REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026 – 7:00 PM
EXECUTIVE SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

CALL TO ORDER

President Jim Fodor called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:04 PM. City Council convened for a regular meeting in Council Chambers – Courtroom #1.

ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE

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

Other City Staff in attendance: City Manager Doug Lewis, Assistant City Manager Tony Zampedro, Law Director Jim Lyons, Economic Development Director Susan Crotty, Water Superintendent Orin McMonigle, and Clerk of Council Samantha Danielson.

APPROVE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED

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

Mrs. Shoop made a motion 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 08.17.26

Mr. Fodor asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 17, 2026.

Mrs. Shoop moved to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 17, 2026, seconded by Mr. Augustine. All Council members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Greg Kennedy, of Elizabeth Blvd., addressed the Council. He began by thanking the Council for providing responses to his prior questions regarding compensation, stating he was satisfied with those answers and found them to make sense. He then turned to an outstanding matter, noting that on July 20th he had addressed the Council regarding the proposed Route 44 and Shamrock Boulevard interchange and had submitted a specific list of questions concerning the project, including its potential impact on Elizabeth Boulevard and surrounding residential neighborhoods. As of September 8th, he had received no answers to those questions. Mr. Kennedy acknowledged that the Council may not be able to respond to every question during the public comment portion of a meeting, but expressed that residents should have a reasonable mechanism to obtain substantive responses to questions about major infrastructure projects, public expenditures, and the evidence used to support Council's decisions. He asked specifically what process the Council has to ensure that substantive questions from residents receive substantive answers, and when he could expect responses to his July 20th questions regarding the Route 44/Shamrock Boulevard interchange. Council President Fodor responded at length. He explained that the recommended process is for residents to first contact their ward council member or an at-large member directly, as written responses often raise additional follow-up questions and can create lengthy back-and-forth dialogue. He further noted that City Manager Doug Lewis serves as the keeper of organizational memory on many matters, and that Mr. Lewis has more direct and efficient access to department heads in police, fire, public works, and engineering than council members, who must route inquiries through him. President Fodor described Council's overall decision-making framework as a systems improvement model — identifying the root problem rather than symptoms, moving through a data collection phase, formulating two or three solutions, and ultimately requiring four of the seven council members to move a matter forward. He also acknowledged the difficulty in finding truly comparable communities for benchmarking purposes, noting Painesville's unique combination of electric, water, and solid waste utilities alongside standard municipal services, a population that is approximately 50 percent rental property, and significant demographic diversity.

Catherine Coleman, of Brentwood Dr., addressed the Council with questions about the flock traffic cameras — the white cameras positioned around the city — asking why they appeared to be located near only one elementary school and not others. Council President Fodor indicated he did not know the precise positioning rationale and directed her to complete a public comment form so that City Manager Lewis could follow up with her directly. Ms. Coleman also inquired as to whether the cameras were permanent. President Fodor confirmed that the cameras are intended to remain in

place, and clarified that they are used solely as a tool to assist the police department in solving crimes and are not used for issuing traffic citations.

COMMITTEE REPORT: BZA, Fairport Senior Board, Finance Committee, Economic Development Committee

BZA

City Manager Doug Lewis presented the report of the Board of Zoning Appeals from its regularly scheduled meeting of Thursday, August 20, 2026. Four variance requests were heard: Our Shepherd Lutheran Church submitted an updated signed rendering depicting a 60-by-30-inch sign face, 48 inches tall from grade, with a revised proposal of 15 square feet in area and 4 feet tall from grade. The request to permit a second sign on parcel 15-C-01-800-001-40 was voted on, and the updated variance was approved 4–1 to allow the 15-square-foot, 4-foot-tall sign in the revised location as proposed; Hannah Parmetor submitted a variance request to allow a shed to be located 1 foot from the side property line. The variance was approved 5–0; JRS Homes, Inc. submitted a request for a reduced square footage for a proposed single-family dwelling at 357 and 361 Marion Avenue. The applicant proposed a two-story, 1,482-square-foot dwelling with a 403-square-foot attached garage. The UDC requires a minimum of 1,600 square feet for new single-family construction (excluding attached garage square footage), resulting in a 118-square-foot variance request. The variance was approved 4–1 to allow the reduced square footage of 1,482 feet for two new residential homes at those locations; and Agile Sign/Iliana Kazandjieff, on behalf of Grand River Walk LLC, submitted a request for a variance to allow a 290.2-square-foot rooftop-mounted sign. Roof signs and signs extending above the parapet line are prohibited under the UDC. The motion to approve the variance failed by a vote of 2–3, and the variance request was denied.

