

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

A regular session of Troy Council was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall.

Members Attending: Marshall, Phillips, Schilling, Severt, Snee, Twiss, Westfall and Whidden.

Upon motion of Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Schilling, Mr. Pierce was excused from this meeting by unanimous roll call vote.

Presiding Officer:	William G. Rozell	President of Council
Others Present:	Robin I. Oda	Mayor
	Patrick E. J. Titterington	Director of Public Service and Safety
	Grant D. Kerber	Director of Law

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: An invocation was given by Council Member Westfall followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING: At 7:02 p.m. Council President Rozell declared open a public hearing on Resolution No. R-12-2025, application of Scherre Mumpower for Renewal of Farmland in an Agricultural District, for 25.15 Acres on Lytle Road. There were no comments in this regard, and at 7:03 Council President Rozell declared this public hearing closed.

MINUTES: The Clerk gave a summary of the minutes of the February 3, 2025, meeting of Troy City Council. There were no corrections or additions to these minutes. Upon motion of Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Whidden, the minutes were approved by unanimous roll call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Law & Ordinance Committee. Mr. Whidden, Chairman, reported that Committee recommends legislation be prepared to provide for the three legislative items required by state law related to the Smith Annexation of 57.679 acres from Concord Township, which parcel is located on Fenner Road at Wilson Road. To meet the timeline of the state law for an expedited annexation, Committee supports emergency legislation.

Report submitted by Marshall, Twiss and Whidden.

Mr. Whidden gave an oral report that a notice of stock transfer has been received from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control for a stock transfer for Shakti Petroleum LLC, 959 N. Market Street.

Safety & Health Committee: Mr. Twiss, Chairman, reported that Committee recommends legislation be prepared authorizing the Director of Public Service and Safety to enter into an agreement with Premier Health Partners related to the City of Troy Fire Department providing primary Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the UVMC Campus and to enter into a Donation Agreement with the Upper Valley Medical Center to accept a grant in the amount of \$175,000 to offset the purchase of a Sprinter ambulance to provide EMS to the UVMC Campus. So that the agreement with UVMC can be executed as soon as possible to facilitate the emergency medical response, Committee supports emergency legislation.

Report submitted by Severt, Whidden and Twiss.

Citizen Comments on Committee Reports or Agenda Items: None

RESOLUTION NO. R-8-2025

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING MUNICIPAL SERVICES FOR CERTAIN TERRITORY CONTAINING 57.679 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN CONCORD TOWNSHIP, PROPOSED TO BE ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF TROY, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

This Resolution was given first title reading.

Mr. Twiss moved for suspension of rules requiring three readings. Motion seconded by Mr. Severt.

Yes: Whidden, Severt, Westfall, Phillips, Marshall, Schilling, Twiss and Snee.

No: None.

Mr. Severt moved for adoption. Motion seconded by Mr. Schilling.

Yes: Severt, Westfall, Phillips, Marshall, Schilling, Twiss, Snee and Whidden.

No: None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. R-9-2025

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING BUFFER REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN TERRITORY CONTAINING 57.679 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN CONCORD TOWNSHIP, PROPOSED TO BE ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF TROY, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

This Resolution was given first title reading.

Mr. Whidden moved for suspension of rules requiring three readings. Motion seconded by Mr. Twiss.

Yes: Westfall, Phillips, Marshall, Schilling, Twiss, Snee, Whidden and Severt.

Mr. Whidden moved for adoption. Motion seconded by Mr. Schilling.

Yes: Phillips, Marshall, Schilling, Twiss, Snee, Whidden, Severt and Westfall.

No: None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. R-10-2025

RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN TERRITORY CONTAINING 57.679 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN CONCORD TOWNSHIP, TO THE CITY OF TROY, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

This Resolution was given first title reading.

Mr. Schilling moved for suspension of rules requiring three readings. Motion seconded by Mr. Phillips.

