

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held _____ 20 _____

Videos, minutes, and agendas of council meetings are available to the public to view online at www.cityofvermilionohio.gov under "Council Activity" and click on "Agendas, Minutes and Meeting Videos".

CALL TO ORDER:

Jeff Lucas, President of Council called the Monday, August 17, 2026, Vermilion City Council Meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The members of the City Council, the administrative staff, and audience members recited the Pledge of Allegiance; a moment of silence followed.

ROLL CALL:

Vermilion City Council: Jeff Lucas, President of Council; Gary Howell, Council at Large; John Gabriel, Ward One; Greg Drew, Ward Two; Drew Werley, Ward Three; Homer Taft, Ward Four; Alec Bonawit, Ward Five; Melanie Wood, Clerk of Council.

Administrative Staff: Mayor Owens; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Chad Angney, Finance Director; Chris Howard, City Engineer; Tony Pecora, Law Director; Scott Holmes, Police Chief.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

J. Lucas MOVED: G. Drew seconded to approve the August 3, 2026, Vermilion City Council meeting minutes. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL REPORT: No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance:

D. Werley reported the next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Port Authority:

D. Werley reported on the meeting held August 13, 2026. The next meeting is September 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Utilities:

Alec Bonawit reported the next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Historic Design & Review:

Alec Bonawit reported on the meeting held August 5, 2026. The next meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Vermilion Tree Commission:

Alec Bonawit reported on the meeting held August 12, 2026. The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Legislative:

The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held _____ 20 _____

Parks & Recreation:

G. Drew reported the next meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Health & Safety:

G. Howell reported the next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission:

G. Howell reported on the meeting held August 5, 2026. The next meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Main Street Vermilion:

J. Gabriel reported all upcoming events and volunteer opportunities can be found at mainstreetvermilion.org.

Streets, Buildings & Grounds:

The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Stormwater Advisory Board: No Report.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

H. Taft reported the next meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

MAYOR/SAFETY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: No Report.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Notification of Construction — Discussion

Councilman Bonawit raised a concern that had been brought to him by citizens on Highbridge Road. He stated that residents informed him they had no advance notice that their road was going to be torn up — that one day the contractor simply arrived and began tearing out the road. He acknowledged that the contractor put up signs but noted that the signs were then covered up and unreadable. He asked whether the city has a formal process for notifying residents and whether a sign should be required to indicate a start date, so that residents — wherever they may be — have some advance notice of what is going to happen. He noted that several affected residents had contacted him with this specific concern.

Service Director Valerius responded that construction was announced at council meetings and posted on the city's website. He asked City Engineer Howard whether a specific construction date sign had been used. City Engineer Howard explained the standard procedure: the contractor is not permitted to uncover or post road closure signs until seven days prior to the scheduled closure. He stated that signs are put up early but covered until that seven-day window. He noted that the contractor's inspector typically communicates with neighbors during construction regarding access to their properties and scheduling any appointments needed to ensure residents can get in and out.

Councilman Taft suggested that the city could address this prospectively by including in bid specifications a requirement that the contractor post a sign — at least seven days before closing a section of road — that states a specific closure date and estimated duration, giving residents clear advance notice. City Engineer Howard confirmed that this is something that could be added to specifications.

Councilman Bonawit clarified that the complaint from concerned citizens was not with the contractor, whom he said residents praised as excellent and cooperative. The concern was entirely directed at the city's lack of advance notification to residents.

House Struck by Vehicle on Decatur Street — Update

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held

20

Councilman Gabriel reported that residents at the end of his street had asked him for a status update on the house on Decatur Street that had been struck by a vehicle.

Service Director Valerius responded that in late June the building department sent the owner a notice stating that their building permit was approaching expiration. He explained that the property owner came in and indicated she would not be renewing the permit at that time because the contractor she had hired left the job before completion and took a significant sum of money. He stated that staff asked the owner to address the scaffolding and construction materials that remained on site, and that those items have since been cleaned up. He noted that there remains an issue with exposed bare wood on the exterior of the structure, and that the owner has been notified that the exterior must be addressed. He stated the owner has been given a timeframe to do so.

