



Regular Council  
Wednesday, May 6, 2026 - 6:30 PM  
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Tiffany Hollis called to Order the City of Johnstown Regular Council Meeting for Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:34 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present - Mayor Tiffany Hollis, Donald Barnard, Matthew Huggins, Kyle Cook, Jeff Barr, Nicole Shook

Absent - Ryan Green

Staff present - Jeff Sheridan - Interim City Manager, Dave Delande - Finance Director, Jack Liggett - Service Director, Rusty Smart - Chief of Police, Mark Zolendziewski - Planning & Zoning Commission, Rick Fitch - Wastewater Superintendent, Shawna Daniels - Sub Clerk of Council

Public present - Glen Poland, Rodney & Brenda Johnson, Justin Fox, A Coppel, Joe Reiber, Alan Benton, Jeff Szabo

3. Invocation

Offered by Jeff Szabo - American Legion

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Approval of Agenda

**ACTION:** Jeff Barr moved to approve as written; Kyle Cook seconded and all were in favor.

**AYES:** Mayor Hollis, Donald Barnard, Matthew Huggins, Kyle Cook, Jeff Barr, Nicole Shook

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**Passed 6 - 0**

6. Action on Minutes

a. March 17, 2026

**ACTION:** Kyle Cook moved to approve; Matthew Huggins seconded and the vote was as follows:

**AYES:** Matthew Huggins, Mayor Hollis, Donald Barnard, Kyle Cook, Jeff Barr, Nicole Shook

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**Passed 6 - 0**

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b. March 23, 2026 Special

**ACTION:** Matthew Huggins moved to approve; Nicole Shook seconded and the vote was as follows:

**AYES:** Matthew Huggins, Donald Barnard, Kyle Cook, Jeff Barr, Nicole Shook

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Mayor Hollis

**5 - 0**

7. Proclamation - National Military Appreciation month

Council recognized National Military Appreciation month; Mayor Hollis and Kyle Cook read the names of individuals from Johnstown that are listed as KIA and MIA from the Civil War through World War II. No one from Johnstown has been lost since.

**Civil War:** John Q. Adams, Wells Atwood, Jason Sturdevant

**World War I:** Harry Baughman, James Hyatt, Walter Lewis, Wyvil Mathis, Benton Sines

**World War II:** Spencer Bever, Curtis Crowmer, Joseph DeCrow, Charles Dietzel, William Emerson, Herbert Sines, Gilbert Turner, George Williamson

Mr. Cook and Mayor Hollis read a Proclamation to honor and recognize the contributions and sacrifice made by past and present military personnel in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard and National Guard along with their spouses and families. The Proclamation was presented to American Legion Commander Jeff Szabo and Legion member Glen Poland.

Mr. Barr asked any who served to please stand and be recognized.

8. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda

1. Donny Barnard

- Read a statement as follows: "Serving on council has been one of the greatest honors of my life and I take that responsibility seriously every single day. Like anyone in public service, I'm not perfect. I care deeply about this community and sometimes when important issues arise, especially around transparency, accountability, and process, that passion can come across stronger than intended. At the last couple council meetings, my frustration with communication surrounding certain discussions led to exchanges that became more personal than productive and for that I take full responsibility. I believe strongly that council works best when communication is open, expectations are clear and all members are given the same opportunity to be informed and engaged. Those principles matter and I will continue to advocate for them. At the same time, how we have those conversations matters just as much. Respect and professionalism should remain at the center of every disagreement. And I recognize there are moments where I could have handled that better and I will. My commitment remains the same to serve this community honestly, ask difficult questions when necessary, and work towards decisions that protect the long-term best interest of Johnstown. We will not always agree, but we should always work together towards the same goal, doing what is right for our residents. Thank you for the opportunity to serve."

