REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 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, Mario Rodriguez and Christine Shoop were present. Paul Hach arrived at 7:02 PM.

Other City Staff in attendance: City Manager Doug Lewis, Assistant City Manager Tony Zampedro, Law Director Jim Lyons, Economic Development Director Susan Crotty, Director of Planning Sarah Sitterle, Finance Director Bill Parkinson, Police Chief Dan Waterman, Public Service Director Jarod McCrone, Public Information Officer Mike Cook, and Clerk of Council Samantha Danielson

APPROVE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED

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

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

INVOCATION was given by Councilperson Nick Augustine.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

MINUTES: Regular Meeting 03.16.26

Mr. Fodor asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 16, 2026.

Mrs. Shoop moved to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 16, 2026, seconded by Mr. Augustine. All Council members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried. Minutes approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: John F. Clair Award

Economic Development Director Susan Crotty presented the 2026 John F. Clair Economic Development Award to Grand Rock Company, Inc. The award recognizes businesses that exemplify a balance between professional success and community service, investing their time and energy into strengthening the City. Haris Tokalic, President, along with Justin Ropos, Plant Manager, and John Polz, Administrative and Financial Manager, accepted the award. Jan Clair and Heather Clair, widow and daughter of John Clair, assisted with the presentation. President Jim Fodor and Vice President Nick Augustine presented them with a proclamation. Mr. Tokalic expressed gratitude for the recognition and shared pride in seeing Grand Rock products labeled "Painesville, Ohio".

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sue Kidd, of Sanford Street, addressed Council regarding the current garbage pickup service. She described it as "terrible," saying she has never had so much trouble with garbage pickup in her 32 years. She explained that she picks up more garbage than the haulers do the day after pickup, and half the time her bin doesn't get emptied, creating a mess. She pays $61.20 every three months and then goes out to pick up what the haulers let blow around. She asked if the City could look into getting a different garbage pickup service. President Fodor informed her that the City is in the process of negotiations regarding trash haulers, which will be determined in the next couple of months. He asked if she had contacted the trash haulers directly. Ms. Kidd responded that she had called several times, and their response was that they would try to get somebody out to clean it up. Mr. Fodor suggested she contact City Manager Doug Lewis at City Hall to voice her concerns. City Manager Lewis explained the process, stating that if residents take pictures and email them to the City, they will definitely address issues with Republic Waste. Ms. Kidd also mentioned that Sanford Street has never been resurfaced in her 32 years there, with the City only patching and re-patching. She asked if there would ever be a chance for Sanford to get resurfaced. Mr. Lewis responded that they are looking at it, but explained it's not as simple as just resurfacing due to drainage issues. If they resurface without addressing drainage problems, they would be back out there in 5 to 8 years with the same situation. The City is looking at how to resolve

drainage issues on Sanford and considering programming it or applying for funding through NOACA to address drainage and other infrastructure issues comprehensively.

Ray Sternot, Heisley Park HOA Board President, shared concerns about flooding in Heisley Park development. He stated that the HOA has been reviewing Army Corps documents and conducting on-site field research, identifying actual issues with the City's stormwater system in Heisley Park. He warned that flooding would not only affect Heisley Park but would also negatively impact Painesville. He outlined several specific concerns: 1.) A realigned stream according to plans that does not exist; 2.) The planned path of the realigned stream is blocked; 3.) Wasson Ditch has been observed pushing water back into their pond, blocking stormwater from getting to the lake; 4.) Groundwater is getting into the stormwater system based on their observations, and their ponds were not designed to manage both storm and groundwater; 5.) French drains have been installed in some areas directing groundwater into stormwater infrastructure with no data on the impact of stormwater pond design; and 6.) An external pump was added for sanitary sewer being crushed by stream and trench on Birchwood circa 2010. He pleaded for support from Council and the Painesville management team, specifically Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Exum, to engage the Army Corps, Ohio EPA, and Lake County stormwater management organizations to address their concerns as promised. Drawing on his over 30 years of experience as a planner and project manager in the planning and engineering department of a large utility, he emphasized that there are stormwater issues in Painesville that need to be addressed. He asked Council not to continue telling them this is just an HOA, Mortell, Army Corps, Ohio EPA, or Lake County stormwater issue, stating it's a Painesville stormwater issue and residents deserve attention and support. In closing, he asked if anyone else besides the HOA was concerned about the potential flooding of Heisley Park and its impact on Painesville.

