



Special Council Meeting
Thursday, September 10, 2026 - 5:00 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Legislation
 - a. **ORDINANCE 18-2026** AN ORDINANCE PLACING A CHARTER PETITION AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT DATA CENTERS IN THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN ON A SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. *Introduction/Vote*
4. Other Business
5. Adjourn

Next Regular Council Meeting September 15, 2026



AN ORDINANCE PLACING A CHARTER PETITION AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT DATA CENTERS IN THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN ON A SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Johnstown has received a proposed charter amendment which would prohibit the construction of data centers within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, the Licking County Board of Elections has certified that the petitions achieved the required number of signatures to place the proposed charter amendment on an election ballot; and

WHEREAS, the City of Johnstown received the petition and the certification from the Licking County Board of Elections on Wednesday, September 2; and

WHEREAS, despite its best efforts to call a special meeting where at least five (5) Council members could attend prior to Friday, September 4, to place the petition on the November 4, 2026, general election ballot, the City was not able to certify the petition to meet this deadline; and

WHEREAS, City Council has called a special meeting September 10, 2026 to direct the Clerk to take all necessary steps to place the proposed charter amendment on a special election ballot not less than 60 days after the adoption of this ordinance and not more than 120 days after the adoption of this ordinance.

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

Section 1: The City has received petitions seeking a proposed charter amendment banning data centers within the City of Johnstown and the Licking County Board of Elections has certified that the charter amendment petitions received enough verified signatures to be placed on the ballot.

Section 2: The Clerk of Council is directed to take all necessary steps to submit the proposed charter amendment, petitions, and signatures to the Licking County Board of Elections to place the question on a special election ballot on [date].

Section 3: 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.

Section 4: This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure that is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety or welfare of the City, and specifically because the City must comply with its obligations to forthwith act to place proposed amendment to City Charter on the ballot; WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and immediately after its adoption.

Date of Introduction/Vote: September 10, 2026
Effective Date:

BY: _____

Mayor Tiffany Hollis

ATTEST TO:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Teresa Monroe, Clerk of Council

Yazan Ashrawi, Law Director

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