CITY OF FAIRBORN
COUNCIL MEETING
October 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

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

Deputy Mayor McCubbins moved to excuse Councilwoman Chess from the meeting. Councilman Allen seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick excused Councilwoman Chess from the meeting.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Gebhart, McNamee, Schell, and Taylor.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Reaster moved to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. Deputy Mayor McCubbins seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared the minutes approved as written.

Councilman Allen moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2026, Special Council Meeting/Budget Work Session. Councilwoman Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared the minutes approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 24-26 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 49-19 AND CHAPTER 169, "ENTERTAINMENT ADMISSION FEE," OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FAIRBORN, OHIO.

Councilwoman Reaster made a motion to read Ordinance 24-26 for the first time by title only. Deputy Mayor McCubbins seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mike McNamee, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 24-26 by title only.

Mayor Kirkpatrick set the public hearing of Ordinance 24-26 for Monday, November 2, 2026.

ORDINANCE 25-26 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE REAR OF 2200 COMMERCE CENTER BLVD. TO AT&T (NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC) PURSUANT TO THE OPTION AND LEASE AGREEMENT PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY RESOLUTION 60-25.

Councilwoman Reaster made a motion to read Ordinance 25-26 for the first time by title only. Councilwoman Stanton seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mike McNamee, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 25-26 by title only.

Mayor Kirkpatrick set the public hearing of Ordinance 25-26 for Monday, November 2, 2026.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mayor Kirkpatrick opened Citizens Comments

Marilyn McCauley, 2309 Mallory Court, thanked City Council, the Mayor, many of the staff, the Fairborn community, the Fairborn Chamber of Commerce, and people throughout Greene County who supported the recent Heels for Heroes event. It was big success and they appreciate what everyone has done this year and for many years. Without this opportunity for them to raise funds they would not be able to help the veterans. As everyone knows prices have gone up so it takes a lot more to help the veterans today than it used to. When they first started out the average rent was $900 a month. Today it is $2,000 a month. You can see it takes a lot more for them to operate than it used to, but they are always there and appreciate the community for what they do. Again, particularly the Chamber of Commerce who lets them host their event during the car show. They appreciate that greatly because that helps them a lot in their endeavors as well. With that she thinks they have some challenges they would like to issue for next year.

Kassie Lester, Bath Township Trustee, 750 Herr Road, explained they were at this year's Heels for Heroes hoping for some competition from City Council, but evidently Bath Township is the greatest in Fairborn because they had no competition. So, she is throwing it out there. Council has a year to get ready for next year. The Township will be ready. Mayor Kirkpatrick stated City Council accepted their challenge. Ms. Lester asked everyone to mark their calendars for Thursday, October 22, 2026, for Bath Township's annual Trunk or Treat from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday. She cordially invited everyone to be a trunk. They do have a prize for the best trunk this year. This will be held at Bath Township Park and there will be plenty of space. Ms. McCauley asked if Ms. Lester planned to put the Heels for Heroes Challenge out to the schools as well. Ms. Lester stated she would put it out to the Schools as well.

Mayor Kirkpatrick closed Citizens Comments.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Mike Gebhart, City Manager, discussed the Chamber's Halloween Festival. He left most of that for the Mayor to discuss. He thanked the City staff who helped with the event, Police, Fire, Public Works and Parks and Recreation all did a great job. Thanks to the staff who put in their time this weekend.

The Citizen's Academy is entering its second to last week, this week so Thursday night here at the Government Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Finance, Tax, Utility Billing, and Legal will be the last official class and then next Thursday night, October 29, 2026, will be the graduation and they will have pizza here at the City building for that. We are in the last two weeks of that so thanks to all the participants in this year's academy as well as the people who have provided information at each one of those sessions.

There will be a Police Officer swearing in held in the Council Chambers on Monday, November 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. They will be swearing in several new officers. For those who are interested Trick or Treat, Beggar's Night, it is Saturday night October 31, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Emily Gay's last day with the City of Fairborn as the Communications Manager was last Friday. She is accepting a position with the City of Kettering as their Communications Director. We wish her luck and thank her for everything that she did while she was here with the City for 2.5 years. We are currently searching for a replacement so if everyone could bear with us, they will be working to update the website and also social media posts as it will be several weeks before we get a new Communications Manager on board. It may take us a little while longer to respond, but we are working diligently on that. Thank you to Jalen White in Economic Development who is going to help work that through for the next several weeks until we have our new person.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Reaster had no comments.

Councilwoman Stanton had no comments.

Councilman Dodd discussed the costume judging on Friday night. It amazed him how the families participated in the event.

Councilman Allen stated he also did costume judging for the Halloween Festival on Friday night. That was the first time he had done costume judging for an event like that and folks went all out. It was a lot of fun to see how the community came together and participated in that event. He thanked the YMCA for opening up their facility and allowing that to happen.

He pulled the thread about what Marilyn McCauley had said about Heels for Heroes. It was a huge success this past year and we can't do that without the support of a lot of people who are here on this Council and a lot of other vendors and people they depend on. Jamie's Tire typically helps in a lot of different ways. He has offered us an opportunity to help a veteran by going to his shop and fixing the tire and not having to worry about those things. Hats off to everyone that participated in that. We have one more opportunity to help with Operation Fairborn Cares' ability to help others and that is going to be on the 8th of November at the Wandering Griffen. What happens there is the Wandering Griffen will give 10% of their proceeds for that day back to OFC. It is another opportunity for veterans and anyone, tell your neighbors, tell your friends and veterans they have an opportunity to give back to the bank of OFC and to be able to help more veterans. Since the inception of OFC, they have helped with $100,000 in support back to those veterans who are falling short. It takes a little bit to get there. It is very stressful when they are concerned about trying to get to school, trying to get to work, trying to pay a bill. Everybody knows how stressful that is. He encouraged everyone to look out for the flyers for November 8, 2026. The time for the event is from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or whatever time they close.

He also wanted to mention the challenge made by Kassie Lester. Ms. Lester put it out there. Fairborn will knock it out of the park. They have 365 days to produce a plan. Again, it is a friendly competition. There is nothing like guys running in heels and women running in combat boots all for a good cause.

Last but not least, this is still Breast Cancer Awareness Month. He knows he mentioned that the last time we met. There has been several events that have taken place in that regard. He heard a statistic two days ago that said one-third of the new cancer diagnosis is breast cancer. He had not heard that before and it came from someone who fought the battle of breast cancer and did their research.

Deputy Mayor McCubbins stated they would not be meeting again before daylight savings time, so it is just a reminder to everyone that on November 1, 2026, we set our clocks back. This is also the time where we typically recommend you check the batteries in your smoke detectors and your carbon monoxide detectors. Make sure you get your furnaces checked. Carbon monoxide is a silent killer. We would hate to lose anyone in our City to that. The smoke detectors are very important. If you can't afford one or you need help hanging it up, give our Fire Department a call. They have a program to come out and help. We would rather have the Fire Department come out and help you install a smoke detector than come out and put out a fire. Please reach out if you need any help.

Mayor Kirkpatrick stated several Council meetings ago after the passing of Dolly Parton we did a proclamation honoring all the work that she has done. They received a thank you from the Dolly Parton organization and a reminder that her Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program continues. It did not stop with her passing. So, if you have children that are eligible for it, please contact the local library or you can go directly to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio. It is a wonderful program providing books for young children. The books come to their house at no cost. Again, they received a thank you for the proclamation from that organization.

He had the opportunity this morning as he is on the Dayton Medal of Honor Committee who is in the process of installing a Medal of Honor Memorial at the corner of Edwin C. Moses and Third Street and today was the actual delivery of the memorial and the installation of the oblisque and the globe that sits on top. They were very honored that Edwin C. Moses, the track star, who won several Olympic gold medals was there today. He lives in Atlanta. He flew up just for the installation of the memorial itself. It was really exciting. All the news channels were there. The actual dedication of the memorial will be Friday, November 13, 2026. It recognizes the 41 Medal of Honor recipients from the Dayton region.

The City Manager mentioned the Halloween Festival. Mayor Kirkpatrick had the opportunity to be on the trash pick up committee. He has never seen so much trash in his life. They filled three huge dumpsters, but more importantly the event was extremely successful. They were concerned Friday evening with the off and on rain. They had a good crowd, but not a great crowd. Saturday was a beautiful sunny day. In all the years that he has been helping with the Halloween Festival, this is the busiest he has ever seen it. It was absolutely packed. As several other council members mentioned, Friday evening was the costume contest. He and another gentleman had the 3- and 4-year-olds costume judging. It was a tough time picking the winners. The entire festival was well done and kudos to the Chamber of Commerce and all the volunteers who helped put that on. If you have not been to it put it on your calendar for next year.

He added a note about Heels for Heroes; Marilyn McCauley started that program a number of years ago. It targets a group of veterans who might otherwise slip through the cracks. It is an extremely popular and well-organized part of the Fairborn community. He wishes other communities would have similar programs. Kudos to Marilyn and her committee for putting that on. If you did not get a chance to be a sponsor this year, and he thinks most of Council helped with being a sponsor and they had a lot of other sponsors, but that is a truly important program that benefits the veterans in our community. He explained that Sister Cities have approached City International and there is a suburb of Tokyo, right next to Yakova Airbase, called Fussa. They have approached us about becoming a Sister City. They are in the process of looking at making that happen. If you are interested in that there will be a meeting on November 10, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. at the Breakfast with the Mayor, but it is going to be about our Sister City program. If you want to hear more about what Sister Cities do and how they function the lady who coordinates for this region of the United States works out of an office in Cincinnati and she is coming up for that meeting to answer questions. If you are interested in the Sister City Program that will be an important meeting and the community is certainly invited to hear about the benefits of having Sister Cities.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Kirkpatrick stated there is a need to recess into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G) to conference with the City Solicitor for the Public Body concerning disputes involving the public body that are subject to pending or imminent court action.

At the conclusion of that Council will not be conducting any further business. Deputy Mayor McCubbins moved to recess into executive session. Councilwoman Reaster seconded. Yeas, six: McCubbins, Reaster, Allen, Dodd, Stanton, and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Motion carried. The meeting was recessed into executive session at 6:24 p.m.

RECONVENE

Councilwoman Reaster made a motion to reconvene into open session. Deputy Mayor McCubbins seconded. Yeas, six: Reaster, McCubbins, Allen, Dodd, Stanton, and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Mayor Kirkpatrick stated as a part of the process of returning from executive session, as Mayor I am certifying that our discussions in executive session were limited to conferencing with the City Solicitor for the Public Body Concerning Disputes involving the Public Body that are subject to Pending or Imminent Court Action.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Reaster made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Stanton seconded the motion. Yeas, six: Reaster, Stanton. Allen, Dodd, McCubbins, and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK, CITY OF FAIRBORN