President Fodor acknowledged Council's concern and noted they are going through a process. City Manager Doug Lewis confirmed there is a meeting set up for Thursday, April 14th, regarding the results of the dredging company, though Mr. Sternot clarified this meeting would only address specific results, not all the issues, and would only be an hour long.

David Biro Sr., of Thornwood Lane, expressed concern as someone who made an investment in the community, believing his investment was safe and secure. After reading documents the City provided, which he described as "limited at best," he became extremely concerned that residents are in a bad position. He emphasized he wouldn't bring this concern lightly and has done field observations. Mr. Biro thanked Mr. Lewis and the City for investigating storm sewers in front of and behind his house to check for blockages. However, he remains extremely concerned for the 500 residents at Heisley Park, describing it as a great community that loves Painesville and wants to be a great partner with the City. He concluded that based on what the City has sent them, there are definite troubles.

President Fodor reiterated that the issue isn't going away and they will follow the process. Video cannot be submitted due to security reasons. Pictures are welcome to be submitted but need to be reviewed prior to the meeting.

David Wojciechowski, of Nelmar Drive, who manages multiple properties in Painesville and lives in Painesville Township, addressed Republic Waste Service issues. He stated he has had "horrendous service" from Republic for a long period. He noted that when the City eliminated competition and went to one provider, quality and service declined. While they might have gotten a good price, he doesn't believe residents want a good price for poor service. Mr. Wojciechowski explained he regularly talks to Doug Edwards and Brian Rogers, describing them as "exasperated." He mentioned that they had a phone number to contact them, but Republic canceled that phone number and now they only have an email address, and Republic isn't responsive because there's no recourse. He asked Council not to renew the lease agreement or contract unless they add enforcement and provide a phone number for recourse when service is poor, calling the current situation "a clown show." He emphasized this affects Painesville residents significantly on a regular basis.

President Fodor thanked him for his input and noted the coincidence that both speakers addressed the same garbage service issue.

COMMITTEE REPORT: Utility Committee, JEDD

Utility Committee

Mr. Hach gave a report for this committee which was held on March 18, 2026. The following items were discussed: Electric Superintendent Joe Price gave updates on 3 items: 1.) The Electric Department has a new job classification - Mike Dougherty was introduced to the committee as the Assistant Electric Department Superintendent/Sustainability Project Manager; 2.) Solar Project Progress: noting the city has secured land; the City took delivery of solar panels totaling 25.5MWDC, more than 50,000 535W panels; 2/3 of the panels are stored in Painesville

and about 1/3 are stored in a secure site located in Cleveland; the sites had security systems and video cameras as well; and there is a warranty over the first 15-years and a deprecation of the warranty claim through year 25; 3.) BESS (Battery Energy Storage System): a formal request to the EPA was sent to seek approval to build 20MW of battery, a 10MW increase, and the build 25MW of solar, a 10MW decrease; and fire risk was brought up. Fires in battery systems are rare, more likely in hotter climates. The TESLA may have a built-in fire suppression system, and the batteries will not be located directly under transmission or distribution lines as an added safety measure. Kevin Aiken, Water Pollution Control Superintendent, gave an update regarding "Tap Fees". The current residential tap fee was established in 1967 at $150.00. It was noted costs of infrastructure replacement since 1967 have risen by more than 860%. Costs of inflation were given; $150.00 in 1967 is equal to $1,450.00 in 2025; and regional data and cost comparisons were provided, emphasizing the gap in costs and the need to increase the price of a tap fee for future needs regarding sewage treatment and for fee modernization. This would only impact new taps in the system. The meeting adjourned after having no other business to discuss.

