



Cleveland City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 01, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Oak Springs Community Center – 342 Campbell Street, Cleveland, GA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mayor Josh Turner, Council Members Nan Bowen (Mayor Pro Tem), Annie Sutton, Jeremy McClure, and C.J. McDonald

Also, present were City Manager Kevin Harris, City Attorney Keith Whitaker, and City Clerk Lisa Ritchie

INVOCATION

1. Pastor Burnetta Armour, First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland, and White County Ministerial Alliance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Sutton, and voted, unanimously, to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

2. First Public Hearing - Ordinance 2026-01 Repealing and Adopting the City of Cleveland Code of Ordinances

Mayor Turner opened the Public Hearing.

Mr. Harris presented a comprehensive review of the City's Code of Ordinances following Governor Kemp's signing of House Bill 592 and the implementation of the City's new Charter, effective July 1, 2025. He outlined several reasons for the review, including general housekeeping updates such as correcting grammatical errors, ensuring consistent language throughout the Code, and achieving compliance with applicable state statutes and federal laws.

Additional objectives included the removal of obsolete provisions, modernization of the Code to reflect current operations, addressing emerging issues, identifying and correcting provisions that are difficult to enforce, establishing clear procedures, codifying recently adopted ordinances, improving accessibility and understanding for users, and supporting economic development efforts.

Mr. Harris reviewed numerous chapters and highlighted the proposed changes.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Turner closed the Public Hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Consideration of a motion to authorize the establishment of a separate checking account for the collection and administration of insurance company proceeds related to fire and other emergency services.

Mr. Harris discussed the item.

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve authorization to establish a separate checking account for the collection and administration of insurance company proceeds related to fire and other emergency services.

4. Request for Georgia Department of Transportation Local Road Assistance funding for South Main Street crosswalk project

Mr. O'Bryant discussed the item.

Motion by Council Member Sutton, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve the request for Georgia Department of Transportation Local Road Assistance funding for South Main Street crosswalk project.

5. Consider Renewal of the Work Detail Agreement with Georgia Department of Corrections (Colwell Probation Detention Center) FY-2027

Ms. Ritchie discussed the item.

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member McDonald and voted, unanimously, to approve the renewal of the Work Detail Agreement with Georgia Department of Corrections (Colwell Probation Detention Center) FY-2027.

6. Consider Renewal of 2026-2027 Apex Liability Insurances (Auto, Property, Equipment, Public Safety, Cyber) through Tokio Marine HCC with a premium increase of up to 4%

Ms. Ritchie discussed the item. She stated that the renewal coverage will remain the same with a cost increase of 4%.

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to approve the renewal of 2026-2027 Apex Liability Insurances (Auto, Property, Equipment, Public Safety, Cyber) through Tokio Marine HCC with a premium increase of up to 4%.

CALLED MEETING/MEETING MINUTES

7. Approve May 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member McDonald, seconded by Council Member Sutton and voted, unanimously, to approve the May 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

8. Approve May 18, 2026 Executive Session Minutes

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to approve the May 18, 2026 Executive Session Minutes.

CITY ATTORNEY KEITH WHITAKER

Mr. Whitaker did not have any items to report.

CITY MANAGER KEVIN HARRIS

Mr. Harris did not have any items to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Ritchie gave the announcements.

9. The First Budget Hearing will be held at a Called Meeting Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. at the Oak Springs Community Center/Police Department
10. The White County Water Authority Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at the White County Water Authority
11. The Second Budget Hearing and Adoption will be held at a Called Meeting Monday, June 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Oak Springs Community Center/Police Department
12. The next Cleveland City Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Oak Springs Community Center/Police Department
13. The Planning and Zoning Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Oak Springs Community Center/Police Department
14. The Mayor and Council Members plan to attend the 2026 Georgia Annual Convention from June 26 through June 30, 2026 at the Savannah Convention Center located at 1 International Drive, Savannah, Georgia

Ms. Ritchie clarified that the Mayor and Council Members plan to attend the 2026 Georgia Municipal Association Annual Convention, rather than as previously stated.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Council Member McClure, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to enter an Executive Session at 6:58 p.m.

15. Real Estate

Motion by Council Member Sutton, seconded by Council Member Bowen and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Executive Session and return to the Meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Council Member McDonald opened the door to allow citizens to return to the regular meeting.

ADJOURN

Motion by Council Member Bowen, seconded by Council Member McClure and voted, unanimously, to adjourn the Meeting of June 1, 2026, at 7:08 p.m.