



City Council Organizational Meeting Minutes January 2nd, 2024

Pursuant to a request by Council President Edward Levon, an Organizational Meeting of the Council of the City of Wickliffe was held on Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024 at 7:02 PM in Council Chambers at Wickliffe City Hall.

The following were present at Roll Call:

Council President	Edward Levon
Council Members	Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Thielman
Mayor	Joseph Sakacs
Law Director	Jeremy D. Iosue
Finance Director	Chlondra Hunter
Engineer	Peter J. Formica
Service Director	Ron Strauser
Building Commissioner	Raymond Sack
Recreation Director	Timothy Stopp
Police Chief	Jonathan Bush
Fire Chief	Christopher Grossman

Excused: Councilperson Salotto

Appointment of Clerk of Council

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, that Ms. Sandra Fink be appointed Clerk of Council for 2024.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Adoption of Rules of Council

Motion by Koski, seconded by Gerhardstein, that the Rules of Council (Chapter 121.01) be adopted as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment by Council of Prosecutor

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, that Michael A. Kenny, Jr. be appointed as the Prosecutor for the City of Wickliffe, Ohio.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointments by Council to CRA Housing Council

There were no terms which expired December 31, 2023 for the CRA Housing Council.

Appointment of Council Representative to Planning Commission

Motion by Koski, seconded by Gerhardstein, that Councilperson Jaworski be appointed as the Council Representative to the Planning Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representative to the Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Koski, seconded by Thielman, that Councilperson Gerhardstein be appointed as the Council Representative to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representative to Parks and Recreation Commission

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Koski, that Councilperson Bala be appointed as the Council Representative to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representative to Keep Wickliffe Beautiful Commission

Motion by Bala, seconded by Gerhardstein, that Councilperson Salotto be appointed as the Council Representative to the Keep Wickliffe Beautiful Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representative to Environmental Commission

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Bala, that Councilperson Thielman be appointed as the Council Representative to the Environmental Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representative to Cemetery Board

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Bala, that Councilperson Gerhardstein be appointed as the Council Representative to the Cemetery Board.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representative to Senior Center Board

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, that Councilperson Koski be appointed as the Council Representative to the Senior Center Board.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representative to Income Tax Board of Review

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Bala, that Councilperson Koski be appointed as the Council Representative to the Income Tax Board of Review.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Appointment of Council Representatives to Volunteer Firefighters' Dependent Fund Board

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Koski, that Council President Levon and Councilperson Jaworski be appointed as the Council Representatives to the Volunteer Firefighters' Dependent Fund Board.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment of Director of Law

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Koski, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Mr. Jeremy Iosue as Director of Law for the City of Wickliffe, Ohio.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment of Director of Public Service

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Mr. Ron Strauser as Director of Public Service for the City of Wickliffe, Ohio.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment of Director of Finance

Motion by Koski, seconded by Gerhardstein, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Ms. Chlondra Hunter as Director of Finance for the City of Wickliffe, Ohio.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment of City Engineer

Motion by Bala, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Mr. Peter Formica of CT Consultants as City Engineer for the City of Wickliffe, Ohio.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment of Director of Recreation

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Mr. Timothy Stopp as Director of Recreation for the City of Wickliffe, Ohio.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment of CRA Housing Council Officer

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Mr. Terrence Ness as CRA Housing Officer for the City of Wickliffe, Ohio.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment to the Planning Commission

Motion by Jaworski, seconded by Gerhardstein, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' re-appointment of Ms. Lori Ann Bochenek, term to expire 12/31/2029, to the Planning Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' re-appointment of Mr. Keith Bennett, term to expire 12/31/2028, to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointments to the Parks and Recreation Commission

Motion by Koski, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' re-appointment of Ms. Sue Mancino and Mr. Marty Adams, both with terms to expire 12/31/2026, to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Mr. Paul Infield, term to expire 12/31/2026, to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Ms. Louise Ruffner – no term expiration – as the Senior Representative to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointments to the Keep Wickliffe Beautiful Commission

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Thielman, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' re-appointment of Ms. Rebecca Haller (School Rep), Ms. Katelynn Gurbach, and Mr. Frank Esposito, all with terms to expire 12/31/2026, to the Keep Wickliffe Beautiful Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Bala, seconded by Gerhardstein, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Ms. Michelle Guba, term to expire 12/31/2026, to the Keep Wickliffe Beautiful Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointments to the Environmental Commission

Motion by Koski, seconded by Bala, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' re-appointment of Mr. Paul Infield, Mr. George Luther, and Ms. Lori Graczyk, all with terms to expire 12/31/2026, to the Environmental Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointments to the Cemetery Board

