

**MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026**  
**REGULAR MINUTES/JOURNAL**

**PLEDGE**

**ROLL CALL**

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL	MR. REYNALD J. PAOLONE	PRESENT
FIRST WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. KEITH SCHUBERT	PRESENT
SECOND WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. JAMES CLARK	PRESENT
THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. JOHN MOLITERNO	PRESENT
FOURTH WARD COUNCILMAN	MR. THOMAS GRUMLEY	PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN-AT-LARGE	MS. LILY MARTUCCIO	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. TOD LATELL	PRESENT
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE	MR. WES STEINER	PRESENT

**PROCLAMATION**

**Proclamation to Girard High School Cheerleading Team**

The mayor called the cheerleaders forward and read the proclamation aloud and presented the award. He congratulated the girls and asked if any of them would like to speak.

**Kira:** We were at practice pretty much everyday when it came down to our final days of practice, and we worked really hard, and I mean we were runners up last year so we were out for blood this year to take it all to be honest. So, we worked hard and I think we really earned it and without this amazing team we wouldn't have done that.

Administration and council congratulated the girls and shook their hands.

**Kira:** We would also like to thank our coaches because they did everything and worked really hard as well.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**ADDITIONS & DELETIONS**

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND SCHUBERT TO ACCEPT OF AGENDA OF MARCH 9, 2026 AS WRITTEN.**

SCHUBERT 2

CLARK

MOLITERNO

GRUMLEY 1

MARTUCCIO

LATELL

STEINER

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND LATELL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2026 AS WRITTEN.**

SCHUBERT 1

CLARK

MOLITERNO Abstain

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

**Steve Kristan, 72 Morningview Circle, Canfield, OH:** Representing Lumos Fiber and if you look at, you're probably wondering why I passed this out, right? This goes back to 18 actually 1981. It's 35 years old. If you remember back then IBM revolutionized the industry by inventing the pc. What they saw was the trend for technology. The trouble was they didn't continue and work forward on that. Then you go back a few years later, some of you may remember this. This is a bag phone. It was by Motorola. They attempted to revolutionize the industry, but what happened was, does anybody have a mobile Motorola phone today? They couldn't take advantage of what was going on. What I want to talk about today is, and the fact that the cheerleaders were here is really indicative of the City of Girard. You guys recognize that the future of the city is in your young people. So, I congratulate you and I congratulate the Cheerleaders, but what I wanted to do is just give you a moment of an update. So, we're building, Lumos is building a network for T-fiber run on it. It was exactly 6 months ago yesterday, if you remember I came and spoke on September 8<sup>th</sup> to give an update. Things are going extremely well. We've probably got another 3, 4, 5 months to go in this. It's been pretty well received. People like choice, when I talked to you last time what customers like or residents like is the ability to have a choice. Competition tends to drive prices down and services up and we see that. In fact I was talking to some of the people in the audience before this, and we were talking about the options they have now, but things are going really well. I do want to tip my hat to both Mark and Mark. They've been excellent to work with. You know the city is, they have a goal here and I think Mark, and I may be going out on a limb saying this, but their goal is to be the most connected city in Trumbull County, and you guys are well on your way. You've got a couple different options, there's us, there's another fiber provider, and that says a lot of things about the community. It says you're open. It helps you when you look at what fiber can do it's going to drive residential property values up when you go to sell a house, and that's good for residents that are selling. It also encourages job retention, which is important, as well as job attraction. So, you guys are well on your way. You're doing a lot of good things, and I just wanted to come out here. I don't have an ask. If there's any feedback you have. This is what fiber looks like. I don't know if I brought this last time. It is glass tubes with lighting running through there, and I think I mentioned last time I was here, if you go back to cd days it's red light. Remember? Cd red light or even had the laser pointers. Then we had something called blue ray and that was blue light, and so what that means is I put the fiber in the ground and I could change the speed by changing electronics because there's over 20,000 colors in a spectrum of light by changing the colors I can affect the data that it holds. Go back ten years ago we weren't doing the teams, the zooms, we weren't doing the virtual meetings, we weren't doing all the telehealth. We are doing more and more of that today, and one of the things That's my 3 ½ minute notice, so I'll wrap this up, but that's what people are telling us they want. They want the ability to have a choice and they want competitive prices and we're here to do that to you, provide that to you. Any questions? I'd be more than happy to take them. **Paolone:** Can't do that. It's not an open **Kristan:** Well, if anybody needs to get ahold of me they can get ahold of those guys. Can I say that? **Paolone:** Yes you can. You can't do a back and forth. I can have them ask you questions but it can't be a dialogue. **Paolone:** Any questions for him? Anyone? Ok. Thank you.