JEDD

Mrs. Shoop gave a report for this committee which was held on March 27, 2026. The following items were discussed: Under Business Correspondence: Morgan MacIntosh discussed attendance at the Steering Committee for the Concord Comprehensive Plan, reporting good outcomes with Concord Trustees planning to make a presentation to the JEDD board in the future; The finance report showed revenue breakdown for the three entities: JEDD received $45,593.73, the City of Painesville received $131,182.01, and Concord Township received $390,246.01. The JEDD has money invested in Star Ohio investments with revenue through February of $1,548.11 compared to $1,750.81 last year. Interest rates were 4.5% in 2025 compared to 3.8% this year. Total receipts for JEDD in Star Ohio are $251,858.59. Annual JEDD financial statements required to be filed with the auditor were approved; Under Economic Development: the University Hospitals Administration Building paperwork is in progress to be admitted to the JEDD, meaning more income tax for the three entities; Old Business: For JEDD membership recruitment, a suggestion was made to offer an incentive to owners of the old BP station at Auburn and Route 44 to move that property into the JEDD for future building. However, it's unlikely anything will come of this since there are years left on the lease and they're making substantial money, so there's no reason to change, the ICSC convention in Las Vegas is May 18-20, 2026. The JEDD has registered two people: Chris Galloway (chairman) and Rita McMahon (administrator). Morgan MacIntosh is attending in his Lake County Commissioner role and Susan Crotty is attending as the Painesville representative. The administration will get updated information about the Concord Towns enter Properties for the ICSC attendees. The total number of vendors is only 2,000 this year, dramatically less than in the past, with attendees mostly being fast food and dollar store style retailers. JEDD visits will focus on hotel vendors, Wendy's, regional and local real estate firms, and Dunkin' Donuts. The next JEDD meeting has been moved to June 19, 2026.

LEGISLATION:
ITEM #1 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 03.16.26)

Finance Director Bill Parkinson spoke on this piece of legislation. He brought Council's attention to an error in the first reading. The ORG code (fund and function number) was listed as 299-7350 but should be 299-7330. The correction was made in the packet provided to Council. Mrs. Shoop had questions about the land lease, noting that at one point the City was going to purchase the property but decided against it due to it being a Brownfield with potential liability issues. She asked how that decision came about - whether they studied it or made the decision arbitrarily. Mr. Parkinson responded that he wasn't part of those conversations and would get back to her. Mrs. DiNallo expressed similar concerns about the lease agreement and thought she remembered some public discussion about the lease amount, but wasn't confident at the moment. She wanted more information before moving forward.

Mr. Augustine made a motion to accept the changes in the proposed amended legislation, seconded by Mr. Abney.

On roll call, Mr. Hach, Mr. Rodriguez, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried to accept the changes.

Ray Sternot, of Birchwood Lane - Heisley Park HOA President, commented on the legislation as a citizen of Painesville, stating he was intrigued by Mrs. Shoop's question about

lease versus own. His concern was about the pros and cons, and whether a study was done showing how much was saved by leasing versus owning. He noted that typically a large organization goes through an own versus lease study and comes up with a conclusion where everyone can see the data and results, explaining he has done such studies himself. He has that question as a resident of Painesville.

This will go to third reading.