Fairport Senior Board

Mrs. Shoop reported on the Fairport Senior Board meeting of August 14, 2026. The minutes and treasurer's report were approved. Under old business, the Public Works Director had the potholes in the driveway filled and had a grill installed for the senior center. Public Works also ordered parts and is working on repairing and sealing the flagpole light. The activities announcement sign is to be removed as soon as possible. The Osborne Family Grant for $13,048 has been submitted but not yet approved; if awarded, the funds will be used to purchase exercise machines for the exercise room. Mrs. Shoop noted that quotes for three new exercise machines have been requested, and that once the machines arrive and are approved, the old equipment will be eliminated. She noted that the Fairport Senior Center received a $25,000 grant from the City of Painesville in 2025, part of which is being used for the machines. The Fairport Senior Center has not yet requested $25,000 from the City for 2026. Per the agreement among the City of Painesville, Fairport Village, and Fairport Senior Center, a CPA audit of records is required, and the center is currently in the process of identifying a CPA to conduct that audit. The Board of Trustees passed a motion authorizing the director to approve funding for equipment as necessary when opportunities arise, to avoid convening special meetings for each such decision. Lake Tran will be providing an iPad for member ride scheduling and drop-off/pickup coordination. Upcoming events noted by Mrs. Shoop include: a pancake breakfast on September 13th in Wickliffe to help fund the senior levy; the installation of a POW/MIA chair at 11:00 AM on September 25th at the center; and the Noon Year's Eve party scheduled for December 31st. The next board meeting will be October 9th at 9:00 AM.

Finance Committee

Mrs. Shoop reported on the Finance Committee meeting of August 24, 2026. The following items were discussed: Regarding the status of the budget, the current schedule is on target. The general fund appeared lower than projections due to permanent transfers and temporary advances; the estimated year-end fund balance is $6,500,000, compared to the actual year-end balance of $7,100,000 in the prior year. Income tax revenues are projected to decrease in 2027 as current development projects are completed. Estimated interest revenue is $1,750,000; Major fund projections through December 2026 were reviewed: the water fund at $4,100,000; wastewater treatment plant at $1,600,000; and the electric plant at $5,000,000, though Mrs. Shoop noted this figure is only a placeholder at present, with purchase power estimates for 2027 still needing review; A lodging tax update was provided: year-to-date receipts are $26,000, with year-end projections of $40,000 and 2027 projections of $65,000. It was noted that lodging tax funds function like grant funding, with qualified groups required to apply, and that the Recreation Department will have discretion over those funds, though some expenditures may require Council approval; On capital projects, finance is holding regular meetings with departments. The electric department's projects require some fine-tuning, while other departments are in good shape. Departments are also engaged in emergency fund planning. The land acquisition fund began 2026 with $1,200,000 and currently holds $713,000 year-to-date; Regarding the skate park, total funds available were $731,000, with

expenses year-to-date of $619,000 and open projects of $22,000. Mrs. Shoop noted, with some levity, that the balance of extra funds could be reallocated to build pickleball courts to augment any grant funding obtained; and miscellaneous items, an insurance update was provided: there are four premium offers, with a policy expiration of September 15, 2026. A streetlight project to streamline the circuits of failed lights is beginning in the electric department. Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Economic Development Committee