Yes: Marshall, Schilling, Twiss, Snee, Whidden, Severt, Westfall and Phillips.

Mr. Whidden moved for adoption. Motion seconded by Mr. Schilling.

Yes: Schilling, Twiss, Snee, Whidden, Severt, Westfall, Phillips and Marshall.

No: None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. R-11-2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY OF THE CITY OF TROY, OHIO, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PREMIER HEALTH PARTNERS RELATED TO THE CITY PROVIDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO THE UPPER VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER CAMPUS AND TO ENTER INTO A DONATION AGREEMENT WITH UPPER VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER TO ACCEPT A GRANT FOR A SPRINTER AMBULANCE VAN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

This Resolution was given first title reading.

Mr. Severt moved for suspension of rules requiring three readings. Motion seconded by Mr. Twiss.

Yes: Twiss, Snee, Whidden, Severt, Westfall, Phillips, Marshall and Schilling.

No: None.

Mr. Twiss moved for adoption. Motion seconded by Mr. Severt.

Yes: Snee, Whidden, Severt, Westfall, Phillips, Marshall, Schilling, and Twiss.

No: None.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. R-12-2025

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION OF SCHERRE H. MUMPOWER FOR RENEWAL OF FARMLAND IN AN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

This Resolution was given first title reading.

COMMENTS OF MAYOR ODA: The Mayor thanked the staff that worked many hours on repairing a water main break that occurred February 14, with repairs extending into the next day.

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND SAFETY: Mr. Titterington commented:

-In response to Mr. Schilling, the Police Chief provided a report related to any DORA related incidents.

-Council is reminded of three scheduled Committee of the Whole Meetings (February 19 regarding utility master plans; February 24 regarding landscaping plans for Prouty Plaza; and March 10 regarding schematic design recommendations on the Downtown Streetscape and Safety Project.)

-Regarding the major water main break that occurred on February 14 that resulted in a City-wide boil advisory, Mr. Titterington provided a timeline of what occurred February 14, with repairs finalized early on February 15, noting:

- February 14, 1:30 p.m., Water Plant staff discovered a major break in front of the plant; SCADA systems that monitor tank levels reported a drop in levels.
- Several pipes 12" and larger leave the plant at the same location in front of the plant; with the water pressure from the plant, it was impossible to know exactly what pipe was impacted; there are hundreds of valves in the system and some were closed so the water quality was not impacted.

- February 14, 6:30 p.m., Drinking Water Warning, Boil Advisory issued for the area north and east of the Great Miami River as a precautionary measure. (This was a difficult decision, but done because the system north and east of the river had depressurized [not the entire city]; it being a Friday evening, there was a lot of water demand and stabilization of water storage tanks fluctuated.)
- Because of a technology failure, there was a delay in this warning being received by recipients; the advisory actually became part of a WHIO-TV interview that was broadcast prior to the message going out.
- February 14, 8:30 p.m., Drinking Water Advisory Warning, Boil Advisory issued for enter City.
- February 14, 9:30 p.m., found that a valve in a 16" line at Community Park was damaged; shutting off that valve also shut off water to 7,500 hundred persons.
- It took three hours to get water out of the hole to fix the line.
- February 15, 3:30 a.m., repairs finalized and water storage tanks started filling.
- February 15, through the morning and afternoon, utility crews flushed hydrants to remove air and any dirt in the system.
- February 15, starting at 6:30 p.m., staff took a large number of water samples working with EPA (which samples have to sit for 24 hours) to make sure there was no contamination.
- February 16, 6:15 p.m., boil advisory lifted.

-He further noted that the City followed all communication strategies; advised citizens through the media, website, Facebook, notices to those who have signed up for information distribution; maintained constant contact with EPA (EPA has stated the City handled the event in a professional manner and followed EPA requirements) and Miami County Public Health; and called high-volume users (i.e. industrial business users, restaurants, schools, etc.).

