CLYDE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Session – October 20, 2026

Clyde City Council met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 222 N. Main Street, Clyde, Ohio. Mayor Doug McCauley called the meeting to order.

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Doug McCauley
Vice Mayor Chris Shay
Council Member Cody Browning
Council Member Greg McMaster
Council Member Terri Meek
City Manager Justin LaBenne (Not voting)
Clerk of Council Janet Dickman (Not voting)
Deputy Clerk Jackie Hoppe (Not voting)
Finance Director Frank Weasner (Not voting)
Solicitor Zachary Selvey (Not voting)

Visitors signing in can be referenced in the Record Book Supplement.

The meeting opened with The Lord's Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of October 6, 2026, regular session of council were distributed for review prior to this meeting. There were no corrections.

Motion: to approve the minutes of October 6, 2026, regular session of council as written
Action: Approve,
Moved by Vice Mayor Chris Shay, **Seconded by** Council Member Greg McMaster.
Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 4; No = 0; Abstain = 1).
Yes: Mayor Doug McCauley, Council Member Greg McMaster, Vice Mayor Chris Shay, Council Member Cody Browning.
Abstain: Council Member Terri Meek

DISCUSSION OF PENDING OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you note for the beautiful flowers to honor Tom's passing. The family of Tom Hasselbach, former WWTP employee.

Visitors:
A.J. Sanchez, 164 W. Cherry Street, Clyde, questioned why there have been no social media posts with explanations regarding voting for amendments on the mid-term ballot. Mr. Sanchez chose to vote early, but when he saw the amendments on the ballot, he postponed voting until he could find out more about the issues. He noted an explanation regarding the amendments was recently posted on the City Facebook page, but the fact the explanations did not occur until after there were negative comments posted on Facebook with questions about the amendments looks shady. Mr. Sanchez understands the issue to remove the requirement to post various city activities in newspapers, but he questions if older residents who are not tech savvy would be able to access the information. In regards to an increase of the electric rates, Mr. Sanchez has been a Clyde resident for seven years and he disagrees with the stipulation that he cannot shop outside of Clyde Light & Power for electric supplier options, the way he can shop for gas suppliers to try to get the best rate.

Mayor McCauley noted he chooses to not participate on social media.

Mr. LaBenne feels that when the City does post information on social media, the information goes nowhere. But if the City responds after complaints are voiced, the information gets more awareness. He noted staffing is limited, with no marketing staff or other committees to focus on tasks such as social media posts; the City is not trying to hide anything, but staff are always getting more duties added which limits their time and ability for other tasks. Mr. LaBenne acknowledged the City could do better with sharing information in a timely manner. Information regarding the proposed amendment changes was shared with *The News-Messenger* in Fremont and with the *Sandusky Register*, but they did not pick up that story. Copies of information explaining the proposed amendments have been distributed within the City Building and other locations around the City.

Mr. Sanchez stated there is supposed to be a write up regarding ballot issues at the election board, and information could have been noted on resident electric bills. Mr. Selvey stated the City cannot use a government office to campaign for issues. He stated City Council could vote regarding the (*newspaper*) notices amendment, but this is a change to the City Charter.

Mr. Sanchez feels social media that is available needs to be used, just for awareness. He feels if the issue was for a levy renewal, the City would always try to get that information out (it was noted that a recording of a Council Meeting is available soon after the meeting, for residents to listen to conversations and to stay informed). Mr. Selvey agreed this is a fair argument, and the City needs to do a better job of posting materials.

Regarding the increase in electric rates, the Clyde residential rates have not increased since 1998. It was voted on in the 1980's to not use PUCO, that vote being 70%-30%. A citizen's petition would be needed in order to have a vote to undo the guideline of not using PUCO.

FIRST READING ORDINANCES
2026-78 ENACTING CHAPTER 151. – VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' DEPENDENTS FUND BOARD, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CLYDE TO

IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF OHIO REVISED CODE CHAPTER 146 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ordinance No. **2026-78** was read in its entirety.

