



Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a regular meeting of Wickliffe City Council was called to order by Council President Ed Levon on Monday, January 27th, 2025 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at Wickliffe City Hall.

The following were present at **Roll Call**:

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

Excused: Councilpersons Gerhardstein and Salotto

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bala, seconded by Koski, that the minutes of the Wickliffe City Council Meeting of January 13, 2025 be approved as presented.

Discussion: Councilperson Thielman asked if we needed to allow Ms. Salotto to abstain, and Council President Levon responded we did not since she is not here to vote.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman
No: None

Motion carried. **January 13, 2025 meeting minutes approved.**

Reports and Communications from Mayor/Safety Director

Mayor Sakacs read his written report.

There were no questions for the Mayor.

Reports and Communications from Director of Law

Law Director Iosue had no report.

There were no questions for the Law Director.

Reports and Communications from Council President

Council President Levon had no report.

Additions or Amendments to Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Administrators

A. *Police Chief (Bush)*

Chief Bush noted he had nothing to add to his previously submitted written report.

There were no questions or comments for the Police Chief.

B. *Fire Chief (Grossman)*

Chief Grossman reported he had nothing to add to his previously submitted written report.

Councilperson Jaworski inquired about a fire on Ridge Road last week, asking if all occupants got out safely. Chief Grossman noted the resident noticed an odor in their home and went outside to investigate. They saw smoke coming out of the attic and called 911. Both residents were able to get out of the residence on their own. Firefighters arrived and were able to get the fire extinguished relatively quickly. It appeared to have initiated in the area of the furnace. It could have been the furnace, but the department was unable to determine the exact cause. The department worked with the Red Cross and were able to arrange temporary shelter for the night. They also assisted in connecting them to a clean-up company and contacting their insurance. They were in good shape and the damage was mostly limited to the garage area of the attic.

There were no further questions or comments for the Fire Chief.

C. *Finance Director (Hunter)*

Finance Director Hunter noted she had nothing to add to her previously submitted report.

There were no questions or comments for the Finance Director.

D. *Engineer (Formica) Written Report Submitted*

Engineer Formica stated he had nothing to add to his previously submitted written report.

Councilperson Bala asked about Green Ridge pond dredging. Mr. Formica noted they are working. He and the Service Director are monitoring the progress. Last Friday they were approximately one third of the way finished. They were able to get a large machine to reach across the middle, and are approximately ten to eleven feet down, which is where they are reaching solid ground.

Councilperson Jaworski asked if he had a number for the additional street that Council voted to add to the improvement list this year. Mr. Formica noted he believed he did send it out, but also believed it is in his written report. This is for Parkwood Drive. He noted he sent it in the email. The total grant amount was \$500,00.00. The City requested \$520,000.00. The difference we will receive in an interest-free loan money. This has also been approved by the Lake County water department, as they have a stake in this. The final application has been submitted and we will receive the funding in July.

There were no further questions or comments for the Engineer.

E. *Service Director (Krofcheck)*

Service Director Krofcheck noted he had nothing to add to his previously submitted written report.

There were no questions or comments for the Service Director.

F. *Building Commissioner (Sack)*

Building Commissioner Sack reported he had nothing to add to his previously submitted written report, but wished to recognize his staff, Dino and Patty. He noted they do a great job for the City; getting out permits the same day, getting in revenue, doing inspections, and just doing a great job.

There were no questions or comments for the Building Commissioner.

G. *Recreation Director (Stopp)*

Recreation Director thanked all who participated at WinterFest. He noted it went very well.

Councilperson Jaworski asked about how many were in attendance, and her noted there were over one hundred sixteen who filled out raffle tickets. Councilperson Koski noted it was nice to have Lake Metroparks there. They were pleased with the turnout; they had a number of people who tried snowshoeing – both adults and children. Mayor Sakacs added there were a record number of chili contest entries; Mr. Stopp noted there were fourteen entries.

There were no questions or comments for the Recreation Director.

Audience Participation

Council President Levon opened Audience Participation to those in attendance at 7:08 PM.

He noted this portion of the meeting is intended for the audience to address the Council and Mayor, not the directors. Anyone wishing to address Council should use the microphone as the meetings are being streamed on YouTube; they must be acknowledged and give their name and address for the clerk's record and will be given a five-minute maximum for their comments.

After multiple calls inquiring if anyone would like to address Wickliffe City Council and there being no reply, Council President Levon closed Audience Participation at 7:09 PM.

Committee Reports

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes from the January 21st, 2025 meeting presented by Council President Levon (*written report attached*)

Safety Committee Meeting Minutes from the January 21st, 2025 meeting presented by Councilperson Koski (*written report attached*)

Service and Special Equipment Committee Meeting Minutes from the January 21st, 2025 meeting presented by Council person Salotto (*written report attached*)

Parks and Properties Committee Meeting Minutes from the January 21st, 2025 meeting presented by Councilperson Bala (*written report attached*)

Council President Levon called for a meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss the 2025 Budget on Monday, February 3rd at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Commission Reports

There were no Commission Reports.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

There was no New Business.

Ordinances

OR2025-01 AMENDED By Title Only An ordinance approving the editing and inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Wickliffe, Ohio; and declaring an emergency

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Bala, the rules of Wickliffe City Council be suspended and Ordinance 2025-01 AMENDED be placed on third and final reading.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Bala, that Ordinance 2025-01 AMENDED be adopted as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. **Ordinance 2025-01 AMENDED adopted.**

OR2025-03 By Title Only An ordinance providing appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Wickliffe, Ohio for the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2025; and declaring an emergency

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Bala, the rules of Wickliffe City Council be suspended and Ordinance 2025-03 be placed on third and final reading.

Discussion: Councilperson Bala asked if we were not a NOPEC City, would we still receive these grants. There was not a definite answer.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Bala, that Ordinance 2025-03 be adopted as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. **Ordinance 2025-03 adopted.**

Resolutions

RES 2025-01 A authorizing all actions necessary to accept Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) 2025 Energized Community Grant(s) funds; and declaring an emergency

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Bala, the rules of Wickliffe City Council be suspended and Resolution 2025-01 be placed on third and final reading.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Koski, that Resolution 2025-01 be adopted as presented.

Discussion: None

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. **Resolution 2025-01 adopted.**

Other Legislation

There was no Other Legislation.

Miscellaneous

There was no Miscellaneous Business.

Adjournment

Motion by Thielman, seconded by Bala, to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bala, Jaworski, Koski, Levon, Thielman

No: None

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.



Clerk of Council



Edward A. Lur

Council President and Presiding Officer