ITEM #2 ORDINANCE

***1st 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.**

Finance Director Bill Parkinson spoke on this piece of legislation. He explained the first item relates to the municipal court, adding $20,000.00 to the Judge's other professional budget line item for scanning services. In past years, the Judge paid for these services through a grant that is no longer available. He's requesting his fund 429 (municipal court special project fund) be increased by $20,000.00; For the amphitheater fund, this is a movement of funds with no budget increase. The original appropriation for small tools and equipment was $35,000.00. They're asking to transfer $16,700.00 from that line item to a fixed asset budget line item (machinery equipment) to purchase a lawnmower for amphitheater maintenance; The fire department received a $1,000.00 donation from the Elks Lodge for a carbon monoxide program. The donation was already received into the general fund, so the fire department is asking to increase general fund appropriations by $1,000.00 to spend that donation; and the fire department received a $15,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of State Fire Marshal. The money will be used to purchase protective and self-contained breathing equipment according to grant terms and conditions. It was noted these could go through normal readings, but if passed tonight, they could be incorporated into the budget immediately. Mrs. DiNallo asked about the lawnmower for the amphitheater, questioning what equipment is currently used to cut Recreation Park and why they need another lawnmower just for the amphitheater. City Manager Doug Lewis explained this was initially budgeted within small tools and equipment for $35,000.00, but because it's a capital item, it needs to be moved to machinery and equipment. He described it as a special mower needed because of the steep grade of the hill they need to mow at the amphitheater. They have a similar mower for a steep hill at the wastewater treatment plant. Mrs. DiNallo asked where the mower would be housed. Mr. Lewis responded it would probably be housed at the cemetery and brought over to the amphitheater, as they don't currently store mowers at Recreation Park. She expressed concern about potential future amendments for a storage shed, not wanting another $50,000.00 request down the road. Mr. Lewis confirmed this was a budgeted item, just incorrectly placed under small tools rather than capital equipment initially. Regarding the Judge's $20,000.00 request, Mr. Lewis clarified these are the Judge's own funds collected through fines and court operations, not general fund money. The Judge previously had a grant for scanning services that is no longer available, so he's asking to use his special project funding to pay for document scanning within the department.

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

On roll call, Mr. Rodriguez, 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. Rodriguez.

On roll call, Mr. Rodriguez, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

ORDINANCE 06-26 is ADOPTED.

ITEM #3 RESOLUTION

***1st Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to advertise and to enter into a contract, including any and all ensuing change orders, with the lowest and best bidder for Police Intersection Crime Camera System Expansion, and declaring an emergency.**

Police Chief Dan Waterman explained the Police Department is looking to purchase a minimum of 15 additional cameras for locations that support new development and address existing gaps officers have found through investigations. They've identified strategic locations where they said "maybe we're not quite seeing what we need to see" and have worked with City Manager Doug Lewis on new development locations. The cameras can be relocated as needed, with the point being to get the lowest and best bid and move forward with the levy.

President Fodor asked if these were speed cameras. Chief Waterman emphatically responded "Absolutely not," stating they have never violated their word to the public and never once used cameras for traffic enforcement.

Ray Sternot, of Birchwood Lane - Heisley Park HOA President, spoke in favor of this legislation and expediting it for both the City and Heisley Park, hoping one camera would be placed at Jackson Street and Elizabeth area, and at the entrance to the City.

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

On roll call, Mrs. Shoop, Mr. Abney, Mr. Augustine, Mrs. DiNallo, Mr. Hach, Mr. Rodriguez, 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, Mr. Rodriguez, and Mr. Fodor answered "Yes". Motion carried 7-0.

RESOLUTION 21-26 is ADOPTED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Heisley Park Mailboxes

President Fodor noted this has been discussed for several council meetings and appears to need more data and discussion. He proposed creating an ad hoc committee of council people, two HOA representatives, administration, and possibly other department heads to sit down, discuss the data, and return with a recommendation to Council. The following Council members will be on the committee, Derrick Abney, Paul Hach, and Lori DiNallo. Law Director Mr. Lyons advised that this would be a non-binding recommendation committee. He explained that while they would need to vote to make a recommendation, it would be non-binding on Council. He noted the burden is really on the HOA to convince the sitting Council people this is a good idea, with administration providing information and background rather than voting. Mrs. DiNallo raised concerns about the previous mention of potential lawsuits, asking how a committee could form given that legal issues usually preclude Council involvement. Law Director Lyons explained that the word "lawsuit" was raised by Ray Sternot regarding small claims complaints, but anytime the City takes action there's always possibility of lawsuits. For the City not to meet and discuss City issues because of remote lawsuit threats doesn't make sense. He felt that Council considering the issue and giving the HOA a fair opportunity to present their views to a non-binding group would weigh well with courts if legal actions were taken. Ray Sternot will recommend another person from the HOA to serve on the committee and will contact Clerk of Council Mrs. Danielson with that information.