Mr. Abney reported for this committee which was held on August 31, 2026. The committee reviewed three applications from two downtown businesses for grant assistance. A grant for proposed tenant improvements at 30 South Park Place was approved. An application for maintenance assistance on the steps of 240 Main Street was denied. An application for proposed maintenance at 161 North State Street was tabled pending submission of additional information. Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

LEGISLATION:

ITEM #1 ORDINANCE

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

City Manager Doug Lewis explained this item and noted that it should be considered together with Item #2, as both pieces of legislation are related. He explained that this ordinance proposes to reclassify the position of Fire Chief from a Grade 23 to a Grade 25, placing the Fire Chief in the same salary grade as the Chief of Police.

Mr. Lewis continued to explain that this companion ordinance, Item #2, proposes establishing a 10 percent differential between the chiefs and the ranks immediately below them — specifically between the police chief and the lieutenant, and between the fire chief and the fire captain. He stated that a careful comparison was conducted with communities in Lake, Ashtabula, Geauga, and Cuyahoga counties, and that Painesville was found to be significantly low in comparison. Mr. Lewis emphasized the importance of the differential in light of the City Charter's requirement that, before going outside the department, the position of chief must first be offered to qualified candidates within the current fire or police department. He noted that if individuals in the rank below are earning more than the chief, it creates a disincentive for qualified candidates to apply for the chief's position upon retirement. He added that the current chiefs still have several years remaining, but that the administration wants to get the policy in place proactively, noting that many comparable communities set their differentials even higher than 10 percent.

This will go to second reading.

ITEM #2 ORDINANCE

***1st Reading* – An Ordinance amending Section 167.07 of the Painesville Code of 1998 relating to the Classification and Compensation Plan, to establish a Chief Differential for the Fire and Police Chief, and declaring an emergency.**

City Manager Doug Lewis spoke on this piece of legislation previously.

This will go to second reading.

ITEM #3 RESOLUTION

***1st Reading* – A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to submit an application and enter into an agreement with the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding for Sanford Street Reconstruction, and declaring an emergency.**

City Manager Doug Lewis spoke on this piece of legislation explaining this resolution authorizes submission of an application to the Ohio Public Works Commission for the entire reconstruction of Sanford Street from Richmond Street to Skinner Street. The City's portion of the costs is $262,000, with a total overall project cost of $521,000.

This will go to second reading.

ITEM #4 RESOLUTION

***1st Reading* – A Resolution authorizing the City to purchase an Employee Dishonesty and Faithful Performance of Duty Insurance Policy in lieu of a Surety Bond, and declaring an emergency.**

City Manager Doug Lewis spoke on this piece of legislation explaining that the Finance Director is currently required by law to maintain an annually renewed surety bond. This resolution would authorize the replacement of that bond with an equivalent insurance policy, which provides the same protection. Mrs. Shoop raised a procedural concern: noting that the current insurance policy is set to expire on September 15, 2026, and that this item was on first reading and would not come up for approval until the next meeting on September 21st, she asked whether the City would be without coverage during the gap period. The Law Director Lyons responded that the surety bond likely runs on a different annual schedule from the insurance policy being proposed and that the two instruments operate separately. It was suggested that the existing surety bond could be renewed and then cancelled once the replacement policy is approved. Mr. Augustine, drawing on his knowledge of surety bonds, noted that there may be a minimum premium consideration but that if the bonding company is made aware of the transition in advance, it may be possible to avoid overlapping costs. It was suggested the possibility of obtaining a short extension on the existing bond through the transition period.