Councilman Gabriel offered to connect the property owner with a contractor he knows who handles that type of work, and asked Service Director Valerius to put them in touch.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Finance Director Chad Angney reported on several items.

He noted that there was a budget commission meeting in Erie County regarding the October 2027 tax budget, stating that the process would essentially involve providing an estimate of property tax revenues, after which the commission would certify rates — likely to be brought before council at the September meeting — as an authorization to collect the levies on the books.

Finance Director Angney informed council members that they should have received inquiries from the state audit staff regarding fraud risk assessment questionnaires, noting that the format may be different from what members have seen in past audits. He explained that the state auditor's office would be sending these directly to council members, and that other firms may contact select council members by phone to run through a series of questions verbally or through a form. He provided his contact information and encouraged members to reach out with any questions. Council President Lucas noted there appeared to be a deadline of the 24th for response. Councilman Taft clarified that a second communication indicated a deadline of the 14th, prompting some brief discussion. Finance Director Angney clarified that the response would be used for audit engagement planning and that either deadline would be workable.

Finance Director Angney also reported that the previously announced audits for fiscal years 2026 through 2030, which were to be conducted by a private firm, had gone through the bid process administered by the state. He reported that the contract would be awarded to a firm called the Julian & Grube, which is the same firm that performs the city's conversion from cash to GAAP basis. He noted that the same firm can perform both services because they maintain structural independence within different divisions of their office. He stated that the agreement would be signed once complete.

Finance Director Angney noted that the only formal action item for the evening was Ordinance 2026-47, which is on its second reading for budget modifications discussed at the prior Finance Committee meeting, and that nothing material had changed in the figures.

Council President Lucas confirmed the ordinance would proceed to a third reading.

Regarding the Audit Contract — Discussion on Council Authorization

Councilman Drew raised the question of whether the audit contract should come before council for approval. He drew an analogy to the purchasing of police vehicles under a state contract, noting that purchases above a certain threshold require board approval. He asked why the same standard would not apply to the audit contract.

Finance Director Angney explained that the state administers the entire bid process for audit firms and that the city's role in the rating process accounts for only six of a possible one hundred points. He explained that the state auditor's office has authority under Ohio law to mandate audits for local governments, and that a private firm fulfilling that role operates in a similar capacity.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held _____ 20 _____

Councilman Drew pressed the point, stating that regardless of the state's authority, the contract involves the city's money and that an ordinance should be brought before council for approval. He suggested the law director review the matter.

Law Director Pecora, speaking off the cuff, indicated his preliminary view was that if the contract amount exceeds the statutory threshold, it could not simply be spread over time to avoid the requirement for council authorization. He stated he would want to look at it more thoroughly.

Finance Director Angney agreed to send council a draft of the contract before signing it and stated he would also reach out to the firm's legal division to better understand the boundaries of the state's authority and the city's jurisdiction in the matter.

No formal action was taken on this item. Finance Director Angney committed to bringing the draft audit contract to council for review prior to execution.

Councilman Werley raised a concern about the timeliness of monthly financial reports, noting that the January report was received about one and three-quarter months late, February's arrived after the end of March, March's arrived more than two months late, and April's came in about three months behind. He stated that the Port Authority had also taken issue with the delayed April report at their last meeting. He asked whether there was a specific reason for the delays and whether the situation would improve.

Finance Director Angney acknowledged the concern and explained that the two primary factors causing delays are the volume of electric utility invoices — approximately 86 of which must be posted through memo, receipt and deposit — and credit card payments, which come through in bulk and require posting individually. He also noted that the office had been dealing with a high volume of public records requests, primarily from the state audit staff, and time spent on the GAAP conversion, as well as playing catch-up from the transition at the start of the year. He offered that if council ever needs an interim report, he can send what is available on the system at any given time, noting it would include the appropriate caveat that not all utility accounts or credit card expenses have been posted.

Councilman Werley acknowledged the explanation and noted he appreciated the response, adding that the Port Authority had specifically asked him to raise the issue.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT:

City Engineer Chris Howard provided construction updates on several active projects.

