



Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 - 6:30 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Invocation
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Presentation; Share Table
7. Action on Minutes
 - a. January 21, 2025
 - b. January 27, 2025 Special Joint meeting
 - c. February 4, 2025
8. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda
9. Council Committee reports
 - a. **Planning & Zoning:** Met 2/11/25; Next 2/25/25 @ 6:30 pm council chambers
 - b. **Design Review Board:** Met 2/11/25; Next 2/25/25 @ 5:00 pm council chambers
 - c. **Design Guidelines Steering Committee (Ad Hoc):** Met 2/5/25; Next 3/3/25 @ 5:30 pm council chambers
 - d. **School District Liaison:** Met 2/7/25; Next as needed
 - e. **Finance:** 2/18/25; Next 3/18/25 @ 5:00 pm council chambers
 - f. **Safety & Service:** Next 3/4/25 @ 5:00 pm council chambers
 - g. **Township Liaison Committee:** Next as needed
10. Director Reports
 - a. Police Chief
 - b. City Manager
11. Tabled Legislation - None
12. Public Hearings of Legislation
 - a. **ORDINANCE 02-2025** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1133.05 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES
13. Introduction of Legislation
14. Other Business
15. Executive Session to discuss confidential business information of an applicant for economic development assistance
16. Executive Session to consider the purchase or sale of property
17. Adjourn

Next Council Meeting March 4, 2025



Regular Council
Tuesday, January 21, 2025 - 6:30 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Donald Barnard called to Order the City of Johnstown Regular Council Meeting for January 21, 2025 at 6:30 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present - Mayor Donald Barnard, Tiffany Hollis, Ryan Green, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini

Absent - None

Staff present - Sean Staneart - City Manager, Dave Delande - Finance Director, Jack Liggett - Service Director, Rusty Smart - Chief of Police, Officer Pache, Officer Hargraves, fellow officers, Dave Riepenhoff - City Labor Attorney/Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff, Chris Hermann – City Planner/MKSK, Steve Samuels – City Attorney/Frost Brown Todd, Mike Keller & Justin Holder – City Engineer/EMH&T, Teresa Monroe - Clerk of Council

Public present - Alicia Fisher, John & Marcia Fisher, many family and friends of officers, Joseph Robertson, Troy Hendren, Scott Hendren, Woodrow Fox, Dr. Phillip Wagner, Jeff Szabo, Shane Langley, Elizabeth Langley, Claudia DeWitt

3. Invocation

Offered by Mr. Barnard

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Approval of Agenda

Request to swap agenda items eight and nine so that citizen comments could be heard prior to the presentation.

ACTION: Mayor Barnard moved to approve the agenda moving item nine to eight and eight to nine; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

6. Action on Minutes

a. January 7, 2025

ACTION: Dave Selan moved to approve as written; Wesley Kobel seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 – 0

7. Police Department Awards

Mayor Barnard said that Officer Jeremy Pache is a seven-year employee with the department, with fifteen years of law enforcement experience, is a Field Training Officer, an all weapons firearms instructor, one of our drone pilots, has a bachelor's degree from Franklin University and is a proud father of three children. Chief Smart said that every year the department votes for an Officer of the Year, Officer Pache was awarded this in 2022 and 2024 and was presented with 2025 Officer of the Year.

Mayor Barnard said that Officer Gary Hargraves is a four-year employee with the department, with over twenty-four years of law enforcement experience, one of our Field Training Officers, is a firearms instructor, a former SWAT Officer and a Marine Corps Veteran. Chief Smart said on the morning of August 30th the Licking County Sheriff's office requested mutual aid assistance at a residence just outside the city, a male was threatening to kill a female relative who had barricaded herself in a bedroom. Entry was made to a covered porch where Officer Hargraves saw the male setting fire to the home, commands made to the male were not successful, the male picked up two large knives and ran to the back of the residence, officers followed the male into the room where the female had barricaded herself, upon entry to the room, the male had the female in a headlock and attempted to stab her at which time officers were forced to eliminate the male suspect; the female only sustained minor scratches. Chief Smart said that day, a life was taken but a life was also saved, the actions of Officer Hargraves were exactly by the book and were an act of valor. Chief Smart said he is proud to have Officer Hargraves at this department and awarded him the Law Enforcement Medal of Valor.

8. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda

1. Woodrow Fox, Joseph Robertson, Scott Hendren, Troy Hendren

- City Administrator and Monroe Township Trustees provided Councilmembers with two documents, a Monroe Township Complex building lease proposal and a Monroe Township Complex Building Lease Agreement (both on file, clerk's office).
- Mr. Fox reviewed bullet points of the proposal with council and highlighted that part of planning for the future is protecting their current assets that may lower the cost burden on taxpayers, and that the township complex located at South Oregon Street is one of those assets.
- Mr. Fox said the lease as written and presented tonight, will enable the township to share the use of its complex at South Oregon Street with the City of Johnstown, giving the township the opportunity to help the City of Johnstown and the Johnstown-Monroe School District meet their needs for growth.
- Mr. Fox said that the township recognizes that the City of Johnstown is considering plans to enter into a purchase agreement with the Johnstown-Monroe School District for the city's facility here at South Main Street and they felt it was necessary to communicate to the city what the township was able to provide in regard to the complex at South Oregon Street.
- Mr. Fox said they ask the city to review the lease agreement that is being presented tonight and consider this before entering into any agreement for the sale of their building. Mr. Fox reviewed lease highlights listed in the proposal presented, which included shared space for the township, not providing the whole building for use by the city.

Mayor Barnard asked why only the one and two year terms, that the lease with the YMCA was a five and ten year lease.

Mr. Orsini asked Mr. Staneart if he has communicated the conversations council has had to the Township Trustees, as far as what their ideas and requirements would be in order for the township building to be a viable option for the city. Mr. Staneart said they were presented with the lease that

was approved as well as the diagrams associated with the proposed use of the building. Mr. Robertson said they never got a diagram; and that as far as the term of the lease, it was unfortunate that the YMCA went away but it gave them an opportunity to actually sit with the fire department to see what was needed in the next two to five years, and at a minimum they need 3,250 feet of it, so really the lease is only meant to be a short term option while the city pursues other viable options, he said they were told the city was considering the American Legion building as a second option; Mayor Barnard said that is totally false. Mr. Selan asked if there were any opportunity for a lease beyond two years, Mr. Fox said this was a firm two year maximum, in two years, they will need full access to the building, for fire and EMS services. Mr. Robertson said they have already approved and signed the lease presented. There were some further questions and discussion on the lease.

Sean Staneart said if it pleases council, he is more than willing to meet with the township and schools to better understand the future needs for the building as well as future needs of the fire department, he thinks there is an opportunity for all entities to be collaborative so they can identify potential needs for a facility as well as land that could work to benefit the township in a different location, he sees this as an opportunity to collaborate and get creative with city, school and township facilities. Joseph Robertson said they want to do that but they need an answer on this before March 1st, the lease starts on March 1st and the purpose of tonight was that they know council is considering a contract, if they can't make that building work for two years, he recommends not signing. Bob Orsini said to look at the positive side, as unorthodox as it may have come about, the end result is that potentially there was a ten-year lease (with the YMCA) that would have been bad for the township and the community, and that was avoided by this collaboration. Mr. Robertson thanked the city and school for getting in the way of the YMCA lease, that it helped them realize the importance of their building to them, they have approved the lease presented, they held a special meeting tonight. Mr. Robertson restated the townships need as 3,250 square feet now and 6,500 square feet in the next two years.

There were no further comments and Mayor Barnard closed public comment and asked for a five-minute recess.

9. Presentation; Update on Water & Sewer collaboration

Representatives from EMH&T (engineering), MKSK (planning) and Frost Brown Todd (legal) were present for the Coalition update. Sean Staneart opened by saying that tonight's presentation is in response to a request for an update by the Finance Committee. Mr. Staneart said tonight they will go over, at a very high level, some of the things they have been working on since 2023 with water and sewer, specifically the water initiative. Mr. Staneart said that this initiative was born out of a vote by the County Commissioners, they made an agreement with Southwest Licking in 2023, the agreement expanded Southwest Licking's sewer service area, essentially designating them as the exclusive provider for all sewer in Monroe Township, St. Albans Township, Jersey Township and a very small section of Liberty Township (which is contested by the Liberty Township Trustees), except for the incorporated municipal boundaries. Shortly after this contract was executed, the Ohio EPA initiated a review and update of the state sewer plan called the 208 plan, which could completely rewrite service area rights and responsibilities. Mr. Staneart said the outcome of this decision will effectively forever reshape Western Licking County and no doubt have an impact negatively or positively for all Johnstown residents. The importance of water and sewer is really simplified down to school district preservation, economic development, quality of comprehensive and fiscal, sustainable development. Mr. Staneart said tonight will be a fifty-thousand-foot view, and then if council desires, he can have any or all of tonight's presenters come back for a more in-depth discussion at a subsequent council meeting. Mr. Staneart said last year, council made the decision to invest in this endeavor which puts us where we are today, they chose to join with their neighboring school districts and municipalities and stand united against the threat of uncontrolled development. Knowing that the stakes were incredibly high, and we needed additional support to traverse the legal, the planning, the financial and the engineering requirements, we sought out the

experts in the respective fields as well as partnerships with neighboring communities to drive this initiative forward. Mr. Staneart said he would give a quick glance at the financials, he complemented council on a tremendous job with the financials since starting this initiative. Really emphasizing collaboration and shared cost, they have been able to share some of the costs with Granville as well as Alexandria in these efforts. Mr. Staneart reviewed some of the large scale improvements the city is doing:

- Water Treatment Plant maintenance & expansion; estimated cost is \$32,000,000; engineering cost estimated at \$2,000,000
- Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion; estimated cost is \$50,000,000; engineering cost estimated at \$4,000,000
- OEPA 208 update cost \$500,000

Sean Staneart said over the next couple of years, the city is looking to spend \$88,500,000 on expanding and getting our current facilities up to snuff. That expansion is looking at the Comprehensive Plan, viewing economic development as a key driver, we want to be in the driver's seat when it comes to economic development and some of the land uses are outside of our current municipal boundaries. We realize we are going to need additional water and sewer capacity to do that, this investment is for that reason. The way they have structured a lot of these investments are going to be on the back of development, not taxpayers, however there is some cost associated with the maintenance of our current plant, all of the residents will share in that.

Mr. Staneart provided a recap of last year's spending for the 208 planning initiative and budget appropriations for 2025:

Jan 2024- Dec 2024

- Lobbyist cost: 3 Months; \$12,000
- EMH&T, JAG, Water and Sanitary Master Plan: \$56,325 (our portion); this is the joint effort being shared with Granville and Alexandria, (work associated with this study will be taking place in 2024 & 2025)
- Attorney fees related to Municipal Utility Coalition: \$129,494

Total estimate for 2024: \$216,325

2025

- Professional and Legal \$60,000 Sewer enterprise fund
- Professional and Legal \$60,000 Water enterprise fund
- Professional Services \$8,000 Sewer operation fund
- Professional Services \$8,000 Water operations
- Legislative activities \$25,000 Water and Sewer legal and lobbyist

Total estimated appropriations for 2025 : \$161,000

2024 & 2025 estimated total: \$378,000

Mr. Staneart introduced Steve Samuels and said he is the city environmental attorney helping us navigate the requirements for submittal for the 208 Plan, he has extensive years of experience. Mr. Samuels said there are two major projects that the state is working on that will greatly influence development in Johnstown, Monroe Township and Western Licking County: the 208 Plan

and the 15 County Water Study. He said the far more time sensitive and most important of these is the 208 Plan, that is the one that has consumed most of his time over the past year or so working on behalf of Johnstown. Mr. Samuels said the most important part of the 208 Plan is when the state designates a particular entity (Designated Management Agency or DMA) to be the wastewater provider for an area, that means that entity and only that entity has the right to put in sewer and wastewater treatment plants to provide service to the area. He said if you want to have the ability to control your destiny, it is important to be the DMA for the area over which you hope to have management. In Western Licking County, Johnstown was given the City of Johnstown as DMA, City of Granville was DMA for Granville, Alexandria had Alexandria and Southwest Licking had a small portion and everything else in the county. He said what happened was that Southwest Licking went to the county and asked to be the DMA for sewer district number nine, and the county without consulting anybody, went ahead and did that and so now Licking Water and Sewer District, pursuant to a contract with the county, is now the DMA for all of Monroe Township, all of St. Albans Township and all of Jersey Township, that is the existing status. He said what is going on right now, is the Ohio EPA is going to take a fresh look at the 208 Plan for the entirety of Licking County. So, what is in place right now does not necessarily have to continue, the state can completely rewrite it and is likely to do at least a substantial rewrite of it. What they have been working so hard on this past year is in response to Ohio EPA's request, to provide input and make the pitch that the various cities are a better option to manage and control growth within their respective jurisdictions. Mr. Samuels said ultimately it will be the Governor who will make the decision about what the revised 208 Plan looks like and will send it to the USEPA for approval, he will rely very heavily on the Ohio EPA which does all the detail work, Jobs Ohio, Department of Development and various others and they and the lobbyist have been working with them and other office holders and stakeholders to make the case that Western Licking County would be best served by having the Coalition take over responsibility for planning and land use development. That power derives in major part, to the ability to control water and wastewater services.

Christopher Hermann with MKSK said the start of the Comprehensive Plan was a big part of this conversation, that growth was suddenly really pushed in front of Johnstown and this region, and needed to be addressed quickly. He said the reason we are talking about water and particularly sewer and why it is kind of urgent is because really this is now talking about who is going to control the pace of development and what development occurs in this area. So, the question to council is how much control does Johnstown want, over the pace and type of development and all the related impacts that come with development, both positive and negative. He said the reason he puts the question to them that way is because the reality is, water and sewer, particularly centralized sewer, really is what determines growth and development. The way annexation works in Ohio, generally land owners request annexation into cities to get services, police etc., but the big one is to get central water and sewer, and when you take the water and sewer carrot away because it is already being provided in some other way, it substantially reduces the interest of land owners to annex into cities and that would probably be true in Johnstown. If water and sewer is provided by an independent agency, development decisions and water and sewer provision get detached. If water and sewer is provided by Johnstown, it controls decisions about where that goes, when that goes and what kind of development happens along it. Some examples were shared, Delaware and Delco, Southern Delaware County, he said one hundred and sixty thousand people have been added in the Delco service area since 1990. So how big does Johnstown want to be? Mr. Hermann said if the answer is that you are happy with the size right now, then as water and sewer gets run by the Southwest Licking District, development will happen around you, but it won't be in Johnstown. If you feel like you want to grow a little bit and balance land uses in Johnstown a little bit and want to have that possibility, Johnstown will need to be able to provide water and sewer to be able to focus that growth and think about how big it wants to be and work with its partners.

Mike Keller and Justin Holder with EMH&T engineering were present. Mr. Keller said they are working on a water and sanitary master plan, taking the concept from the Comprehensive Plan

and making it into a tool that we can apply and work regionally, with the EPA, with Licking Regional, with the different communities on what areas should be serviced how, and what is the most cost-effective, the most responsible and the most sustainable options for those. They are working to demonstrate to the EPA and to the other stakeholders that the master plan is feasible, it's viable, affordable, and it functions. They are three months into a study that is a nine to twelve month effort. Right now with the coalition, they are looking at land use, the service areas and where the capacity is going to be used.

Steve Samuels provided a summary on what the lobbyist has been doing. He said he has been communicating with the media and stakeholders, as well as many entities, to educate and communicate the coalition's message, its end goal, which is to provide for planned growth, to ensure its community and schools flourish with the growth it is experiencing. Mr. Samuels opened the presentation to council member questions, which he answered. Regarding timing, the EPA is waiting for the city's Facility Plan, which is what MKSK and EMH&T have been working on, before making their decision on the 208 line. A Facility Plan says, here is where we expect development and growth over the next five, ten and twenty years, and here is how we intend to meet the expected demand, plant expansion etc. and, a high level plan to finance and pay for it. This plan is the document we need to submit to the Ohio EPA to demonstrate that we can and will be able to serve the area that we want to serve, they have been giving us additional time to get the necessary documents to them before they make the decision. Mayor Barnard asked what the desired 208 line change was, Mike Keller said for the Johnstown area, aligning with the school district, so a little of northern Jersey Township, Monroe Township and a little bit of Liberty Township; engineering feasibility is what they are working on now. Presenters answered questions from council.

10. Council Committee reports

- a. **Planning & Zoning:** 1/14/25 canceled; Next 1/28/25 @ 6:30 pm Council Chambers
- b. **Design Review Board:** Met 1/14/25; Next 1/28/25 @ 5:00 pm Council Chambers
Consideration of one sign application which was tabled for further review.
- c. **Design Guidelines Steering Committee (Ad Hoc):** Next 2/5/25 @ 5:30 pm council chambers
- d. **Finance:** 1/21/25; Next 2/18/25 @ 5:00 pm council chambers
- e. **Safety & Service:** Next 2/4/25 @ 5:00 pm Admin conference room

11. Director Reports

- a. Police Chief
Report included with the packet distributed.
- b. City Manager
Report included with the packet distributed.

12. Tabled Legislation - None

13. Public Hearings of Legislation

- a. **RESOLUTION 2025-02** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, OHIO, SUPPORTING THE OHIO COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL (AMERICA250-OH)

Tiffany Hollis said she has submitted an application for the City of Johnstown to officially be declared an America 250 Ohio community and once the resolution passes we will have further direction on forming a committee. This celebrates the two hundred fiftieth birthday of America. Each month there are themed celebrations throughout the state and they are hoping to get representation from all eighty-eight counties and municipalities. She said she will also be applying for a grant through this organization that will help facilitate some of the celebrations. She added that the 250th birthday also falls on the 100th anniversary of the mastodon being found in Johnstown. Mayor Barnard said that he has contacted the Cleveland Natural History Museum about getting the Mastodon returned to us for the 100th year, he has not gotten a return call yet. Bob Orsini asked if the Finance Committee needed to look at any appropriation to support this, Ms. Hollis said no, that it would be self-sustaining, she thinks the only city involvement would be coordinating different events.

Public Hearing: There were no comments either for or against the legislation.

ACTION: Tiffany Hollis moved to pass resolution 2025-02; Bob Orsini seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

- b. **RESOLUTION 2025-03** RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE JOHNSTOWN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

Mayor Barnard said this is the position that Andrew Hale has held, he would like to be reappointed.

Public Hearing: There were no comments either for or against the legislation.

ACTION: Jeff Barr moved to reappoint Andrew Hale to the Design Review Board; Ryan Green seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

- c. **RESOLUTION 2025-04** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AND PURCHASE CONTRACT WITH JOHNSTOWN-MONROE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mayor Barnard said given the news of tonight, how would council like to proceed with this. Bob Orsini said the only reference to the lease is that there is a contingency that a suitable facility building is found for the Police Department. Discussion on who would confirm the suitability of the facility. Sean Staneart said it would fall to the Police Department and himself, and he would include council members in that decision, he would not act outside of their acceptance of a suitable facility. Discussion on options for the legislation, passing, tabling etc. Mr. Staneart said

there are a lot of variables with this, but he will go back to what the township trustees said tonight, March 1st seems to be their deadline so they have until March 1st to maneuver and explore other options that could exist. Mr. Stanearth said he would love to have the opportunity to understand better what their short and long term needs are, getting with the school district and the city to see how we can be creative to find solutions. Discussion on procedure for talking further in Executive Session.

Public Hearing:

1. Dr. Philip Wagner - Johnstown-Monroe School Superintendent

- From a timing standpoint, they have been engaged in this for a while and the school district is going to be at a "go, no go" here pretty soon. They want to build this multipurpose facility that will serve many athletic needs in the community, they keep pushing the deadline back, but next month is really at the end of what they have. He is here to work with council and will do whatever he can, whether council votes on this or not tonight, as far as procedure, if they did vote on it tonight, he is going to be under the same provisions as Sean, the school board doesn't know all this happened tonight, but he has some ideas for options. He said what they are looking at for this property, is trying to plan, at some point they see expanding the student population, almost tripling what they have now which would take them up to about 4,600 students and if that is the case, this property becomes very important because they will have to build another high school, this land would become critical.

2. Jeff Szabo - American Legion Post 254 Commander

- Said if council is going to have this discussion, he would like to be a part of it, he said he knows the American Legion was a consideration for the building. If their lease is terminated, it is an impact to the community and a devastating impact to the American Legion. So, if this is a possibility, he would like to be involved in the Executive Session discussion with council and Dr. Wagner so maybe they can find something that will work for all and not turn their back on the Veterans.

Jeff Barr said he does not think any of them want to have a detrimental impact to the American Legion, if he is willing to stick around, and if appropriate and needed in Executive Session, they certainly could do that, but initially he thinks it might just be council, the City Manager and Dr. Wagner, and then if things go in that direction, they could call him in.

Tiffany Hollis said if in the contract it states they have to find suitable accommodations for the Police Department, we know that is going to have to take place, is that going to change anyone's decision on moving forward with the contract for purchase. Because if not, she does not think they should prolong it, personally she thinks they should move forward with a vote, knowing they still have to work out the details of finding accommodations for the Police Department. By not voting she said she feels like we are just continuing this long conversation that they have had for months and months.

Jeff Barr said he willing to go into Executive Session and talk a few points through then come back and resume the meeting and vote. Mayor Barnard said there could be some ideas that the school wants to change.

ACTION: Bob Orsini moved to table Resolution 2025-04; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr
NOES: Tiffany Hollis
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 1 TABLED

14. Introduction of Legislation - None

15. Other Business

1. Mayor Barnard asked if council could get a map of all the school districts in Licking County. Sean Staneart said he would get them a copy.
2. Jeff Barr said that JYAA spring sports registration is under way; T-ball, softball, baseball, rec and travel, lacrosse, soccer, golf and track and field.
3. Wes Kobel asked Jack Liggett when the street department would begin filling some potholes that are popping up. Mr. Liggett said right now it is just so cold, the cold patch is not pliable or flexible, when they get a little rise in temperature that will be job number one.
4. Tiffany Hollis recognized local business owners in the audience and thanked them for coming and sticking through this, she appreciates their effort to sit here and learn.
5. Ryan Green said the city sign on US 62 out by Sportsmans Club road got hit by something and he has a list of street lights out. Mr. Liggett said when residents call in to the office, they have a work order system that staff uses to report these issues to the appropriate department. Mr. Staneart said that council members should report issues to him or the Clerk of Council.
6. Dave Selan said he wanted to echo a comment from a few meetings ago by Tim Swauger, about violating Executive Session. He asks that they don't do that, there was an insinuation that a conversation he had tickled those lines, he said that did not happen. Again, he asks that they follow what Mr. Swauger said, with the amount of business and negotiations that are going on with what they are dealing with from water, to schools, and to understand the weight of that and that leaks should not happen.
7. Mayor Barnard asked Mr. Delande for an update on the audits. Mr. Delande said he spoke with the State Auditors today. For 2021, they have a list of three items that they need and are almost in final review for that audit. Once that is complete, we have an extension until February 28th for the 2021-2022 audit.
8. Ms. Monroe asked how long council wanted to leave the positions for Design Review Board and Personnel Review Board open or would they like to close and begin interviews. Mayor Barnard said to set interviews for next session.

ACTION: Mayor Barnard moved to amend the agenda to include an additional Executive Session to consider the purchase or sale of property, move to agenda item 18 and move 18 to 19; Bob Orsini seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green
NOES: Tiffany Hollis
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 1

16. Executive Session to prepare for, conduct, or review a collective bargaining strategy

17. Executive Session to consider the employment of a public employee

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to go into Executive Session to prepare for, conduct, or review a collective bargaining strategy, to include all of city council, the city

manager, city employment lawyer, Dave Delande and Jack Liggett. Also to consider the employment of a public employee, to include all of council, city manager and employment lawyer; Bob Orsini seconded, and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to waive the 24-hour notice rule for Executive Session; Bob Orsini seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Donald Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini

NOES: Tiffany Hollis

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 1

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to enter Executive Session to consider the purchase or sale of property to include all of City Council, the City Manager, the School Superintendent and Mr. Szabo if needed; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green

NOES: Tiffany Hollis

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 1

Council entered Executive Session at 9:32 pm and returned to Regular Session at 11:06 pm.

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to take Resolution 2025-04 from the table; Bob Orsini seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to approve Resolution 2025-04 as written authorizing the City Manager to enter into a lease and purchase contract with Johnstown-Monroe Local School District. Mr. Selan said out of an abundance of caution, he would abstain from this vote because he is an employee of the school district. Wes Kobel seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Tiffany Hollis

NOES: Ryan Green

ABSTAIN: Dave Selan, conflict of interest (employee of the school)

Passed 7 - 0

Ms. Hollis prefaced her vote saying she has always been in support of the school, it makes sense for future planning for them to own this property, it is congruent to school property so she believes that is appropriate for future planning. Her issue with it was the contingency of the township building because she does not believe that was in the best interest of the city and best use of our means. She said she will vote yes to selling this property to the school because she does think that is in the best interest of this community and its future.

18. Adjourn

ACTION: Mayor Barnard moved to adjourn; Bob Orsini seconded and all were in favor.
AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Donald Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

The meeting ended at 11:10 pm.

Next Council Meeting February 4, 2025



Special and Joint Meeting of Johnstown City Council and Johnstown-Monroe Board of Education
Johnstown Middle School
401 S. Oregon Street
Johnstown, OH 43031
Monday, January 27, 2025 - 5:00 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Donald Barnard called to Order the Special and Joint meeting of Johnstown City Council and Johnstown-Monroe Board of Education for January 27, 2025 at 5:07 PM.

2. City Council Roll Call

Present - Mayor Donald Barnard, Tiffany Hollis, Ryan Green, Dave Selan, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini
Absent - None

Staff present - Sean Staneart - City Manager, Jack Liggett - Service Director, Teresa Monroe - Clerk of Council

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Board of Education (BOE) Roll Call

All members present; Mr. Swauger, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Benton, Mrs. Booher, Mrs. Thomas

5. Approval of City Council Agenda

No changes.

ACTION: Dave Selan moved to approve as written; Tiffany Hollis seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Dave Selan, Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

6. Approval of BOE Agenda

No changes; board motion to approve carried 5-0.

7. Citizen Comments on Matters not on the Agenda

No public remarks.

8. Discussion: Purchase Contract, Lease, and Strategic Planning

Dr. Wagner reviewed a slide show presentation to provide a recap on planning efforts that have led to where we are today and their plans for the future. The presentation provided current district configuration, capacity and enrollment for each school building and addressed future needs. Floorplans were reviewed showing options for a new multi-purpose building and lean-to they are looking to build which would serve athletic needs for the school district as well as some opportunity for the community to use spaces. Conceptual site plans showed options for new building construction on the school's north campus property (old Adams Middle School site) and at the city property, 599 S. Main Street. Dr. Wagner said he would like the smaller group, the School District

Liaison committee, to work on some of the smaller details. He said he thinks, based on last week, they realize that the lead option of leasing the Monroe Township building is not going to work in their current plan because it is only being offered for two years, floorplans shown were predicated on the city moving the police department to the Monroe Township building. Dr. Wagner said from a timing standpoint, they are up against the timeline, they have to get a shovel in the ground, they are much later than they expected in order to be able to open this facility up for wrestling. Bob Orsini commented that the north campus option will deter wrestling participation, kids walking across town in snow, cold, crossing the highway, in a hurry and running, is a recipe for disaster. He said he puts this out there for the public to understand what it means to have the program adjacent to the campus. Jeff Barr said this is twofold, it would help the younger athletes and free up space in the JYAA barn.

Dr. Wagner said they have talked a lot as a school district about wanting to make sure this comes together, he thinks they are close on the purchase aspect, but how do they manage the lease. As he said at the council meeting, the city property is important to them for long range planning, their objective is to have a centralized campus, not the building per say, but the property and the ability to plan for the future.

Sean Staneart added that the lease presented (by Monroe Township) at the last council meeting has some challenges, he does not know that it will be functional. At that council meeting he offered to sit down with them to understand their needs a little better, as well as ours and see if we could meld them together. If that does not fall into place, what are some other options that may not be as enticing as the first one, but could be an alternative, or discuss a phased approach understanding the timing needs of the school. The police department has current square footage of around 5,100 so anything less than that would be moving backwards. The administrative office is currently using around 2,100 square feet and looking for a five to ten year range of an additional 3-4,000 square feet. Projections for police need is 7,000 square feet for the next five, possibly ten years.

Dr. Wagner said he would break this into two pieces, can they get the sale of the building taken care of, if they get outside of February, the building won't be ready for wrestling. If they agree on just the core building, maybe there is an option for a different configuration he doesn't know, but they have discussed this since September and they are still sitting on it. He said they have got to get the building built, if they don't get this, they will have to go to their north campus, they have nowhere else to go. Mr. Staneart said they can have the conversation and explore alternatives with the township, but he does not want to wait on their response before they start doing additional work. Mr. Swauger said with the duration of the lease and the square footage offered, he thinks the township made it pretty clear that the police are not in their future over at the fire house. He would like to get the small group together and figure out some options. Mrs. Booher said they have established the boards' interest in the building, the price is where they think they can make it work in the budget, now how can they take the time constraints and turn them into a positive, and asked what the city is doing to think creatively. Sean Staneart said that financial constraints limit options, he thinks building a new facility would be fantastic but that requires a large sum of money. He said they have looked at consolidating and organizing the street department better, and talking to the Chief, having segments of his operation was a non-starter, so not exploring that any further, there are limited options available. He said sharing all of this information is terrific, there is not going to be a solution that we don't come to without working together and that the only option he thinks they would be able to present to the township is finding them an additional piece of land that would be suitable for them to do some type of long-range expansion. Tiffany Hollis said they are all in a really unique situation right now and have a great opportunity to think of the future and plan strategically for that, she said they need to get this right, for the long term, with the best solution for every entity, not just one, and what is best for the community as a whole. She agrees that they should separate the issues and get the purchase completed. Discussion on the terms in the purchase/lease agreement, Mrs. Booher and Mrs. Thomas both expressed concern for the fifteen year lease, Mayor Barnard said the problem that the city runs into is the lack of revenue and until a

tax is passed or development occurs, the revenue is a struggle and without it, they cannot build something else at this point without straddling citizens with debt. Consensus to move conversations to the School District Liaison Committee to discuss options, meeting scheduled for Friday 12:30-1:30 pm. Discussion on follow up action at the next council and board meetings, February 4th and February 10th.

9. Other Business or Comments

Council discussion on the necessity of holding an immediate Executive Session, it was deemed an emergency by the City Manager.

ACTION: Jeff Barr moved to enter Executive Session to consider the purchase or sale of property, with members of council and the city manager; Dave Selan seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Jeff Barr, Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini

NOES: Ryan Green, Tiffany Hollis

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 5 - 2

A motion to adjourn the school board meeting carried 5-0; their meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.

City Council entered Executive Session at 6:30 pm and returned to Regular Session at 6:48 pm.

10. Adjourn

With no further business, the council meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.



Regular Council
Tuesday, February 4, 2025 - 6:30 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Donald Barnard called to Order the City of Johnstown Regular Council Meeting for Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 6:37 PM.

2. Roll Call

Prior to roll call Mayor Barnard read a statement: As many of you are aware, Council President Hollis has been sick and it led to her being hospitalized this past week. It has been an extremely difficult week for her family, friends and for her business; her family asks for your continued prayers and best wishes. Ms. Hollis did have a procedure this morning that went well, and that they hope will get her closer to being home. Additionally, her family would like to thank everyone for their support.

Present - Mayor Donald Barnard, Ryan Green, Dave Selan, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini
Absent - Tiffany Hollis

Staff present - Sean Staneart - City Manager, Dave Delande - Finance Director, Jack Liggett - Service Director, Teresa Monroe - Clerk of Council

Public present - Kristy Hawthorne, Nick Hubbell, Shane Langley, Elizabeth Langley, Zach Harkavy, Claudia DeWitt, Jeff Szabo, Dustin Gerken

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Barr offered the invocation

4. Approval of Agenda

No changes.

ACTION: Bob Orsini moved to approve as written; Jeff Barr seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Jeff Barr, Ryan Green, Donald Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Dave Selan, Bob Orsini

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

5. Presentation; Kristy Hawthorne - South Licking Watershed Conservancy District

Kristy Hawthorne with the Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District attended for presentation to council, the South Licking Watershed Conservancy District is one of their partner organizations that covers the South Fork watershed and focuses on flooding and flood mitigation. Ms. Hawthorne highlighted a 2D flood model map, it is a gridded program that loads in all the weather and rainfall to show where flooding happens. She highlighted work being done toward water quality and invited Johnstown to be a part of the Licking County River Roundup which is their waterway cleanup effort on September 6, 2025. She would love to see the focus along Raccoon Creek in town. Mayor Barnard said he would be glad to take that on.

6. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda

No comments

7. Council Committee reports

- a. **Planning & Zoning:** Met 1/28/25; Next 2/11/25 @ 6:30 pm council chambers
Mr. Green said one item considered was forwarded to council and is on tonight's agenda.
- b. **Design Review Board:** Met 1/28/25; Next 2/11/25 @ 5:00 pm council chambers
One sign application conditionally approved, applicant will be seeking a variance from Planning & Zoning.
- c. **School District Liaison:** Met 1/31/25
- d. **Safety & Service:** 2/4/25 canceled; Next 3/4/25 @ 5:00 pm council chambers
No updates. Mr. Selan asked Mr. Liggett where we stood with the Clark Drive traffic signal. Mr. Liggett said as of two days ago, they are still waiting on parts, they have about fifty percent of what is needed.
- e. **Design Guidelines Steering Committee (Ad Hoc):** Next 2/5/25 @ 5:30 pm council chambers
- f. **Finance:** Next 2/18/25 @ 5:00 pm council chambers
- g. **Township Liaison Committee:** Next TBD

8. Director Reports

- a. Service Departments: Water, Sewer, Street
Reports included in the packet, Mr. Liggett answered council member questions on water usage and road salt.
- b. Service Director
Jack Liggett highlighted items in his report; included in the packet.

9. Tabled Legislation - None

10. Public Hearings of Legislation

- a. **RESOLUTION 2025-05** (after Executive Session)
- b. **RESOLUTION 2025-06** (after Executive Session)

11. Introduction of Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 02-2025** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1133.05 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES
Sean Stanearth said it came about by a recent request from an applicant for a variance on three properties requesting a six inch and four inch for setback. The property pin the applicant was utilizing to pull from, unbeknownst to them, had been moved slightly, and caused what they believed to be accurate surveying to be slightly inaccurate. The lots are the Neotraditional lots in Concord Crossing East, the structure encroached into the setback by inches. Variances go before the Planning & Zoning Commission however, MKSK proposed a way to alleviate unnecessary meetings and costly variances for the applicant and administratively approve setbacks within a certain degree of error. The application was ultimately approved by the zoning board and then this

process was discussed, the zoning board was receptive and recommended legislation to council for consideration.

Ryan Green said that in the case referenced, there was a closing that was held up, they couldn't get into their house before the holidays, they spent months waiting to get on a meeting agenda. These things typically happen through no fault of their own, they discover it on a survey before a closing, these are relatively small issues, the waiver cannot exceed ten percent of the required minimum setback or one foot, whichever is less. These are small things that can be cleared up by staff relatively quickly and avoid a major setback with the property. Bob Orsini expressed concern for repeat offenders or every house being off enough to pick up an extra lot at the end. Ryan Green said in five years on zoning he has only seen this happen twice. Mr. Orsini said if they did not think his concern was legitimate or likely, he was happy to put it aside. Mr. Green said it was legitimate but not likely, it has happened twice in the same neighborhood in five years, it could have been caused by the same pin being off in the original survey. Mr. Staneart said this would not allow for an addition lot or house, the plats are approved prior to this, this would deal with setbacks, not property line. It could potentially allow for the encroachments to continue, if they start to see repeat offenses, they could certainly bring this back to council.

Mayor Barnard opened to any public comments, there were none. Public Hearing and vote on February 18, 2025

12. Other Business

1. Jeff Barr offered congratulations to Lady Johnnies basketball, they did quite well in the regular season, as well as some of the JYAA youth teams so kudos to them, coaches and the families supporting them.
2. Jeff Barr wished a Happy 11th Birthday to his son.
3. Ryan Green encouraged folks to watch their local youth sports, middle school and high school sports and thanks to all who attended the spaghetti dinner event.
4. Dave Selan said the Wizards vs the undefeated Johnnies next Thursday.
5. Sean Staneart said the band is having their annual mattress sale February 15th.

13. Executive Session to consider the appointment of a public official

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to enter Executive Session to consider the appointment of a public official with members of council and the applicants; they will return to make motions for the resolutions. Dave Selan seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Dave Selan, Ryan Green

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 - 0

Council entered Executive Session at 7:25 pm and returned to Regular Session at 9:00 pm.

a. **RESOLUTION 2025-05** RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE JOHNSTOWN DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to recommend appointment of Dustin Gerken; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Ryan Green, Dave Selan,

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 6 – 0

- b. **RESOLUTION 2025-06** A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE PERSONNEL BOARD OF REVIEW

ACTION: Donald Barnard moved to recommend appointment of Zach Harkavy; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Mayor Barnard, Wesley Kobel, Jeff Barr, Bob Orsini, Ryan Green, Dave Selan,

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

14. Adjourn

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next Council Meeting February 18, 2025



Patrol Statistics

	2023	2024													2025												
	TOTAL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Calls for Service	3593	214	630	628	588	590	593	731	667	698	666	581	417	7003	511												511
Officer Initiated Calls	1418	84	442	470	410	422	436	535	487	522	486	377	259	4930	346												346
Dispatched Calls	2175	130	186	158	178	168	157	196	180	176	180	204	158	2071	165												165
Case Reports	224	12	19	13	25	16	28	22	17	19	17	42	16	246	18												18
Crash Reports	101	9	6	7	8	10	8	11	8	5	12	12	13	109	13												13
Arrests	30	0	2	3	2	2	2	4	5	3	2	1	2	28	0												0
Traffic Citatitons	513	17	16	51	30	35	35	69	48	30	45	34	18	428	63												63
Parking Citations	38	2	0	1	2	2	0	7	0	2	3	0	12	31	1												1
Business Checks	179	20	313	302	255	216	305	312	248	360	299	213	159	3002	168												168
House Checks	58	16	53	30	54	30	8	31	35	8	14	1	0	280	8												8
Traffic Crashes	139	12	16	8	10	14	12	15	12	12	18	16	15	160	14												14
Traffic Stops	969	23	35	92	46	72	55	115	132	82	82	69	29	832	119												119
Theft	57	3	2	4	2	9	9	8	4	8	3	16	5	73	6												6
Domestic Violence	43	2	5	8	3	7	9	5	3	4	3	6	3	58	3												3
Assault	15	5	0	0	1	2	0	3	0	0	3	1	2	17	0												0
OVI	10	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	5	0												0
Vandalism	20	3	2	6	4	3	5	5	1	2	3	19	1	54	3												3
Juvenile Complaint	37	1	5	3	4	2	3	2	5	8	2	6	4	45	4												4
Trespassing	25	0	4	3	0	0	1	2	0	4	2	1	2	19	2												2
Other Agency Assist	47	16	15	5	6	13	6	10	9	10	18	18	43	169	9												9
Warrant	18	0	4	2	0	1	2	0	3	1	2	1	1	17	1												1
Overdose	11	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	4	0												0
Suicide Threat	16	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	3	3	0	2	2	23	0												0
Alarm Drops	119	15	10	16	17	14	7	24	17	10	13	11	17	171	16												16
911 Hang Up/Misdial	362	19	20	12	14	20	15	29	22	21	23	24	16	235	22												22

Accident Statistics

	DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION	NON INJURY	INJURY	UNOCUPIED	HIT SKIP	CAD #
1	1/3/2025	FRI	1122	N MAIN ST @ 8 N MAIN ST	X				2025-0037
2	1/3/2025	FRI	1457	W COSHOCTON ST @ 921	X				2025-0041
3	1/12/2025	SUN	1624	S MAIN ST @ W JERSEY ST	X				2025-0202
4	1/16/2025	THU	1512	N MAIN ST @ W COSHOCTON ST	X				2025-0283
5	1/17/2025	FRI	1612	W COSHOCTON ST @ CLARK DR	X				2025-0301
6	1/20/2025	MON	1456	W COSHOCTON ST @ CLARK DR	X				2025-0350
7	1/21/2025	TUE	2028	N MAIN ST @ W COSHOCTON ST	X				2025-0371
8	1/22/2025	WED	505	PARKSIDE DR @ 151	X		X		2025-0384
9	1/22/2025	WED	1844	S MAIN ST @ 32	X				2025-0388
10	1/23/2025	THU	2120	W COSHOCTON ST @ 907	X				2025-0401
11	1/27/2025	MON	557	W COSHOCTON ST @ 625	X				2025-0443
12	1/30/2025	THU	1252	W COSHOCTON ST @ CLARK DR	X				2025-0481
13	1/31/2025	FRI	1748	E COSHOCTON ST @ COMMERCE BLV	X				2025-0509
13					13	0	1	0	



1. **NCA, TIF's & CRA ---**

- CRA district evaluation and structure review with legal: This is being done to maximize our negotiation position and create a more consistent set of expectations.

2. **Economic development** – Alexis Fitzsimmons from Grow Licking County was the guest speaker at the Johnstown Chamber of Commerce 2025 kick off event. She shared an overview of things happening in Licking County as well as outlined statistics relative to the employment of Licking County.

3. **MORPC** – MORPC is taking the next steps in the MPO Boundary Expansion process to bring Johnstown into the MORPC MPO. They will first socialize it with the committees in February and then in March a request will be made for the committees to act on a resolution accepting the City into the MPO.

The Leafy Dell traffic signal is expected to be fully incorporated once they approve a new program of MORPC-attributable funds. The attributable funds will be processed during the same meeting or shortly after the March resolution.

4. **PD District**—I met with the ownership and development team of enterprise drive to collectively review the necessary steps for moving the development of the property forward. The first items for the council to consider will encompass developer & incentive agreements. These will establish CRA eligibility, NCA commitments, ROW request, etc....

5. **HR** – Vehicle and Travel policy is still on hold. The city posted the planner position in January. We have received 3 applications to date. MKSK will be assisting with the review of resumes and the interview process.

6. **TID**

- ASP has collected much of the necessary data and is now processing it in order to make recommendations.
- Working through the engineering on the Duncan Plains and Mink roundabout project. The original design has been reworked through a collaborative effort between our engineers and the TIDs.
- A follow-up Stakeholder meeting was held by the engineers for the 62-corridor study. The city of New Albany and Johnstown collaboratively engaged in this meeting to articulate a shared vision for the corridor.

7. **Union Negotiations** –City staff and our HR attorney meet on Feb 11th, Feb 13th with AFSCME representatives to work towards a negotiated contract.
8. **New Albany and Jersey Twp Meeting.** The administrators of each jurisdiction met and discussed the possibility of a collaborative effort to manage development in our respective areas. Topic items included but were not limited to non-annexation agreements, utilization of MKSK for design standards, and provision of sewer services.
9. **Design Review Board –**
 - MKSK held another meeting on Feb 5th to continue the work on Johnstown Design Guidelines. That meeting emphasized building material, architectural styles, street scape and boundary areas.
10. **Johnstown Water & Sewer Partnership –**
 - EMH&T is continuing to work on the regional water and sewer utility master planning effort. They are nearing 30% completion, and we anticipate sharing our findings with OEPA in the near future.
11. **Parks and Recreation –**
12. **208 Negotiation** – MUCLC is reaching out to LRWD to inquire if they would like to resume negotiation relative to service areas.
13. **Schools Discussion** -- we have continued to have discussions about the items listed below.
 - Both parties have been reviewing purchase and lease documents associated with our current facility. The School would like to renovate sections of our current facility and build a multipurpose building to create more athletic facilities and keep a one campus model.
 - The city has extended a lease proposal to Monroe Township for the old firehouse. This lease would be for the purpose of relocating the police department. We look forward to working with Monroe township on this possibility.
14. **Leafy Dell Traffic Signal –**
15. **Joint Municipal Meeting –**

16. **Water and Wastewater Treatment Planning** – The city received its NPDES permit in conjunction with the WWTP expansion. Staff had a meeting with engineers and legal to go over options on the nutrient limit levels associated with the new plants being proposed. We have verbally heard back from OEPA on what is required and find this information to be favorable.
17. **JEDD Agreement** – The Law Director is currently drafting a memo for council review regarding his conversation with Monroe Legal Counsel.
18. **Traffic signalization projects** – nothing new

Respectfully Submitted,
Sean Staneart
City Manager



AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1133.05 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, The City has expressed a desire to identify processes that may be streamlined to better serve residents and developers within the City of Johnstown, and

WHEREAS, at the January 28, 2025 meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission there was recommendation to City Council to create a process to allow for an administrative waiver of setback requirements, established as Section 1133.05 of the City's Codified Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to take the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation for the changes ; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, COUNTY OF LICKING, STATE OF OHIO, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That Section 1133.05 – Administrative Waiver of Setback Requirements, be established in the City of Johnstown's Codified Ordinances as follows. Additions are shown in *italics* and deletions are ~~struck~~.

Chapter 1133.05 - Administrative waiver of setback requirements.

- (a) *In all zoning classifications, front, rear, side and side corner setbacks may be partially waived by the City Manager or designee if the request meets the following criteria:*
- (1) *The waiver shall only apply to setbacks imposed by the applicable zoning classification established and accessory uses development standards in Title Five – Zoning Districts of the City's Codified Ordinances.*
 - (2) *The waiver shall not exceed ten (10) percent of the required minimum setback(s) or one (1) foot, whichever is less.*
 - (3) *The waiver shall be utilized only where the lot is a conforming lot or a legal nonconforming lot of record.*
 - (4) *The waiver shall apply only to the principal structure or an accessory structure.*
 - (5) *The waiver shall not result in an encroachment into an easement.*
 - (6) *Total structural coverage of the lot shall not exceed the maximum impervious coverage allowed by the applicable zoning classification.*
 - (7) *The waiver shall not result in encroachment to a wetland, required waterway setbacks, or agricultural lands.*
- (b) *Applicants for the administrative waiver of setback requirements shall submit a letter to the City Manager or designee setting forth the specific request and the need therefor, as well as the applicable fee. The letter shall include verification by a current certified survey of existing setbacks, and the percentage of the total structural coverage on the lot. For purposes of this*

section, a current certified survey shall be defined as a survey completed within six (6) months of the date of submittal.

Section 2: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees which resulted in such formal actions were in meetings so open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of the City of Johnstown, Licking County, Ohio.

Date of Introduction: February 4, 2025

Public Hearing/Vote: February 18, 2025

Effective Date:

BY: _____

Mayor Donald Barnard

ATTEST TO:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Teresa Monroe, Clerk of Council

Yazan Ashrawi, Law Director