NEW BUSINESS: None

DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS: Community Development/Planning

Community Development Director Sarah Sitterle presented on her department, which has three divisions: Code Enforcement, Planning Division, and Zoning Administration. She outlined the department's highlights for 2025; Code Enforcement Activity, including the various notifications of violations, inspections, complaints, and property registrations from 2025 to 2026. She outlined the rank vegetation requirements/procedure. Courtesy letters will be sent in mid-April to properties as a first step; She gave an account of the Planning Commission and BZA meeting and items discussed and permits that were issued; Current Major Projects include the amphitheater, Lake County Safety Center, Victoria Place, and Grand River Walk; and she introduced the staff members. Mrs. Shoop asked about land bank property ownership by various entities and the current rental versus homeowner ratio which was confirmed still approximately 50/50. It was also confirmed the $110 fee effectively motivates grass cutting compliance and that courtesy letters are well-received for preventing surprise City cutting. See slide presentation.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Law Director and City Manager

Law Director Jim Lyons clarified that the $110.00 grass cutting fee is established through competitive bidding to ensure fair pricing rather than arbitrary cost setting. The City gets multiple bidders and selects the lowest and best bidder.

City Manager Doug Lewis reported on the following items: Community Events: The Parks and Recreation Department held a successful egg hunt last weekend with over 8,000 eggs and great attendance, passing out prizes; Cinco de Mayo is scheduled for May 2nd; He congratulated Grand Rock, noting they've been working with them for a long time and they're a great company, nice to have in the community; Downtown Painesville Organization is hiring an Executive Director. Anyone interested in applying should contact them or Susan Crotty with the City for information; Joseph's 1818 Public House and Tavern, previously Rider's Inn, will hold a

ribbon cutting on Wednesday, April 22nd at 11 AM; Engineering Department updates regarding drainage issues from Mr. Sternot. The City met with every single property owner to address and explain drainage issues they may be having. Letters will go out to each owner they met, explaining what was discussed. The City also went out to camera numerous lines in the area, which appear to be flowing very well with no blockages in the storm sewers; Engineering is exploring different parking solutions for downtown to limit parking time, providing enough time for business but ensuring turnover so different people can utilize downtown; The City entered into an agreement with a vendor. Mr. Lewis provided background on the administrative fee. When the City implemented the $75.00 administrative fee, it was because people were using the city to mow their grass. Previously it was $35.00. The charge is the contractor cost plus the $75.00 administrative fee. The administrative fee covers multiple inspections (2-4 times) before issuing warnings and continued inspections to ensure compliance after mowing; World Changers has been in the City for about 15 years and will be here July 13-17 looking for projects. Community Development is working with them to identify properties needing painting and yard cleanup. They always do a great job. Anyone needing assistance should call Community Development to connect with World Changers; Late fees are in effect for rental registration. The deadline was March 14th; The Comprehensive Plan is nearing completion – The City is working with consultant American Structure Point who submitted critical path strategies. They're reviewing these and will meet with the committee to discuss before bringing recommendations back to Council; The City is taking applications for the farmer's market. Anyone with a small business wanting to participate should contact the Parks and Recreation department; and Mr. Lewis will get the information about the purchase versus lease question raised earlier. He clarified that the amphitheater mower will be a commercial zero-turn mower, all-wheel driven to handle the hills, similar to what they use for parks, ball fields, and cemeteries, but specialized for the steep grades.

CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk of Council

The next regular Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 20th at 7:00 PM.

CLOSING COMMENTS: Members of Council

Mr. Abney had no comments at this time.

Mr. Rodriguez congratulated Grand Rock once again on their award and thanked everyone for coming and those watching.

Mr. Hach echoed congratulations to Grand Rock.

Mr. Augustine also echoed congratulations to Grand Rock.

Mrs. DiNallo congratulated Grand Rock, looked forward to the Cinco de Mayo celebration on May 2nd, and welcomed spring. She noted spring brings new responsibilities, sharing that she's been dodging raindrops and had to give up bike riding on beautiful days to rake winter debris. She confirmed the City is picking up yard waste and shared a positive story about a young neighbor who offered to help her rake for 15 minutes, making a huge difference. She encouraged people to help neighbors when they are able, as it moves things along quicker for everybody.

