worked together hand in hand before in projects like this. So, they will be engaged as part of that $2.9 million this year. Their contracts have total of $3.9 over 5 years or 4 years. This will be a separate award to a single contractor for a turnkey operation. The City is anticipating the time, once it's awarded, based on supply chain issues to take approximately 15 and 18 months to make it operational. The battery system will be located at the Richmond Road substation. Mr. Price also noted preliminary discussions with Cuyahoga County EPA about potentially increasing the system from 10 megawatts to as much as 20 megawatts, pending justification and pricing information.

Mrs. Shoop moved to suspend, seconded by Mr. Hach.

On roll call, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mrs. Shoop moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Hach.

On roll call, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 05-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #10 RESOLUTION

***1st Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to advertise for bids and enter into a contract, including any and all ensuing change orders, with the lowest and**

best bidder for Lucille Avenue water main replacement and authorizing the replacement of the Hayes Street water main by City Force Account Work, and declaring an emergency.

Water Superintendent Orin McMonigle spoke on this piece of legislation. He stated that these water main replacements are part of the approved budget for replacing aging water infrastructure. The City has 150 miles of water mains, some extremely old. Hayes Street has a 4-inch cast iron main from the 1930s that is on the list for being in disrepair, while Lucille Avenue has a 6-inch cast iron main that will be replaced with PVC. The Hayes Street work can be done by city forces, but Lucille Avenue requires outside contractors. The resolution authorizes ordering materials to begin the work.

Mr. Augustine moved to suspend, seconded by Mrs. Shoop.

On roll call, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mr. Hach moved to adopt, seconded by Mrs. Shoop.

On roll call, Mr. Hach, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 06-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #11 RESOLUTION

***1st Reading* – A Resolution authorizing the City of Painesville, Ohio, to proceed with the demolition of an unsafe structure located at 413 Chardon Street, in the City of Painesville, Lake County, Ohio, and to request the assistance and cooperation of the Lake County Land Reutilization Corporation in effecting the same, and declaring an emergency.**

City Manager Doug Lewis spoke on this piece of legislation. He explained that the City purchased 413 Chardon Street in August 2025 for economic development purposes. This resolution would authorize working with the Lake County Land Revitalization Corporation to demolish the property, with the city potentially responsible for 50% of the cost, not to exceed $15,000. The Land Bank has submitted a grant application with a letter from the City but needs certified legislation to complete the application. This is a joint project, and the City owns the property.

Mrs. Shoop moved to suspend, seconded by Mr. Augustine.

On roll call, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried.

Mrs. Shoop moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Hach.

On roll call, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 6-0.

RESOLUTION 07-26 is ADOPTED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Letter to Painesville Senior Leadership Team

This was put on hold until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Law Director and City Manager

Law Director Jim Lyons noted that the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project represents the first design-build project in the City's history. This approach, allowed under Ohio law since 2011, changes the process for building public improvements by having a single contractor handle design and construction in a turnkey operation, rather than the traditional approach of hiring an engineer to design the project first, then bidding it out to contractors.

City Manager Doug Lewis reported on the following items: The City sent nomination forms for the John F. Clair Award to Painesville businesses via email but have not received any responses yet. Deadline for nominations is Wednesday, February 4th; Met with property owners of 170-174 Main Street to discuss plans for building. The second-floor renovations are near completion and first-floor retail space is in progress; Met with property owners of 154 Main Street for progress update and to discuss plans for building. They will be seeking a variance to change the size of the second-floor apartments. They are working on completing the renovations on the first-floor and working with retailers; Meetings are scheduled for Business Retention & Expansion with PCC Airfoils and for Grand Rock for February; Squad 2312 has been repaired

and has been returned to front-line service. He thanked Fairport Harbor for lending a squad during repairs; A fatal fire occurred at 69 Levan Drive, and he thanked the fire departments from Painesville Township, Concord, Fairport Harbor, Perry Joint Fire District, Madison, Leroy, and Mentor for mutual aid; The Public Service Department and Parks & Recreation and Public Lands have done excellent work clearing streets and sidewalks during recent winter weather; The City received 1,200 tons of salt over the past three weeks, alleviating concerns about salt shortages; Summer camp registrations went live on our website, and the City is hiring camp counselors; and contracts for the summer concert series bands are being finalized and as soon dates are confirmed, the City will be working on marketing materials.

CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk of Council

The next regular Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17th at 7:00 PM and City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 16th for President's Day.

CLOSING COMMENTS: Members of Council

Mr. Abney had no comments at this time.

Mr. Augustine had no comments at this time.

Mrs. DiNallo noted her appreciation for the detailed RFQ for the Battery Energy Storage Project (BESS) and to continue to inform residents of the progress of this project. She expressed condolences to the family and friends regarding the fatal fire on Levan Drive. She also mentioned her appreciation for the upcoming spring and summer activities. She expressed that sometimes the Council Members have a difference of opinion on what the best interest is for the residents. She did not want to suggest that other Council Members are not acting in the best interest of others.

Mr. Hach had no comments at this time.

Mrs. Shoop emphasized the importance of residents clearing snow from around fire hydrants, noting that it could take firefighters 5-10 minutes to clear snow-covered hydrants in an emergency. She thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

Mr. Fodor thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and for their time, effort and energy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Augustine made a motion to move into an Executive Session being held in accordance with Article II, Section 6(3) To discuss pending or potential litigation involving the City, seconded by Mrs. Shoop.

All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to move into the Executive Session at 8:59 PM.

Mr. Fodor asked for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session.

Mrs. Shoop moved to adjourn the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Hach. All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:23 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fodor asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting.

Mr. Augustine moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting, seconded by Mr. Abney. All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:24 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM.

Samantha Danielson
Clerk of Council

Jim Fodor
President of Council