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Bala, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' re-appointment of Ms. Terri Jo Rotondo, Ms. Lori Graczyk, Ms. Sandy Luther, and Mr. David Krych, all with terms to expire 12/31/2027, to the Cemetery Board.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried

Motion by Bala, seconded by Gerhardstein, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Ms. Susan Iafelice, term to expire 12/31/2027, to the Cemetery Board.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointment to the Civil Service Commission

Motion by Koski, seconded by Gerhardstein, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' re-appointment of Mr. Mark Iafelice, term to expire 12/31/2029, to the Civil Service Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Koski, seconded by Gerhardstein, to affirm Mayor Sakacs' appointment of Ms. Jottie Allison, term to expire 12/31/2027, to the Civil Service Commission.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointments to the CRA Housing Council

There were no terms which expired December 31, 2023 for the CRA Housing Council.

Mayor/ Council's Appointments to the Tax Incentive Review Council

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Jaworski, to affirm Mayor Sakacs'/Council's appointment of Finance Director Chlondra Hunter to replace former Finance Director Deb Doles for the term to expire August 11, 2025 to the Tax Incentive Review Council.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Bala, to affirm Mayor Sakacs'/Council's appointment of Terry Ness, Assistant Finance Director and CRA Housing Council Officer, to replace former Economic Development Manager Monica Drake for the term to expire August 11, 2025 to the Tax Incentive Review Council.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor's Appointments to the Lake County Board of Health

There were no terms which expired December 31, 2023 for the Lake County Board of Health.

Appointments to the Committees of Council

The following appointments to the Committees of Council have been made by Council President Ed Levon:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:	LEVON, Koski, Jaworski, Salotto, Gerhardstein, Bala, Thielman
FINANCE:	LEVON, Koski, Jaworski, Salotto, Gerhardstein, Bala, Thielman
SAFETY:	KOSKI, Levon, Jaworski, Salotto, Gerhardstein, Bala, Thielman
IMPROVEMENT:	JAWORSKI, Levon, Koski, Salotto, Gerhardstein, Bala, Thielman
LEGISLATION & WELFARE:	GERHARDSTEIN, Salotto, Bala, Koski
SERVICE & SPECIAL EQUIPMENT:	SALOTTO, Jaworski, Thielman, Gerhardstein
UTILITIES:	THIELMAN, Koski, Bala, Levon
PARKS & PROPERTIES:	BALA, Koski, Salotto, Jaworski
ENERGY EFFICIENCY / ENVIRONMENTAL:	KOSKI, Gerhardstein, Levon, Jaworski
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/	
EUCLID AVE RE-DEVELOPMENT:	SALOTTO, Thielman, Bala, Gerhardstein

Council President Levon stated this list was sent to all Council prior to this meeting for all to review. He noted this list was not altered from last year, and stated if anyone would like to suggest changes, to please let him know.

Items to be Placed in Committee

The City Council Committee Task Assignments document, latest version updated December 18th, 2023, was distributed to all members of Council. Led by Council President Levon, each item on the document was reviewed to determine whether it could be removed or needed to remain. As each Committee's tasks were reviewed, new items were also added. (The document has been updated and attached for reference.)

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Sakacs thanked all volunteers (more than fifty) who serve on a Board or Commission. He also thanked the Council Members and Administrators who also serve on these Boards/Commissions. He praised their commitment and dedication, noting his appreciation in helping to make Wickliffe a great place. He looks forward to another year of working with Council, Administration, businesses, and residents.

Adjournment

Motion by Gerhardstein, seconded by Koski, to adjourn the meeting.

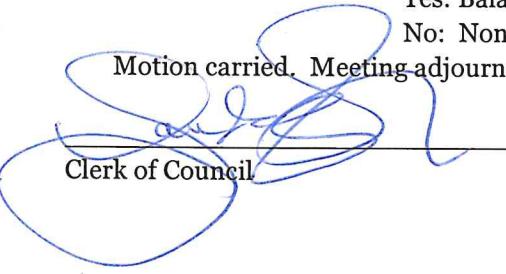
Discussion: None

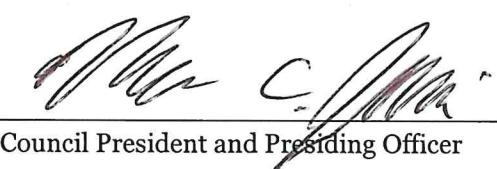
Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Gerhardstein, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 732 PM.


Clerk of Council



Council President and Presiding Officer