Mayor McCauley announced that this ordinance contained an emergency clause.

Motion: to suspend the rule preventing passage of an ordinance at a meeting at which it is first introduced, which is section 4-5 of the Charter, **Action:** Suspend rule,
Moved by Vice Mayor Chris Shay, **Seconded by** Council Member Terri Meek.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Council Member Greg McMaster, Vice Mayor Chris Shay, Council Member Terri Meek, Council Member Cody Browning, Mayor Doug McCauley.

Mr. LaBenne stated these provisions are included in the ORC, and a board is needed to comply with the Fire Marshall. Mr. Selvey spoke on behalf of Clyde Fire Chief Paul Fiser and stated this local board needs to approve these provisions in order for the volunteer firefighters to be eligible. We need to seat this board within a month, and they need to have an in-person meeting one-time per year. Mr. Selvey explained this Ordinance includes an emergency measure to ensure we are complying with rules.

Mayor McCauley inquired where the funding will come from for these provisions (there is zero budgeting and zero funding to come from the City; the only request is for the City to offer space for the board to hold its meeting).

By poll of Council, Ordinance No. **2026-78** was read by title only for its second reading.

Motion: to adopt Ordinance No. **2026-78 Action:** Adopt,
Moved by Council Member Greg McMaster, **Seconded by** Council Member Terri Meek.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Vice Mayor Chris Shay, Council Member Terri Meek, Council Member Cody Browning, Mayor Doug McCauley, Council Member Greg McMaster.

Mayor McCauley announced that Ordinance No. **2026-78** has been adopted.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES

There were none.

RESOLUTIONS

2026-79 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE REMOVAL OF LIME SLUDGE FROM THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN THE CITY OF CLYDE, FOR AN INITIAL TERM OF TWO YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2027, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2028 WITH THE OPTION TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT AT THE AWARDED PRICES UNTIL A PRICE CHANGE IS REQUESTED

BY THE CONTRACTOR; AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT THEREFOR.

Resolution No. **2026-79** was read in its entirety.

Mr. LaBenne reported this is for a two-year contract. The price has not changed in a long time, and we are happy with this supplier. This Resolution will allow us to continue with this contract unless the price changes, until it is reviewed again in five years.

Motion: to pass Resolution No. **2026-79, Action:** Pass,
Moved by Council Member Terri Meek, **Seconded by** Council Member Greg McMaster.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Council Member Terri Meek, Council Member Cody Browning, Mayor Doug McCauley, Council Member Greg McMaster, Vice Mayor Chris Shay.

Mayor McCauley announced that Resolution No. **2026-79** passed.

2026-80 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR SURVEYING AND ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH BLANCHARD DESIGN ASSOCIATES FOR THE SPRING STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – PHASE 1.

Resolution No. **2026-80** was read in its entirety.

Mr. LaBenne explained this is one of the last areas to do a sewer separation. Some funding is still available for this project.

Motion: to pass Resolution No. **2026-80, Action:** Pass,
Moved by Vice Mayor Chris Shay, **Seconded by** Mayor Doug McCauley.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Council Member Cody Browning, Mayor Doug McCauley, Council Member Greg McMaster, Vice Mayor Chris Shay, Council Member Terri Meek.

Mayor McCauley announced that Resolution No. **2026-80** passed.

2026-81 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXPEND FUNDS TO TTX INC. FOR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION LICENSING OF MICROSOFT 365 SOFTWARE PRODUCTS.

Resolution No. **2026-81** was read in its entirety.

Mr. LaBenne stated this is an annual renewal, which allows the City to send emails, complete spreadsheets, power points and the like. This expense is the cost of doing business.

Mr. McMaster questioned if this cost is in the budget (yes).

Resident A.J. Sanchez questioned why the City would purchase this renewal through a third party, instead of purchasing directly from Microsoft and possibly receive a discount (Microsoft uses a third party for these renewals).

Motion: to pass Resolution No. **2026-81, Action:** Pass,
Moved by Council Member Cody Browning, **Seconded by** Vice Mayor Chris Shay.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Mayor Doug McCauley, Council Member Greg McMaster, Vice Mayor Chris Shay, Council Member Terri Meek, Council Member Cody Browning.

Mayor McCauley announced that Resolution No. **2026-81** passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. LaBenne gave the following report:

- Premier Drive project is under way; Mr. Fiser inspects and monitors the project each day; more than half of the project cost is covered by a grant; this was the lowest and best bid.
- Mr. LaBenne and Mr. Lachner attended the AMP annual conference; we may not see relief until the year 2038.
- Vanguard Trades Committees have noted there are many employers having hiring issues; Vanguard is asking employers for suggestions on how they can improve their trades classes; there is a waiting list of students interested in the trades program
- Mr. LaBenne is attending the Sandusky County Communities Foundation awards program; this is an opportunity to interact with the community.
- Mr. LaBenne spoke with the potential Evergreen owner; they are working through issues

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Weasner reported the following updates:

- Financial statements were distributed with the agenda and reviewed at this time
- 2025 audit is underway and Auditors were in the Finance office today
- 2027 Budget preparation continues; the proposed budget will be distributed prior to the budget hearing
- Mr. Weasner will be attending a training conference tomorrow in Akron
- A report showing current loan balances and projected pay off dates was distributed with the agenda for review

Mayor McCauley noted we still have the fourth quarter of 2026 to go, to make up for the income tax shortfall.

COUNCIL REMARKS

By poll of Council and Administration, the work session/budget hearing scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 2026 will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Mr. Shay noted the four amendments included on the mid-term ballot were proposed and developed by the Charter Review Committee which is comprised of nine community members.

Mr. Shay feels there was good discussion held tonight with Mr. Sanchez. It is acknowledged that there is room for growth and he commends Administration for acknowledging they could do better. He also feels residents need to be proactive to find information on what is going on in their community. Mr. Shay stated the Board of Elections has a sample ballot that citizens can request and review prior to voting.

Mr. Shay uses his personal Facebook page to post information related to City Council meetings. He is glad to see the interest of residents in attending these meetings, to participate in discussions aimed at improving the City.

MOTIONS

Motion to enter into an executive session at 7:45 p.m. for the purpose to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee,
Action: Enter,
Moved by Mayor Doug McCauley, **Seconded by** Vice Mayor Chris Shay.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Council Member Greg McMaster, Vice Mayor Chris Shay, Council Member Terri Meek, Council Member Cody Browning, Mayor Doug McCauley.

Mayor McCauley announced that no further action will be taken following adjournment of the executive session.

Motion: to adjourn the executive session at 10:30 p.m., **Action:** Adjourn,
Moved by Council Member Terri Meek, **Seconded by** Council Member Cody Browning.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Vice Mayor Chris Shay, Council Member Terri Meek, Council Member Cody Browning, Mayor Doug McCauley, Council Member Greg McMaster.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 p.m., **Action:** Adjourn,
Moved by Mayor Doug McCauley, **Seconded by** Vice Mayor Chris Shay.
Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 5).
Yes: Council Member Terri Meek, Council Member Cody Browning, Mayor Doug McCauley, Council Member Greg McMaster, Vice Mayor Chris Shay.

Doug McCauley, Mayor

Janet R. Dickman, Clerk of Council

CITY OF CLYDE

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 **Regular Session**

Visitors – PLEASE SIGN IN:

1. Joey Beamer
2. Tim Willis
3. Marcia Nicely
4. Margaret Garcia
5. Loreli Phillips
6. Bill Broad
7. A.J. Sanchez
8. GENE PAUL
9. Gary Smith
10. Travis Brown
11. Kayleigh Trent
12. Kim Leiter
13. Aaron Humbarger
14. Walter Seabrook
15.