This will go to second reading.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS: Water Plant and Distribution

Water Superintendent Orin McMonigle delivered its annual presentation to Council. The presentation was organized around four areas: infrastructure improvements, facilities and equipment repairs and replacements, community and professional outreach, and regulatory and licensing. Mr. McMonigle described the department's infrastructure key improvements; He described the facilities and equipment repairs and replacements occurring; He talked about their participation in outreach programs in Lake County; and he explained the department continues to hold a green operating license. Consumer confidence reports were distributed, monthly reports were submitted, and the annual metric submission was completed. Service line inventory letters — associated with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions — were noted as being due in December, with the department planning to have them distributed by the end of November. It was inquired whether the service line inventory process was related to the letters residents had received asking them to identify whether their service connections were iron or galvanized pipe. Mr. McMonigle confirmed this and provided additional context: the department currently has approximately 250 service lines on the City's side and approximately 250 on the customer's side that are either known galvanized, replaced, or of unknown material. He noted that no lead service lines have been confirmed — two lines previously identified as lead were re-inspected and found to be galvanized or plastic. Under the applicable regulations, residents who own galvanized or unknown service lines on their side of the connection will be required to replace them by the end of 2027. If a resident refuses after receiving three written notices, the City is obligated to offer to replace the line at City expense, documenting the resident's refusal in writing. Clarification on the boundary between City and resident responsibility asked for. It was explained that for properties with meter vaults, the City's responsibility extends from the water main to the meter vault, while the line from the meter vault to the house is the property owner's. For properties with curb stops, the City's line runs from the main to the curb stop, and the remainder of the service line, even if it runs underground to a basement meter, belongs to the property owner. He noted that the lines remaining to be addressed are primarily "unknown" on the City's side and galvanized or unknown on the customer's side, and acknowledged that the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions are extremely complicated and have changed many times. See slide presentation.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: Law Director and City Manager

Law Director Jim Lyons indicated he had no additional report.

City Manager Doug Lewis reported on the following items: The City has received numerous inquiries from residents regarding the ongoing lawsuit with Republic Services concerning disputed container charges. Two articles were published on Cleveland.com addressing the matter. In the first, Republic Services publicly apologized to Painesville residents over robocalls and disputed trash fees. In the second, Republic stated that the disputed collection fees would not be sent to collections or reported to the credit bureaus. Mr. Lewis noted this was of significant concern to many residents worried about their credit ratings, and stated they will not submit residents to collections or credit bureaus until the lawsuit is resolved. It is estimated the lawsuit could take approximately one year to resolve, unless settled earlier. Mr. Lewis expressed confidence in the City's chances of prevailing; The City received proposals from three engineering consulting firms to assess drainage concerns raised by the Heisley Park HOA. Following an internal review, a committee will meet

during the current week to select a preferred firm. Negotiations on price will then proceed, with the understanding that if pricing from the first-ranked firm is not considered reasonable, the City will move to the second firm. Mr. Lewis outlined the subsequent steps: a contract agreement will be brought to City Council for approval, accompanied by a budget appropriation, as no funds were set aside at the start of 2026 for drainage study work. He estimated the process of arriving at a contract for Council approval could take two to four weeks; The concrete portion of the skate park is substantially complete, noting that between 15 and 30 skateboarders can be seen using the facility at any given time. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for October 2nd. Remaining work includes grass planting, sidewalk installation, and paving the parking lot at Morse Avenue. Change orders associated with these items were not yet submitted by the contractor in time for the current meeting but will be brought before Council for approval at the next regular meeting; and he reminded residents of the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony will be held on Friday, September 11th beginning at 8:30 AM.

CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk of Council

Clerk of Council Samantha Danielson provided the following correspondence and upcoming event notices: The next regular Council meeting will be held on Monday, September 21st at 7:00 PM; Hola's Annual Taco Festival will take place on Sunday, September 13th from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Square; Story Time has been moved to Wednesday, September 16th at 6:00 PM at the Painesville City's Grand Amphitheater; and the Fall Chili Cook-Off is Saturday, September 19th starting at 1:00 PM in the Square.

CLOSING COMMENTS: Members of Council

Mr. Abney had no comment at this time.

Mr. Augustine had no comments at this time.

Mrs. Shoop announced that the NAACP Political Action Group is hosting a get-out-the-vote and voter instruction event on September 12th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at First Church, 22 Liberty Street. She noted that speakers from the League of Women Voters and United Way will be in attendance and that the event is nonpartisan, with no affiliation to any political party. All were invited to attend.