Mrs. Shoop also congratulated Grand Rock, calling it "wonderful" and "very well deserved."

Mr. Fodor had no comments at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Augustine made a motion to move into an Executive Session being held in accordance with Article II, Section 6(1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of an employee or official of the City; in accordance with Article II, Section 6(2) To consider the purchase or lease of property for public purposes if premature disclosure of information would be adverse to the public interest; in accordance with Article II, Section 6(3) To discuss pending or potential litigation involving the City; and in accordance with ORC. 121.22(8) To consider confidential information related to marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance, or to negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance in accordance with section 3735.67 of the Revised Code, seconded by Mrs. Shoop

All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to move into the Executive Session at 8:17 PM.

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

Mrs. Shoop moved to adjourn the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez. All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:44 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mrs. Shoop moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez. All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:45 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Samantha Danielson
Clerk of Council

Jim Fodor
President of Council

City of Painesville

JOHN F. CLAIR AWARD

2026



John F. Clair Award

Presented each year in honor of John Clair, community leader and former Council Member whose leadership, vision, and commitment to the City of Painesville's growth inspired the award

Eligible businesses for the award must:

- Demonstrate the value of balancing business and community service
- Substantially contribute time and energy to the growth of the community
- Contribute to the positive image of the City of Painesville, as Mr. Clair did

John F. Clair Award

The 2026 award...

is being presented to a company that has demonstrated its commitment to excellence, and to the City of Painesville

- This company has been located in Painesville since 1995 and has pursued growth within our community since that time.
- The company has grown to 65 employees at its current location and has acquired an additional building to support future growth.
- The company's growth comes from intentional leadership and strategic vision, with leaders participating in programs such as GlobalTarget and Scalerator NEO.









John F. Clair Award

Excellence in International Trade

This company is a winner of the U.S. Department of Commerce's "E" Star Award. The "E" Award the highest recognition a U.S. entity can receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports.

The "E" Star Award is for an elite group of previous "E" awardees that have reported four years of additional export growth.

John F. Clair Award

Community Support

Regularly sponsors City events, such as
- Business Appreciation Night
- Holiday Shop & Stroll

- Supports Painesville City Local School District programs with monetary donations and participation in school career fairs
- Coats & Secret Santa for families in need
- Sub Zero Mission
- Food pantry donations



Business Appreciation Night



Holiday Shop & Stroll



PCLSD Support

John F. Clair Award

Organizational Support

The company's leadership actively participates in the Eastern Lake County Chamber of Commerce, serving on the Board of Directors for the past two years.

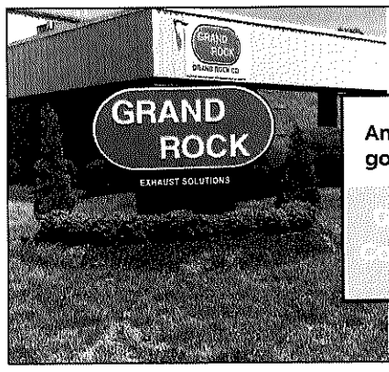




John F. Clair Award

Our 2026 award winner

has produced high-quality exhaust products for fleets throughout the world, earning respect across the industry and demonstrating a high level of excellence that reflects positively on Painesville



John F. Clair Award

And the award goes to...

[redacted]

John F. Clair Award

Tonight, accepting the award are:

Haris Tokalic, President
Justin Ropos, Plant Manager
John Polz, Administrative & Financial Manager

CONGRATULATIONS!