He reported that on Highbridge Road Phase 3, the contractor is currently performing pavement undercuts, installing under drains and stone, and — weather permitting — is hoping to pave within two weeks.

Regarding Jackson Street Improvements, the contractor is scheduled to begin work on September 8th.

On the Haley Street Reconstruction, he reported that a pre-construction meeting was held the prior Thursday and that, according to the construction schedule provided, the contractor is looking to start September 21st. Council President Lucas asked for a projection on when the Safe Routes to School project on Route 60 would be completed. City Engineer Howard replied that they are moving along well but that he did not have the completion date in front of him and would get back to council on that. Council President Lucas observed that the crew appears to be making good progress, even working through bad weather.

LAW DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Law Director Tony Pecora reported on a matter requiring corrective action.

He stated that on August 3rd, council passed Ordinance 2026-39, pertaining to council's legislative meetings and the ability to preclude the mayor from executive sessions. The ordinance was signed by the mayor on August 5th and submitted to the Board of Elections. However, after submission, the Clerk of Council discovered a scrivener's error: the ordinance as submitted did not reflect the amendment that was passed during the meeting. He explained that Councilman Taft had moved to remove language referencing "a majority of a quorum" in favor of "a majority of council," and that the meeting minutes correctly reflect what was passed, but the actual ordinance sent to the Board of Elections retained the unamended language.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held

20

Law Director Pecora stated that because the ordinance has already been submitted to the Board of Elections, he would recommend that council move to repeal the erroneous ordinance and simultaneously adopt a corrected version reflecting the actual intent and vote of council as recorded in the minutes. He noted that the corrected version has already been signed by the Council President and the Mayor. He stated that, as the original passage was unanimous, he recommended at least a two-thirds majority to be safe in the repeal and re-adoption.

Clerk of Council Wood confirmed that she had been in contact with the Board of Elections, who advised they would need a new signed ordinance, which was prepared and ready to go. She stated that upon council's approval that evening, she could resubmit to the Board of Elections.

Councilman Gabriel asked for clarification on the nomenclature, specifically whether the ordinance number would change. Clerk of Council Wood confirmed it would remain Ordinance 2026-39, as amended, since it had already been passed under that number.

Law Director Pecora read the corrected language for the record: the original text stated that council may meet in a closed executive session "only after majority of a quorum of council determines," and the corrected version should read "a majority of council determines," consistent with Councilman Taft's amendment as recorded in the minutes.

Councilman Taft offered a clarifying observation for the record, stating that the issue was that the amendment had been passed but was not reflected in what was submitted to the Board of Elections, and asking whether it was technically better to repeal or to reconsider, amend, and re-adopt. Law Director Pecora indicated that, since the ordinance has already been submitted, a repeal and re-adoption was the cleaner path.

D. Werley MOVED: J. Lucas seconded to repeal 2026-39 adopt the corrected version of 2026-39 as previously approved. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Councilman Taft then noted that a subsequent motion was needed to formally move and adopt the substitute Ordinance 2026-39 to effectuate the corrected submission. This was clarified as being encompassed within the prior motion as worded by Councilman Werley, which included both the repeal and adoption of the corrected version. Clerk of Council Wood and the Law Director confirmed that the prior motion covered both actions.

Law Director Pecora also recommended that the minutes of the evening's meeting be provided to the Board of Elections alongside the corrected ordinance to confirm the action taken.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

J. Lucas MOVED: H. Taft seconded to go out to bid for the 2026 Pavement Marking Program. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE: None.

RESPONSE TO THE AUDIENCE: None.

READING OF THE ORDINANCES:

Third Reading – Ordinance 2026-35: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A CONSENT AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) TO CONSTRUCT OVERHEAD SIGN SUPPORT IMPROVEMENTS AT LOR-SR-2 1.521 TO 1.523 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

J. Lucas MOVED: J. Gabriel seconded to declare an emergency on Ordinance 2026-35.

Councilman Werley asked for a reminder of what the emergency basis was. Clerk of Council Wood explained that the ordinance was prepared by ODOT and submitted to the city as written, noting that ODOT prepares

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held

20

all of its own legislation. City Engineer Howard stated that he believed the underlying deadline was October 1st, which Clerk of Council Wood confirmed was also her recollection.