-The City maintained communication with Miami County and West Milton (with whom the City has an agreement for providing water). West Milton and Miami County have their own water systems and make their own decisions on boil advisories; West Milton issued their own boil advisory as a precaution, and not at the City's direction; Miami County chose not to issue a boil advisory.

-Miami County Public Health has their own notification process, some of which may overlap the City's.

-There have been comments about using a "one-call" process, which the City no longer utilizes as the system is based on citizen subscription and citizens keeping information up to date.

-911 has a public safety emergency system and the City is looking at something like that system, but did not consider use of that County system to avoid diluting that system's effectiveness.

-The work was mainly handled by utilities maintenance staff, some of whom worked 30 hours without a break, some street maintenance employees, and utilities administrative staff.

-City staff has held a debriefing to help outline what worked and what may not have worked in this event to hopefully apply some of that information to future events.

-In response to Mr. Rozell, Mr. Titterington stated the City did not use a letter or notice delivered to residences due to the timing and the advisory being issued City-wide. That type of notification has worked when advisories have been issued for smaller geographic areas.

-In response to Mrs. Westfall, Mr. Titterington stated that the City took samples from 54 locations and none were positive for organisms.

-In response to Mrs. Snee, Mr. Titterington stated that if she had signed up for notifications an email would have been sent; some citizens received text notifications, but the system has a limit on the number of texts that can be sent, and citizens need to keep information current.

-In response to Mr. Whidden, Mr. Titterington advised that the cause seems to be the normal freeze/thawing that occurs this time of the year, and with ground shifting underground. He also commented that the City was aware there was a valve in Community Park, but staff was surprised the break was so far from the Water Plant.

-Mr. Titterington reported that on Sunday, February 17, there was a snowfall that followed rain, resulting in snow over slushy ice. With the forecast of temperatures falling into the single digits, it was decided to call in crews to handle all streets – main, secondary and local. He noted that each snow event is different and while the usual procedure is to address the main and secondary streets, it was decided that this event warranted bringing in all street staff (some of whom had worked long hours on the main break) to address all streets. He noted that the winter of 2024-25 has had more weather events than in recent years, and compared to this time in 2024, salt usage is up 77%, labor costs up 200%, overtime costs up 700%, and about \$75,000 has been expended in handling the winter weather compared to \$25,000 last year.

-Mr. Titterington complimented City staff/employees regarding how they responded to the water main break and the weather event.

COMMENTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

-Council President Rozell and members of Council thanked Mr. Titterington for his report on both events that occurred the past weekend and complimented City staff for the excellent manner in which they handled the water main break and weather event in difficult conditions.

-Mr. Phillips commented that misinformation is often provided as citizens respond to and on social media, that misinformation can result in negative and unkind comments, and the resulting discourse is not good for anybody. He encouraged citizens to reach out to elected officials for answers to questions.

- Mrs. Marshall asked about fluoride levels in the City water, with Mr. Titterington commented that Troy does not add fluoride to the water system as a level of fluoride naturally occurs, the information is in the annual consumer confidence report, and he will provide Mrs. Marshall with more information.
- Mr. Schilling stated he appreciates the report regarding DORA boundary issues.
- Mr. Severt thanked Mr. Kerber for working on additional information regarding the definition of a compact vehicle. He also noted that several downtown establishments had live music for Valentines Day.
- Mr. Severt noted that the At-Large Members of Council will hold a "Ask a Council Member" discussion session on March 22, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Villas of Halifax Community Building, 100 Nottingham Rd.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

- Deb Hogshead, 421 S. Plum Street, stated her concerns about the Federal Government, noted that the We the People movement will be introduced as a bill into congress, and encouraged citizens that share her concerns to contact their congressional representatives.
- Annie Shoemaker, 263 Elmwood Avenue, asked Council to consider permitting chicken raising in Troy, as she believes that will allow residents to help out their neighbors. Mr. Titterington noted that the comments would be forwarded to the Planning Commission as this would be a zoning matter.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Clerk of Council

President of Council