2026 John F. Clair Award Winner

GRAND ROCK
EXHAUST SOLUTIONS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Department Presentation 2026

April 2026

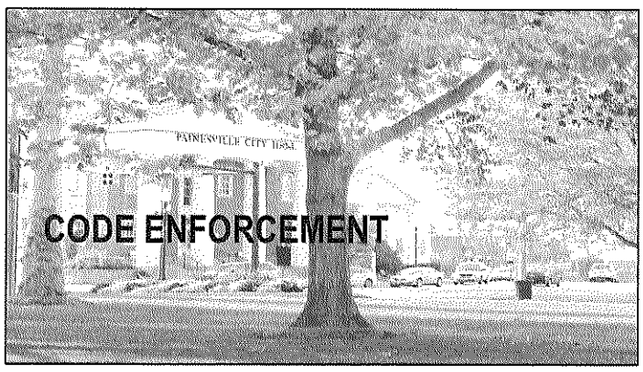
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- Code Enforcement
- Planning Division
- Zoning Administration

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

The Community Development Department's mission is to guide the development of the City through effective measures of planning, design review, code compliance to preserve and enhance the quality of life for the residents of the City of Painesville.

- Reviewed and held pre-demolition meeting for the demolition of structures at 524 E. Erie Street and issued the demolition permit for removal of the debris from the fire. A contractor had been called in the day of the fire to demolish the structure with an excavator to help extinguish the blaze. Also held a pre-demolition meeting and issued the demolition permit for 190 E. Jackson Street, which was the remaining house next to the Lake County Public Safety Center site and the Lake County Buildings and Grounds facility.
- Submitted 2 residential properties for demolition through the Lake County Land Reutilization Corporation (LCLRC) in 2025. The two properties will likely be funded in 2026. The properties include 737 E. Erie Street and 1189 Crescent Drive. The City will identify properties and take them through the demolition program process and submit to the LCLRC in 2027 for funding.
- Issued 2 permits for new residential construction between April and December 2025, and no new residential permits from January to March 2026. One commercial new construction permit was issued for the Amphitheater in 2025. Issued 722 permits from April to December 2025, and 517 permits between January and March 2026.
- Issued 1,785 notices for violations, conducted 2,097 rechecks on violations, responded to 346 complaints, picked up 379 signs, registered 5 vacant properties, registered 47 rental properties, conducted 2,021 grass violations inspections and rechecks, had 23 court cases, and responded to 17 zoning inspection calls.
- The Comprehensive Plan project has been underway since June 2025. Five Steering Committee meetings were held, a survey conducted, public input was received at 3 public events, and many stakeholder meetings were held in person and virtually with business and community leaders.



2025-2026 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/CODE ENFORCEMENT	APRIL 2025-MARCH 2026
PROP. MAINTENANCE (NEW)	1,785
EXT. REINSPECTION (PMC)	2,097
COURT CITATIONS	11
COURT APPEARANCES	23
SIGNS	379
FENCES	17
SWIMMING POOLS	0
VEHICLE – Parking, Overweight, Recreation, Junk	204
24-HOUR NOTICE to remove trash	388
GRASS/WEEDS – New violations inspections and rechecks	2,021
GRASS VIOLATION LETTERS	657
COMPLAINTS	346
RENTAL REGISTRATION	698
VACANT PROPERTY REG.	8

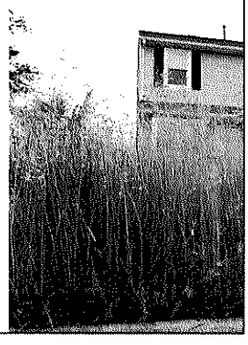
RANK VEGATATION (Weeds & Grass)