Councilman Werley indicated that without being told of a specific emergency, that was why he intended to vote no. Law Director Pecora noted, for the edification of council, that case law establishes that council itself determines whether an emergency exists by its own description and declaration — the city is not bound by ODOT's designation.

Councilman Taft revisited a question he had raised at a prior reading: Section 4 of the consent agreement, under Maintenance, states that "upon completion of the project, the city shall provide adequate maintenance to the described project." He asked why that language was included if the city has no maintenance responsibility. City Engineer Howard clarified that the maintenance responsibility provision is standard ODOT boilerplate and that a confirming email had already been obtained from ODOT in writing stating that the city has no maintenance responsibility for the signs.

Roll Call Vote 3 YEAS (Gabriel, Drew, Lucas); 1 ABSTAIN (Howell); 3 NAYS (Werley, Taft, Bonawit).
MOTION FAILED.

Councilman Taft noted that the ordinance was on its third reading and moved to adopt the ordinance. Councilman Gabriel seconded. He noted that the ordinance would take effect within 30 days of adoption, which would fall before the October 1st deadline, and stated he would not vote for the emergency declaration. Discussion arose about how to handle the submission to ODOT given that the emergency language, which ODOT had included in its own boilerplate, would not be part of the adopted ordinance. Clerk of Council Wood indicated she would cross out the emergency language and submit the ordinance as adopted. Law Director Pecora noted that a clean PDF version could also be prepared with the offending language removed. Service Director Valerius suggested that a phone call to ODOT's contact may be the most practical approach to confirm how they would like it handled. Clerk of Council Wood indicated she would take care of the submission.

H. Taft MOVED: D. Werley seconded to adopt Ordinance 2026-35. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS.
MOTION CARRIED.

Second Reading – Ordinance 2026-41: AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF VERMILION A PROPOSAL BY THE VERMILION CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE VERMILION CITY CHARTER BY AMENDING THE PROCESS FOR INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

J. Lucas MOVED: H. Taft seconded to suspend the rules for Ordinance 2026-41.

Councilman Howell asked what the emergency was. Clerk of Council Wood explained that the emergency is necessary to submit the ordinance to the Board of Elections by the new deadline of September 4th.

Councilman Taft clarified for the record that the motion was to suspend the rules so that the body could consider, discuss, and potentially amend the ordinance — not yet a motion to declare an emergency — and that full discussion and amendments would follow.

Councilman Drew noted that the motion to suspend the rules was appropriate and observed that proper discussion had not occurred at the prior meeting due to the manner in which the prior proceedings unfolded. He stated there had been no opportunity to hear arguments for or against the ordinance at that time.

Councilman Werley echoed this, stating he intended to vote yes on the ordinance and that he had never heard a substantive reason from any member of council why they would want to make it harder for citizens to exercise a right they rarely use in the first place. He characterized the state legislature's increase of the referendum signature threshold as "outrageous" and stated his support for lowering the number.

Councilman Taft expanded on his position, stating he found what the state legislature had done to be "utterly undemocratic" and "wrong" and "unfair" to the citizens of Vermilion and all of Ohio. He outlined three options before council: pass the ordinance on referendum and initiative as written or as amended; defeat it entirely and accept the state's threshold; or pursue a hybrid option of restoring the referendum right to 10% while deferring to state law on initiative. He indicated he would be offering amendments to the existing draft.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held

20

Councilman Gabriel expressed his agreement with the prior speakers' sentiments. He added that if council were to do nothing, the city would be left in a situation where it is easier to make charter changes than to pursue a citizen referendum or initiative — which he found to be an unacceptable imbalance. He stated his support for the percentages in the ordinance and noted that any outcome of a referendum or initiative could be revisited by later councils if things did not work out.

Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

J. Lucas MOVED: H. Taft seconded to declare an emergency on Ordinance 2026-41.

Councilman Taft stated, for further clarity, that the emergency is justified because the deadline is before September 4th and there are no regularly scheduled council meetings between now and that date, unless council were to schedule a special meeting.

Council President Lucas acknowledged this was a very good clarification.

Councilman Gabriel, for the benefit of all present, stated clearly what the ordinance entails: referendum signature thresholds would be set at 5% and 10%, with the 10% applying to mayoral elections, and initiative thresholds at 4% and 8%.

Councilman Taft noted that those figures would hold unless the body amended them further.

Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A. Bonawit MOVED: G. Drew seconded to adopt Ordinance 2026-41.

Councilman Taft then offered a series of amendments to the ordinance, moving them one at a time as he noted had been the guidance in prior proceedings.

Amendment 1: Councilman Taft moved to strike the phrase "to restore a reasonable signature requirement" from the ballot question at the beginning of Section 3 and substitute the phrase "to provide a lesser signature requirement," stating that his recollection from prior discussions was that members had asked that the word "reasonable" be removed from the ballot question language. There was no second to this motion.

Amendment 2: Councilman Taft moved to strike the phrase "or the laws of the state of Ohio" from Section A, explaining that the phrase created a conflict in language. He stated that the ordinance should reference only the state constitution or the charter itself as the governing standard, and that including "the laws of the state of Ohio" risked undermining the very protections the charter provision was intended to provide. He noted that if council preferred to retain a reference to state law, the alternative would be to amend the language to read "in the manner now or herein provided in this charter, the constitution of the state of Ohio, or otherwise as provided by Ohio law" — but he was moving only to strike the phrase. The amendment was seconded by Councilman Werley.

Motion to amend Ordinance 2026-41 by striking the words "or the laws of the state of Ohio" from Section A, was made by Councilman Taft and seconded by Councilman Werley. Upon roll call: Taft — Yes; Drew — Yes; Werley — Yes; Howell — Abstain; Gabriel — Yes; Bonawit — Yes; Lucas — Yes. **Motion carried.**

Amendment 3: Councilman Taft moved to amend Subsection B(2) lines 1-4 stating "within thirty (30) days after any ordinance is approved after passage by Council, whether by Mayoral approval, being adopted without Mayoral approval, or approval by Council after a veto by the Mayor". The amendment was seconded by Councilman Bonawit.

Councilman Drew asked how something would be adopted without Mayoral approval. Councilman Taft answered if it is an Ordinance, he can let it go into effect by not taking action to veto it or approve it within 10 days. That is the third possibility, it goes into effect without his signature and that is the item he is trying to cover with this.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held

20

Motion to amend Ordinance 2026-41 by amending Subsection B(2) lines 1-4 to state "within thirty (30) days after any ordinance is approved after passage by Council, whether by Mayoral approval, being adopted without Mayor approval, or approval by Council after a veto by the Mayor", was made by Councilman Taft and seconded by Councilman Bonawit. Upon roll call: Taft — Yes; Drew — Yes; Werley — Yes; Howell — Abstain; Gabriel — Yes; Bonawit — Yes; Lucas — Yes. **Motion carried.**

Amendment 4: Councilman Taft moved to amend Subsection B(2), lines 6 and 7, making two changes: first, to change "no later than 10 days" to "within 10 days," and second, to change "before the day of election" to "before the next regularly scheduled election," to conform the language throughout the ordinance. He explained that the more substantive change is the second, as the ordinance currently uses "next general election," "next regularly scheduled election," and "regularly scheduled election" interchangeably and inconsistently throughout the draft, and that uniformity is necessary. The amendment was seconded by Councilman Werley.

Councilman Gabriel questioned whether changing "no later than 10 days" to "within 10 days" was a meaningful distinction, suggesting the body may be "splitting hairs." Councilman Taft acknowledged the first part might be considered minor but emphasized that the second part — substituting "before the next regularly scheduled election" for "before the day of election" — was critical to achieving consistency throughout the document.