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 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 7:54 PM.

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

Mrs. Shoop moved to adjourn the Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Augustine. All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:05 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

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

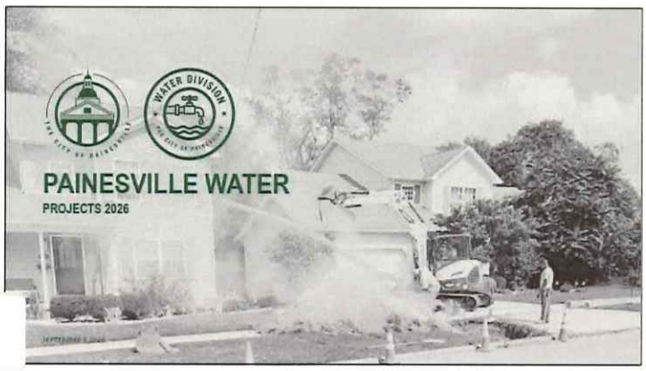
Mrs. Shoop moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting, seconded by Mr. Abney. All Council Members were in favor by answering "Aye". Motion carried to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:05 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Samantha Danielson

Samantha Danielson
Clerk of Council

Jim Fodor
President of Council



PAINESVILLE WATER

PROJECTS 2026

2026 PROJECTS OVERVIEW

- Infrastructure Improvements
- Facilities and Equipment Repairs and Replacements
- Community and Professional Outreach
- Regulatory and Licensing

THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE

KEY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

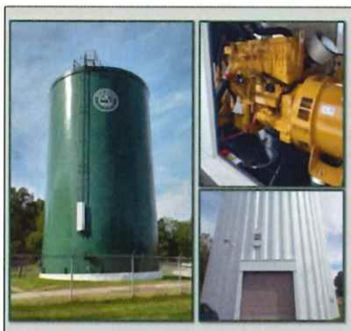
WATER PLANT

- Replace High Service #6 Engine that was removed.
- Repairing garage roof, doors, and security access
- Bid out second phase of building to house sodium hypochlorite to replace chlorine gas



#6 High Service Pump Replacement gas engine

THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE



KEY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

WATER DISTRIBUTION

- Repaint Auburn Road Water Tank
- Replaces Chestnut Tower Overhead Door
- Generator Replacement Chestnut Booster Station
- Hayes Street Water Main Replacement
- Lucille Water Main Replacement Bid
- 86 Water Tower and Chestnut Water Tower Repairs and Painting Design

THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

- Replace 1-Ton Dump Truck
- Replace distribution supervisor truck
- Plant Upgrades and Repairs
  - Filters
  - Siding Replacement
  - Garage roof/door repairs
  - Breezeway repairs
  - Replace fencing at garage
- Install water line and drain at secondary building for equipment maintenance



THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE

OUTREACH

- Lake County Hazmat exercise with dozens of area personnel
- Fire department confined space training access in vault and room hatches
- Class IV training classes for operator and other plants including Ravenna, Delaware County, and Massillon.
- Lake County Emergency Management Agency tabletop exercise for 2025-2026



THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE

LICENSING AND REGULATORY

- Green Operations License for Public Water System. ORC with Class IV and three backup Class III's. Distribution service/maintenance staffing full, two Distribution II's.
- Consumer Confidence Report distributed.
- Monthly plant and distribution reports and staffing reports to meet OEPA regulations.
- Asset management and Metrics submission submitted 5-6-2026
- Service line inventory updated letters due by December 2026. Customer and city for all 11,600 services must be documented. Working hard on project since 2022!
  - Started with unearth labs in 2022
  - Converted and sent to customers in 2024
  - Updated inventory letters to be mailed in December 2026
  - On site visits



Auburn Water Tank sandblasting shroud- repairs per asset management requirements OEPA

THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE