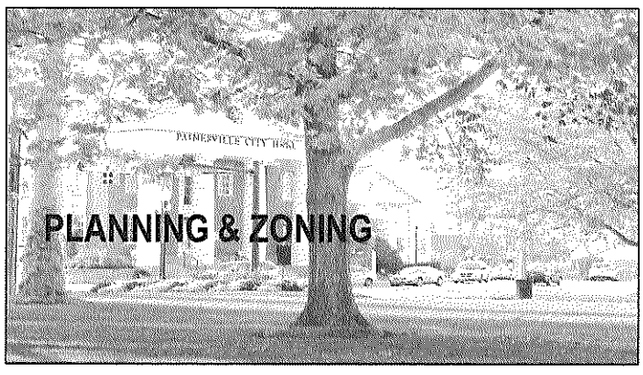
- Requirements:
  1. Any growth of weeds or grass to a height of **six inches** or higher on any developed, residentially zoned property
  2. The City will provide **one notice per year** via certified and regular mail
  3. Residents are given **7 days** to mow before the lawn is ordered mowed by the City of Painesville
  4. Cost to remove the rank vegetation is the **cost to cut, remove or destruct plus $75.00 for re-inspections and administrative costs**
  5. If it is not paid within **30 days** of receipt of invoice, it is assessed to the property owner
- In 2025, 657 properties were sent letters, and 344 properties were mowed by the contractor. Of the $17,985 that was billed, $2,860 has been paid to date. Of the properties mowed, 121 invoices with fees of at least $110 have been sent to the Auditor. The **average cost per mowing was $110.00.**



RANK VEGATATION (Weeds & Grass)

- Continuing for 2026:
  - A courtesy letter is being sent to properties with grass violations as a first step. The letter gives owners 14 days to respond before the first official violation letter is sent
  - The first notice of violation will give an additional 7 days for the owner to mow before the contractor is called in
  - In 2025, Staff sent 504 courtesy letters during April and May.



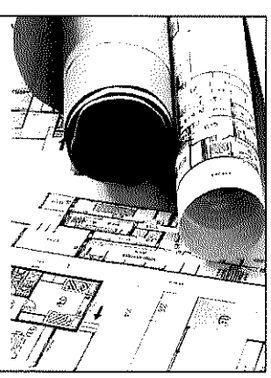


2025-2026 PLANNING

Planning Commission	Apr-December 2025	Jan-Mar 2026	Board of Zoning Appeals	Apr-December 2025	Jan-Mar 2026
Times Met	8	2	Times Met	8	1
Rezoning	2	0	Variance Requests	9	2
Conditional Use Permit	4, 1 renewal	1	Administrative Appeals	0	0
Temporary Use Permit	1	0	Most Heard Variance Types	Fences and accessory structures	Apartment size and sign
Design Review	8	0			

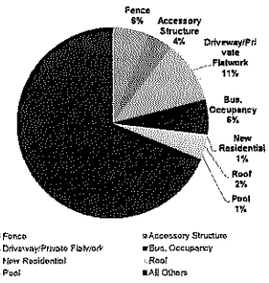
2025-2026 DEVELOPMENT

- Amphitheater
- Lake County Public Safety Center *(site plan approval January 2025)*
- Victoria Place *(site plan approval Fall 2024)*
- Grand River Walk *(site plan approval March 2025)*



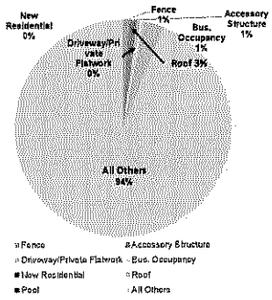
ZONING: APR – DEC 2025 PERMITS

Item	Count	Fee Total
Fence	81	$2,440
Accessory Structure	43	$1,935
Driveway/Private Flatwork	44	$1,980
Bus. Occupancy	18	$1,800
New Residential	2	$200
Roof	148	$8,860
Pool	12	$540
All Others	394	$15,530
Total	722	$31,085



ZONING: 2026 PERMITS

Item	Count	Fee Total
Fence	5	$200
Accessory Structure	6	$270
Driveway/Private Flatwork	2	$90
Bus. Occupancy	3	$300
New Residential	0	$0
Roof	16	$720
Pool	0	$0
All Others	485	$15,110
Total	517	$16,690



OUR TEAM

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Community Development Director



Celina Sotka
Planner I



Tina Pomfrey
Secretary I



Brian Rodgers
Sr. Code Enforcement Inspector



Kelly Bischoff
PT Secretary I



Dave Edwards
Code Enforcement Inspector



Isobel Nation
PT Secretary I

THANK YOU

APRIL 6, 2026 – CITY COUNCIL MEETING