Motion to amend Ordinance 2026-41 by changing "no later than 10 days" to "within 10 days" and "before the day of election" to "before the next regularly scheduled election" in Subsection B(2), lines 6 and 7, was made by Councilman Taft and seconded by Councilman Werley. Upon roll call: Werley — Yes; Taft — Yes; Howell — Yes; Gabriel — Yes; Drew — Yes; Bonawit — Yes; Lucas — Yes. **Motion carried.**

Amendment 5: Councilman Taft moved to strike the phrase "the next general election" and substitute "the next regularly scheduled election" at Subsection B-2, line 15, page 2, to achieve full consistency in language throughout the ordinance. The amendment was seconded by Councilman Werley.

Motion to amend Ordinance 2026-41 by striking "the next general election" and substituting "the next regularly scheduled election" at Subsection B-2, line 15, page 2, was made by Councilman Taft and seconded by Councilman Werley. Upon roll call: Drew — Yes; Taft — Yes; Howell — Yes; Gabriel — Yes; Werley — Yes; Bonawit — Yes; Lucas — Yes. Motion carried, 7-0.

A. Bonawit MOVED: G. Drew seconded to adopt Ordinance 2026-41 as amended. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Second Reading – Ordinance 2026-46: AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACQUISITION, USE, CONTRACTS, AND SUBSCRIPTIONS OF AUTOMATIC LICENSE PLATE READER SYSTEMS WITHIN THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO; PROHIBITING MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS FOR SUCH SYSTEMS AND CREATING PART 13: EMERGING TECHNOLOGY.

G. Howell MOVED: J. Lucas seconded to table Ordinance 2026-46 and move to the next Legislative Committee Meeting. Discussion: Councilman Werley said he planned on doing this at the next meeting anyways. Personally, he would like to have a work session, it may not need to be a full body if they don't want it to but he would like to be there and the cops are more than welcome to join and they can dig into some of this stuff. Roll Call Vote 7 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Second Reading – Ordinance 2026-47: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2026-15 ADOPTED MARCH 30, 2026, TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES, AND TO AMEND THE 2026 CERTIFICATE OF ESTIMATED RESOURCES FOR THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO.

Second Reading – Ordinance 2026-48: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1264.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED "MEETINGS; QUORUM; PROCEDURE; FEES" OF CHAPTER 1264 "BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS" TO REQUIRE MAIL NOTICES TO NEARBY PROPERTY OWNERS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of the Vermilion City Council Meeting

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Monday, August 17, 2026

Held _____

20 _____

First Reading – Ordinance 2026-49: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1484.01(d)(1) ENTITLED "TRANSIENT RENTAL PERMIT APPLICATION" OF CHAPTER 1484 ENTITLED "TRANSIENT RENTAL PROPERTY REGULATION" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VERMILION, OHIO.

Third Reading – Resolution 2026R-11: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF VERMILION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LORAIN COUNTY URBAN COUNTY CDBG PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE HUD COOPERATION AGREEMENT.

J. Lucas MOVED: J. Gabriel seconded to adopt Resolution 2026R-11.

Councilman Werley asked for clarification, noting this was the resolution for which a special meeting had been called on a Friday, and that the motion to suspend the rules failed at that meeting. Clerk of Council Wood confirmed that was correct — the suspension of rules failed at the special meeting — but the resolution itself was now at its third reading in the normal course and did not require a suspension of the rules to be considered.

Councilman Drew asked whether this was simply a housekeeping item. Clerk of Council Wood confirmed that characterization.

Roll Call Vote 2 YEAS (Taft, Lucas); 5 NAYS (Werley, Bonawit, Gabriel, Drew, Howell). **MOTION FAILED.**

18. Meeting Dates – All meetings are held at the Vermilion Municipal Court Complex, 687 Decatur Street, Vermilion, OH

-September 7, 2026 — Labor Day; City offices closed.

-September 14, 2026 — Vermilion City Council Committees (Health & Safety, Finance, Utilities) & Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM.

-September 21, 2026 — Vermilion City Council Committees (Legislative and Streets, Buildings & Grounds) & Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM. Council President Lucas noted that PMG will be presenting their Roads Study at that meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

After no further discussion, J. Lucas adjourned the Vermilion City Council Meeting.