**Tonya Carpenter, 185 Morris Avenue:** I was wondering if any of you could tell me how many acres in land we have at the Girard Lakes and how many acres of water we have at the Girard Lakes? **Councilwoman Martuccio:** Number of acres and what was the other one? **Ms.**

**Carpenter:** Acres in water and acres in land. **Paolone:** Are you counting the lower too or just the upper? **Carpenter:** I'm more interested in how much land we have, but I know that, I didn't want an overall of the lakes and the land. So, I basically want land and water separate. You can get back to me. **Mr. Ragozine:** I know that for water we are doing a bathymetric study right now. So we're slowly draining the lake to see what the maximum density. **Carpenter:** I don't need to know how much water was in it. I need to know like what it holds. **Ragozine:** Oh ok. **Carpenter:** Those two numbers. **Ragozine:** We'll get that information to you.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CITY**

**MAYOR**

**MAYOR ZUPPO**

**PRESENT**

**Mayor Zuppo:** First off, I'll point out that I talked to Jason Johnson today at the high school and set April 30<sup>th</sup> as Civics Day. If everybody wants to mark their calendars it would be great if everybody could turn out for that. April 30<sup>th</sup>. I think he was going to talk to the judge today and the magistrate as well. I think it's been great the last couple of years with the judge participating, well actually the magistrate participating more than the judge, but Kurt has been great about it. Really educating kids on how the court works. So, April 30<sup>th</sup>. That's a day I always look forward to. I got the Board Health, the health and safety committee, Councilman Clark, Councilwoman Martuccio, Councilman Grumley, it's on the 18<sup>th</sup>, their annual meeting, there is a dinner involved with it. **Councilman Clark:** Is that March 18<sup>th</sup>? **Mayor:** March 18<sup>th</sup>. I've got to go, I'm going to be in Struthers at their council meeting that night, and you'll understand why in a few minutes, but if one of you would like to attend, I can appoint someone from city council, Frank told me, so, or anybody can come if somebody, I just picked those three because they're on the health and safety committee, but if someone else wants to go. James you're the chairman of that committee, if you can just let me know I'll let them know, and then I have to write a letter I think. So, whoever you decide on, if someone wants to go let me know, I'll write a letter for you. I passed out to everybody something that the police chief got for us on a short time rental ordinance. We are having some problems. The police department has had a few problems. I don't want to get into specifics with a couple of short term rentals that have turned into party houses. So, he's been very vigilant about it, and we've been to, Mark and I have been to, at a meeting with Trumbull County Planning Commission last year and this was a topic of discussion as well with these short term rentals. So, we need to get together, get our heads together and come up with something. I just gave you this as something to look at. You know we can make whatever we want to make out of it, but it's time to do something in believe. Just food for thought. At the next meeting I would like to have a caucus time at 6 o'clock to have KO Consulting, Lena Esmail from QuickMed and Mayor Cat Cercone-Miller from Struthers come. We've been in discussions about starting a direct primary care facility in Girard and also in Struthers. So, I am going to attend their council meeting next Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>. That is why I can't go to the Board of Health meeting, and they would like to attend our caucus, if you guys allow us to have caucus at 6 o'clock. **Paolone:** Is half hour going to be enough though because John has **Mayor:** Yea. I know. I mean I think so. Yea.

**MOTION MARTUCCIO LATELL SECOND TO HOLD CAUCUS TIME AT 6 O'CLOCK NEXT MEETING WITH KO CONSULTANTS.**

Schubert

Clark

Moliterno

Grumley

Martuccio     1

Latell           2

Steiner

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**Mayor:** I want to point out also, there's some fliers downstairs. Got together with Kristen Gallager from the Red Cross and we're going to be sponsoring a City of Girard community blood drive in the Girard city gym on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 am to 3 pm. Roll up your sleeves, get those arms out and get them ready. I plan on donating some of my blood. Easter egg hunt coming up here on March 28<sup>th</sup>, I believe is the date and that will be at Tod Park beginning at 11 am. Once again, a reminder also about our Memorial Day bash at Liberty Park where we are going to celebrate 100 year anniversary at Liberty Memorial Park. Mike Cardiero has been doing a great job of putting the plans together for that. We've got bands coming. We've got a farmers' market. He's going to have a disc golf tournament that weekend, and anything he could possibly think of doing for that weekend he is putting together. **Councilwoman Martuccio:** The whole weekend of Memorial Day. **Mayor:** Just Saturday actually. It's Saturday, 12-7. That's Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May I believe it is. That's a good question. Thank you. I will be recording a podcast this Thursday. I've been saying this for three months I swear, but they had a breakdown of some equipment. It's finally fixed. I'll tell you, I am just going to spend the time explaining to the people how finances in the City of Girard work. I want to thank our auditor for putting together a nice synopsis for me so people understand the difference between an enterprise fund and a general fund and those types of things. So, we will be recording that on this Thursday at noon, so it should be up on our social media by Friday, Monday at the latest. Finally, my favorite topic, feral cats. I have spent more time on feral cats than I ever thought I could dream of in my life. We have gone into a contract with Steel Valley Spay and Neuter spending way more money than I'm sure the auditor would like to see us spend right now, and you know I am personally not a cat lover. So, when they bring the cats in, they started trapping, they've already saved, there were 16 of the cats that were pregnant. There was going to be 59 more cats at that location. There's going to be close to 200 cats. This is the location down on Hartzell. Between Hartzell and Stambaugh talking 100s of cats. So, they test for feline leukemia and feline HIV. If they have either of those they euthanize. If they don't they spay or neuter them and they bring them back. Now I thought that was somewhat counterintuitive to me, but I had to go on a webinar, I've learned more about this stuff than I ever thought I would, you have to, I guess they best way to put it they said, if you clear all the cats out of that area it would be like putting a neon vacancy sign up. There will be more cats than left there within two days. I don't know how they do it, but they said the way to control the feral cat population, you spay and neuter them, you bring them back, and then they outlive it and they gradually pass on. So, I'm working on trying to find a cheaper solution before the auditor gets too upset with me because I saw the first invoice and it wasn't pretty, so, it's like \$2,000 or so. We can't be spending that kind of money on it, but I mean, I'm just, I'm going by, you guys requested it and we went out and did it, so now we have to deal with it.

**COMMENTS:**

**SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR**

**MARK RAGOZINE**

**PRESENT**

**Mr. Ragozine:** I appreciate the mayor's leadership in taking these feral cats off my plate these last couple of weeks. **Mayor:** You're welcome. **Ragozine:** We've both learned more than we possibly could have imagined on that subject. Some good news to report tonight. Last Fall we told council about applying for a new senior transit van. The City of Girard was successful. We received \$56,000 from ODOT Specialized Transportation Program 5310 Funds. Those funds will be released after July 1<sup>st</sup> and then we can go through the procurement process to purchase a new van. I believe we have worked out an agreement with the court. The current van, it's getting up there in mileage, but it is still useable, and we will probably hand over ownership of that vehicle to the court for their purposes, but the new van will be used solely for transit and senior transit purposes. Good news there. Some more grants that we received. The city received two Go Green grant awards through the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District. \$3500 towards new picnic tables at Tod Park and then another \$15,000 towards resurfacing the recycling lot out back. So, two important grants just to kind of keep up with some of the routine

maintenance in both of those departments. Lastly here, the fiber optics construction. I want to thank Steve Kristen for coming in tonight. Lumos' project is running smoothly. They have eight crews running through town today, several different streets. Very little issues to report over the last couple weeks. There are going to be issues from time to time, but overall, we have the worst of it contained if you will. And then as far as restoration, we've been getting a lot of calls on that. The weather is nice today, yesterday, tomorrow, but the full restoration will begin here in the Spring. We're trying to lock down a timeframe in there. Obviously, between March and June. That's a long-time span. So, we're trying to get a two- or three-week period where they commit to come into town and doing the full restoration. That's yards. That's roadway holes. Anything that has become an issue over the course of this construction. Other than that, really receiving some good reports from residents that they are saving a lot of money on their internet bills. They're using the providers to compete against one another for their services. Talked to a gentleman today who saved \$55 a month on his internet bill. Went down from \$85 to \$30 and he got a three-year deal on that. Whereas we don't have the same level of control over the gas and electric, you know those are market based, we can save our residents some money on the internet or at least doing our part in that regard.