## 2. Mark Zolendziewski

- Echoed the same message he brought to the last meeting saying that they are all representatives of city council, and that this is not personal. Their personal opinions, while it does help sway votes, and everyone has their own agendas of where they see Johnstown going, does matter, but they also have rules, guidelines, and Planning & Zoning, which he is a part of, to guide them in their direction. He further stated as follows: "Whether somebody didn't answer your text message or a citizen looked out for their neighborhood and got information and got called out for why they went around a committee, my initial question there is why is the committee just talking about it, not doing something? We all need to get things done and the city's going to fall behind if we don't. So, if we can't put personal matters behind and move ahead and not have random facial expressions throughout the meetings or slamming things on desks or calling people out for why they did one thing or another instead of looking at ourselves and saying, I'm a part of that committee, why didn't we get that before the citizen did? Hold each other accountable but more so hold yourselves accountable. Somebody expressed that tonight, held themselves accountable for actions last time, everybody can do the same. We are all trying to get the betterment of the city and I think everybody out here can speak the same. I know I had a few people reach out to me after last meeting and express their gratitude for me coming up here and talking. If you can't hear it in my voice, I'm a little nerve-wracked being on this side of the bench talking in front of everybody, but I feel that passionately about the city, and I stand here on behalf of the citizens of Johnstown, that we want a council who is united, maybe not in opinions, but in execution of what's needed for the city. So hopefully we can work towards that and put personal differences aside and continue for the betterment of the city."

## 9. Presentation; iamGIS proposal - City Manager

Mr. Sheridan said that one of the tools that most of the communities he has served use is a geographic information system or a GIS, a computer-based system that captures, stores, analyzes, and visualizes spatial or geographic data to reveal patterns, relationships, and trends. He said it is layers of data that are used to store a lot of valuable information about infrastructure; sewer, water, streets, etc. He said he looked for some options for Johnstown and talked to a company called IMGIS, who he had worked with in the past in other communities. This GIS system has four pieces; GIS mapping, asset management, work orders and inventory. This system will replace the current iWorQ software that the city is paying \$10,000 a year for, for a cost of approximately \$8,000 a year, it will be a \$2,000 savings per year. A slideshow was presented. Jack Liggett said upon presentation, the IMGIS system was found to be much less cumbersome, easy to use and actually does a few things better. He did say that he may want to add an additional module for backflow prevention. The company has also waived the \$4,000 setup fee. Mr. Sheridan said he is asking council to allow them to make the transition from iWorQ to IMGIS. Mr. Barr said he would consider this a City Manager and staff decision. Mr. Sheridan said out of respect and making a significant change that's saving us money, he wanted to take the opportunity to ask. It was noted that there may be a future ask for handheld devices, tablets or phones, if the iPads currently used are not compatible.

## 10. Council Committee reports

- a. **Design Review Board:** Met 4/28/26; Next 5/12/26 @ 5:30 pm council chambers  
No update provided.
- b. **Planning & Zoning:** Met 4/28/26; Next 5/12/26 @ 6:30 pm council chambers  
Variance approved for Granville Milling and parking for new construction of drive-through.
- c. **Finance:** Next 5/19/26 @ 5:30 pm council chambers
- d. **Rules:** 5/6/26 @ 5:00 pm council chambers  
The 5/6/26 meeting tonight was canceled and will be rescheduled. Mr. Huggins said he would coordinate with the other committee members.
- e. **Safety & Service:** Next 6/2/26 @ 5:30 pm council chambers
- f. **Greater Johnstown Park & Rec District updates**  
Liaison Nicole Shook said that they met and discussed proceeds for the fireworks; an insurance policy was decided; they are still talking about websites and their survey creation. Their event Art in the Park will be July 25th.

#### 11. Director Reports

- a. **Service Departments:** Water, Sewer, Street  
All reports are included in the public packet. Mr. Barr asked when pothole filling would commence. Mr. Liggett said they have been filling in different sections with the availability of the two people they have. Mr. Liggett highlighted items in each of the reports; he said they have been able to get the vacant position at the water plant filled and one of the vacant positions in the street department.
- b. **Service Director**

#### 12. Tabled Legislation

- a. **RESOLUTION 2026-19** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A LEASE AMENDMENT WITH AMERICAN LEGION POST 254. ***Introduced /Tabled March 3, 2026***  
Mr. Cook said they got the amortization calendar update today but it has not been added to the lease, it will be sent back to legal for review. Mr. Barr provided bullet points for the revised lease; increased liability insurance for third party and the amortization schedule for building improvements made by the Legion would pay them back for their investment if the city took back the building for its own use. Mr. Huggins asked if there were any other additions or subtractions from the lease, that he had sent some questions about a lease in perpetuity such as that, it should have an equal opportunity for each party to release themselves from that lease, and that lease was very one-sided in the release. Mr. Cook said he had not seen the updated yet but he does not believe that was included. Mr. Huggins said that should be addressed before the lease is put through. Mr. Cook asked Mr. Sheridan to ask the Law Director about that and reference the email from Mr. Huggins.

Legislation remains tabled.

#### 13. Public Hearings of Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 04-2026** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 1159 OF THE CITY'S CODIFIED ORDINANCES. ***Introduction & Public Hearing Held April 21, 2026; Vote scheduled for May 6, 2026***

Mayor Hollis opened the floor to any further public comments, there were no comments either for or against the legislation.

Council discussion on the previously proposed possibility of an NCA. Mr. Cook added that in the Law Director's response to their questions, it did not seem like an NCA was the best route. Mr. Barnard said there could be other options to explore, but if they pass this, it handcuffs them in the future. Concern that if passed tonight, the option would no longer be there to add to it. Mr. Sheridan stated that the Law Director suggested this be tabled tonight and have additional conversation. Mr. Barnard said he just doesn't want to see them get into something that costs them hundreds of thousands of dollars in a future benefit that they might lose out on. Mayor Hollis said she thinks they can still do it after the fact. Mr. Sheridan said that the Law Director suggested that there were still some questions that he understood were coming from one or more council members so it made sense to table it until there could be additional discussion. Mayor Hollis said in her opinion, it is a text amendment that hasn't been updated since 1980, they have chewed this to death, sent it back to Planning & Zoning, this is the recommendation of Planning & Zoning and she agrees with it so she is going to make a motion.

**ACTION:** Tiffany Hollis moved to pass Ordinance 04-2026 as written; Jeff Barr seconded and the vote was as follows:  
**AYES:** Matthew Huggins, Mayor Hollis, Kyle Cook, Jeff Barr  
**NOES:** Donald Barnard, Nicole Shook  
**ABSTAIN:** None

#### **Passed 4 - 2**

#### 14. Introduction of Legislation - None

#### 15. Other Business

1. Mr. Barnard said he would like to recognize Bryson Nicely, he will be leaving for Paris Island on May 26th to join the Marine Corps right after graduation.
2. Mr. Cook said he had sent out a text regarding QR codes, he thought it could be a good way to reach out to the community with updates, they could put together a landing page with buttons to direct people to information already on the city website. The QR codes could be at checkout counters and in waiting rooms, for businesses that wanted to do it. He thinks it would not be a lot of cost, and if it is something they may want to do, they could have staff look into what that could look like. Mayor Hollis said she thinks we are limited in ways to communicate and it is a great idea, other council members were supportive of moving ahead.
3. Mr. Barr said for the third grading period, he wanted to recognize young people who are on the honor roll, merit roll and principal roll, including a young man in his home.
4. Ms. Shook said she would like to congratulate the Johnstown High School concert band, they received an excellent rating at state this past weekend. The symphonic band received a superior rating at state as well. Additionally, this Saturday is prom for the high school, she wishes them a very safe and fun prom.
5. Mr. Cook said from a Historical Society perspective, they were asked if there was

access to a vinyl that was made in the 1970's by the Johnstown band. He has not heard of it, but if anybody has any information, they would love to have it.

6. Mayor Hollis said that US 62 is down to one lane due to electrical work going on, today she was in contact with the City of New Albany, they are working with the work permit holder of the project to see if they can try to mitigate the impact on morning and afternoon rush hour as quickly as possible and also with the fire department just to make sure they are maintaining communication for emergency vehicles to have a way in and out. As more projects come online, we obviously need to make sure that we're keeping an eye on response times, whether it's our guys or whether it's the township guys, so just know that we are working towards it and trying to come up with a good solution.

7. Chief Smart said that next week is police week, he would like to thank the officers of his department, the men and women that serve this community, and those that serve in this county and in this nation. He also wants to thank the police wives, they put together meals for them all next week, they spent a lot of their time and money to arrange that.

8. Chief Smart said that tonight they have Light Ohio Blue coming through the community. It is a caravan that goes through central Ohio, there will also be another one on Friday evening.

16. Adjourn

**ACTION:** Tiffany Hollis moved to adjourn; Kyle Cook seconded and all were in favor.

**AYES:** Mayor Hollis, Kyle Cook, Jeff Barr, Nicole Shook, Matthew Huggins, Don Barnard

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**Passed 6 - 0**

The meeting ended at 7:29 pm.

**Next Council Meeting May 19, 2026**