**COMMENTS:**

**Councilman Steiner:** What's going on with the trash bill? Are we going to get a bill soon?

**Ragozine:** Yes. So, we posted on social media earlier. So, this has been something that has been developing over the last couple of years. Historically, trash is collected through a series of levies. Folks are paying that on their property tax. So, there were 5 levies. The plan was to let all of those levies lapse over time. So that is starting to happen now. The largest levy expired last year, so billing will begin this year. The city through the property taxes collected will pay the January, February and March bill altogether through those property taxes. Beginning with the April billing cycle, April, May and June, that will be the first bills that go out to the residents. That bill is going to come quarterly, and it is going to be somewhere in the vicinity of \$49-\$50.

**Steiner:** And we're just gonna get it at our house.

**Ragozine:** Yes. So you're going to need to go in, each resident will get a mailer, they'll get an invoice, you go in, you create a log in on Republic Services and you can pay it obviously electronic, send a check in, however you want, but those bills will come quarterly. Again, there's kind of a misnomer around town that garbage has been free. It's never been free. It's been paid through your property taxes. A lot of folks have paid through their escrow. Maybe they notice it maybe they don't, but now it is going to be individual payer and each household will pay quarterly.

**Mayor:** We're going to call it the Renny Paolone Rule moving forward. No, I wanted to point out though that we posted on our Facebook page today, on our social media today the Republic situation, and that is going to be a big topic I'm going to bring up on the podcast. We've got to educate people so they understand. It'll help you guys with getting questions. It'll help Monica and Gaye downstairs getting questions. I just wanted to point that out. One other quick point Mr. Chairman. The fire chief is not here. I just want to point out he's in Liberty receiving an award, a meritorious service award from Liberty Township Trustees right now.

**LAW DIRECTOR**

**PETE MALVASI**

**PRESENT**

**Attorney Malvasi:** No report.

**COMMENTS:**

**AUDITOR**

**JULIE COGGINS**

**PRESENT**

**Ms. Coggins:** I do not have a report this evening but I will be requesting an ordinance to amend the 2026 income tax distribution to allocate an additional 15% to support the street fund. Unfortunately, this is necessary because the street fund has experienced a continuous loss of revenue from the license tax distributions along with the traffic camera collections.

**COMMENTS:**

**TREASURER** **HENRY SFORZA** **PRESENT**

**Mr. Sforza:** I sent out my reports the other night for the month of February. We were down a little bit last year which didn't surprise me because I thought January looked too good. There was a little timing issue going on, but through 2 months we are still up over 5½ %. If we can keep that rate up for the rest of the year, that's an extra couple \$100,000 that will come in in income tax collections.

**COMMENTS:**

**FIRE CHIEF** **JAMES PETRUZZI** **ABSENT**

**POLICE CHIEF** **JOHN FREEMAN** **PRESENT**

**Chief Freeman:** Don't have a statistics report this evening. I will have one next council meeting. However, it is worth mentioning that we did have our entry level civil service test recently. Out of the 7 that signed up, 6 showed up, 4 passed the actual test with one of those being one of our provisional hires. Out of that remaining 3 we have potentially one that we might be able to look at.

**COMMENTS:**

**Councilman Grumley:** How are we doing with the camera Chief? **Freeman:** The camera remains an extra duty option for the officers. As I explained before getting more officers for the police department is going to bring in more ability to actually run that right now. I can fill you guys in at our overtime rates and what is going on with certain shifts. It's because of our problems right now with our patrol strength being where it's at. If you would like a full report on that I would be more than happy to share with you all the statistics with that and where we're going with that. I would recommend that being in executive session though. **Grumley:** I'm not sure if that can be in executive session or not. If we could get numbers as to where we were manpower wise in '22 when we brought in \$1.5 or whatever it was with the camera to where we are now. **Freeman:** We were a lot healthier with our patrol division at that point. **Grumley:** Yea if we could just see the numbers that's all. **Freeman:** Sure.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **FINANCES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-SCHUBERT**

**Councilman Moliterno:** Chief if you could have those for the finance committee meeting which is next week. **Paolone:** 2 weeks. **Moliterno:** We'd appreciate it. Mr. Grumley has already asked for caucus time, 6:30 prior to the next meeting which is in two weeks and that's when we'll have our monthly finance committee meeting.

**COMMENTS:**

##### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-LATELL-STEINER-MOLITERNO**

**Councilman Latell:** Just wanted to let everybody, I attended the meeting we had with Town Center Associates last week with the mayor. It's a group of some business owners and it was a good meeting. I think that there is definitely interest on their part to make sure we can try to do what we can do to try to get downtown going. It was interesting that Town Center said that we have more storefronts than Youngstown in that meeting. It was 112 storefronts that are available. The issue that we have is 30 are vacant right now and out of those 30 only 4 are available for lease or to buy and most of those businesses are owned by a few people down there. So, you know I think everybody is working to try to put some teeth into how we can get some people off their hands so to speak and make some movement down there, and as far as our next economic development meeting, we will have it, I'm going to ask for time, 6:30 on our April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to have before our agenda meeting. 6:30 April 6<sup>th</sup> or is it the 13<sup>th</sup>? I'm sorry April 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. That concludes my report.

**COMMENTS:**

**BUILDING & GROUNDS-SCHUBERT-MOLITERNO-STEINER**

**Councilman Schubert:** No report

**COMMENTS:**

**HEALTH & SAFETY-CLARK-MARTUCCIO-GRUMLEY**

**Councilman Clark:** I will be attending the community block watch next March 19<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm. Get some feedback from the citizens. Some health and safety concerns. One thing I mentioned last meeting that was about the vehicle parking on the, I saw it as I was driving in today. Just figured I'd bring that up again.

**COMMENTS:**

**Chief Freeman:** Just had meeting a meeting with the administrative captain, Chris O'Brien this morning. The opinion that we got two years ago when this was brought up, again I will reiterate from last meeting, there is an easement for that property. That was the conclusion of the previous law director. We do have a new law director now. I'd be more than happen now to sit down with him and reevaluate, but that is the standing our department has run off of since that last opinion that they are allowed to park there as long as there's a decent amount of sidewalk area there. I am going to refrain from making a comment if I agree with that or not, but that's the information that we are operating off of right now, but I would like to have a meeting with the now director. (Several people were making comments at once and it was difficult to interpret) **Grumley:** Ask the law director if there isn't anything with any teeth, just bring us back what we need to do because the car and truck have been on that sidewalk all afternoon. There's plenty of parking on Broadway. **Clark:** I can see where the truck there might be an easement, but the car is right there. **Paolone:** It's all over town James. **Clark:** but also there is an ordinance as well about driving onto a sidewalk. **Freeman:** There certainly is. That's what we tried to use before to actually enforce it. Yea. I would definitely like to reexam that. We made need to change an ordinance or two.

**STREETS SIDEWALKS & EMPLOYEE WELFARE-GRUMLEY-SCHUBERT-LATELL**

**Councilman Grumley:** We will be meeting tomorrow at 11 o'clock in the conference room Downstairs.

**COMMENTS:**

**UTILITIES-MARTUCCIO-LATELL-CLARK**

**Councilwoman Martuccio:** I have no report for utilities, but I do want to mention that the Geauga Trumbull, we're having an Earth Day clean up on April 18<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Grumley and I will coordinate that with Geauga Trumbull and get back to you on the details.

**COMMENTS:**

**ZONING-STEINER-CLARK-MARTUCCIO**

**Councilman Steiner:** March 19<sup>th</sup>, 5 o'clock, library. James, you're able to make that correct?

**Clark:** Zoning? **Steiner:** Yea. (Several people were talking at once and it could not be understood) That's all. **Paolone:** March 19<sup>th</sup>, 5 o'clock at the library? **Steiner:** Yes.

**COMMENTS:**

**THEATER-MARTUCCIO-MOLITERNO-SCHUBERT**

**Councilwoman Martuccio:** No report.

**COMMENTS:**

**LAKES-MOLITERNO-GRUMLEY-LATELL**

**Councilman Moliterno:** No report other than that we were expecting a response back from Mr. Meeks before we had that first meeting of the lakes property, but I know he has since resigned from the city. So, we are going to move that meeting up. We will call a meeting. I will talk to the administration as to the timing of that, but we don't have to wait two months for Dennis to respond to this now we'll move ahead.

**COMMENTS:**

**Grumley:** If I could just reply to Mrs. Carpenter. The upper lake is 728.19 acres, and it's 175 of it is the lake. I actually have with me tonight the appraisal from 2018 report. If you'd like to borrow it for a week or something. **Mrs. Carpenter:** I would love that. **Grumley:** You're more than welcome to it, and, you know, and just so you know I have it.

**ORDINANCES**

**53-08**

**THIRD READING**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GIRARD TO AMEND ORDINANCE CHAPTER 1332 (VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION) TO IMPLEMENT A GRADUATED FEE SCHEDULE, ESTABLISH MANDATORY ACTION PLANS FOR VACANT STRUCTURES, AND CREATE REFUND INCENTIVES FOR RAPID RE-OCCUPANCY.

**MOTION CLARK SECOND MOLITERNO FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 53-08.**

**Latell:** I just a couple of questions just so I'm clear on this. Is this once this is implemented is it grandfathered for businesses that are there or is it just pertaining to businesses moving forward from this point and time? **Clark:** Well, I think we need to identify the vacant structures and then I mean how we enact it I mean maybe give them ninety days to register and then work on the action plan. **Latell:** I think we have to be clear on that as to because if this is going to go into affect **Clark:** I guess I don't understand your question. Are you saying that people that have already been there that have their vacant buildings there for years? **Latell:** Correct. **Clark:** Are they going to be held accountable. **Latell:** Does it apply to them or is this only from this point moving forward? **Clark:** Well, if they keep their buildings vacant, yes it's going to apply to them. Is it retroactive? **Latell:** Ok. **Clark:** Yea so yea. **Latell:** Ok. Fair enough. And then lastly the last question I have is it mentions that this would apply to or the fee could carry on to a new business owner if a business purchases the building and the fees were not paid and it went in escrow it goes to the county auditor or it goes to the city auditor and then goes to the county auditor. One thing we don't want to do with this, and I agree we should do something, but we don't want to deter business, new business from coming in. So, I guess my question is if there is a fee if somebody says I'm not going to pay it and they rack up \$30,000 and a new business wants to come in who is paying that because we certainly would not want to deter a new business by saying well you have to pay that \$30,000 or whatever that number is. **Clark:** When you close on real estate transactions when they go to record the deed they satisfy all liens. **Latell:** I understand that but whose paying that? Is it going to be, are you saying that they're going to the business owner is going to pay it or the buyer is going to pay it because it could go both ways. **Clark:** I mean it could go onto the buyer if it's an inexpensive property and the fees are high. **Latell:** I understand that so is a buyer going to say wait a second I gotta buy this I gotta put in another \$30,000 that wasn't my fault. Are they? Do you understand what I'm saying? So, they may say well I don't I'm not coming to Girard because I don't want to pay that fee. That's not my fee. So, I guess I want to know that we have an opportunity either at the county level or the city level to potentially waive that fee. That we could do something so that a new business coming in would not have to take on that fee because if it is high enough that potentially could stop somebody from coming in. **Clark:** Well maybe we could yea have an appeals process for it. Yea. Maybe we could amend the agreement. **Moliterno:** It says it in the ordinance. All late and registration fees shall be paid by the owner prior to any transfer of ownership interest in a vacant, commercial or industrial building. So, they can't sell it without having paid it or made an agreement with either the city or the new owner. So, they have to do that by virtue of this ordinance. **Attorney Malvasi:**

I think it give them a refund if they do pay within that year and then transfer that property they can get their money back if they go through the refund process. **Clark:** The refund incentive is if they get the property occupied. **Malvasi:** Yea but if they paid their fee I thought they got the refund if they got it occupied within that calendar year. **Clark:** Within that calendar year. Yes. Correct. **Paolone:** Thanks Pete. **Clark:** I think Tod's concern is **Malvasi:** I understand yea. **Clark:** It goes on and on and on and just never pays or registers. **Grumley:** But it is addressed in here. **Latell:** I understand that but if it comes down to if you're in the closing room and they are saying well the buyer and the seller and there's an argument there on well whose going to pay it that could be an issue. **Schubert:** The current owner pays it. **Clark:** It'll be way before the closing table. **Latell:** Just want to make sure. I want to make sure we are clear on that because the last thing that we would want to do with this is to deter a business from coming to Girard. (there were several people talking and couldn't be transcribed) I understand that and they may say I'm not paying it and I can go and I mean some of these you can get up to \$6400 a year. If they don't pay for five years on some of these businesses, that could be a lot of money. **Clark:** Well I think it's aggressive but I think it needs to be aggressive and I think we need to get people off their hands and **Latell:** I understand that. I just don't want to deter business. **Clark:** Well we don't have any opportunities for business to come in right now anyway so. **Paolone:** There is a motion on the floor and a second James and John. Any other comments? I am going to ask for a roll call.

SCHUBERT

CLARK 1

MOLITERNO 2

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO

LATELL

STEINER

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**53-09**

**SECOND READING**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO HIRE NO MORE THAN FOUR (4) TEMPORARY SEASONAL EMPLOYEES.

**Grumley:** Can we have a cost breakdown for financial for the finance committee meeting?

**Coggins:** For the seasonal? Yes.

**53-10**

**SECOND READING**

AN ORDINANCE CREATING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 IN THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO.

**53-11**

**SECOND READING**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A DISCRETIONARY SPENDING LIMIT OF TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$20,000) ON THE CITY ADMINISTRATION INCLUDING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE & SAFETY.

**Grumley:** Mayor, before the finance committee meeting could you give us a breakdown on how many times in the last 26 months since you've been in office that you have spent over \$20,000 without counselmatic approval? **Mayor:** Ok. **Grumley:** And like I said this is for next meeting.

**53-12**

**FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FULL-TIME CITY ENGINEER POSITION FOR THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO, AND PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND QUALIFICATIONS.

**53-13**

**FIRST READING**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICE TO ADVERTISE FOR A STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) SERVICES AT THE CITY OF GIRARD SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY IN THE CITY OF GIRARD, OHIO.

**Moliterno:** Do you need this? **Ragozine:** Yea. If we could. It's just for advertising. **Moliterno:** Just for advertising.

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND MOLITERNO TO SUSPEND THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> READINGS OF ORDINANCE NO. 53-13.**

SCHUBERT

CLARK

MOLITERNO 2

GRUMLEY 1

MARTUCCIO

LATELL

STEINER

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND MOLITERNO FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 53-13.**

SCHUBERT

CLARK

MOLITERNO 2

GRUMLEY 1

MARTUCCIO

LATELL

STEINER

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**53-14**

**FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1305.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GIRARD REGULATING AND AMENDING THE DUTIES OF THE CITY ZONING INSPECTOR.

**53-15**

**FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FEMA CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND FOR THE RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURES OF FEMA GRANT MONIES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**NEW LEGISLATION**

**MOTION GRUMLEY SECOND SCHUBERT TO PREPARE LEGISLATION REGARDING SHORT TERM RENTALS IN THE CITY OF GIRARD.**

SCHUBERT 2

CLARK

MOLITERNO

GRUMLEY 1

MARTUCCIO

LATELL

STEINER

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**MOTION LATELL SECOND MARTUCCIO TO PREPARE LEGISLATION ADOPTING THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE.**

**Grumley:** Can we hand it off to the zoning committee before? **Paolone:** You want to hand it off to the zoning committee for them to look at it before it's **Grumley:** Well we're putting it on now.

**Paolone:** Ok. We take this under? Ok. Thanks.

SCHUBERT

CLARK

MOLITERNO

GRUMLEY

MARTUCCIO 2

LATELL 1

STEINER

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**Mayor:** I'd just want to point out I apologize for missing your meeting tomorrow. I am heading to Columbus for the Chamber's drive in so I will be in Columbus tomorrow and heading back Wednesday evening.

**MOTION MOLITERNO SECOND GRUMLEY TO PREPARE LEGISLATION FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DISTRIBUTION RATE FOR INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026.**

SCHUBERT

CLARK

MOLITERNO 1

GRUMLEY 2

MARTUCCIO

LATELL

STEINER

MOTION PASSED 7-0

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION SCHUBERT SECOND STEINER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2026.**

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**REYNALD PAOLONE, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

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**MONICA URBANIC, CLERK OF COUNCIL**