

REGULAR

APRIL 27

2026

Amherst City Council met in a Regular Session under full compliance of State Law with President Wasilk opening the meeting at 7:00 p. m. Roll call Mr. Winiarski, Mr. Dembinski - absent, Ms. Harmych, Mr. Wachholz, Mr. Mowcomber, Mr. Janik, Mr. Nahorn, Mayor Costilow, Safety/Service Director Jeffreys, Law Director Pecora, Treasurer Miller, Auditor Phillips, and a member of the Public, Ms. Linda Booth. Mr. Nahorn motioned to excuse Mr. Dembinski as he had a letter on file, seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Voice vote 6-0 to excuse Mr. Dembinski.

The Prayer was invoked by Chaplain Janik, followed by the Pledge to the Flag led by Deputy Sgt. At Arms Wachholz.

Consent Agenda: The Clerk read the Consent Agenda. Mr. Nahorn motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as read. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Voice vote 6-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as read.

Acknowledgement of the Public pertaining to items on the Agenda: There was no one speaking.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:

- (a) An Ordinance amending City of Amherst Ordinance No. 0-26-10 to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Amherst, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2026, repealing all ordinances In conflict herewith, and declaring an emergency. (A-26-18);

Mr. Wachholz motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be adopted in the first reading. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Wachholz motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Janik. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-26-16.

- (b) An Ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract to purchase a 2027 Freightliner M2 106 Plus and related truck equipment for the Street Department; and declaring an emergency. (A-26-21)

Mr. Wachholz motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be adopted in the first reading. Seconded by Ms Harmych. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-26-17.

- (c) An Ordinance authorizing the Safety Service Director to enter into a contract to purchase an Altec DB41B Hydraulic Derrick for the Electric Department; and declaring an emergency. (A-26-22)

Mayor Costilow noted that there is one of these trucks available and if we were to adopt this item this evening, we could purchase it. Mr. Wachholz motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this maybe adopted in the first reading. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Janik motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-26-18.

- (d) An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract to lease to purchase Pierce Pumper for the City of Amherst Fire Department through Freedom Financial; and declaring an emergency. (A-26-23).

Mr. Wachholz motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this maybe adopted in the first reading. Seconded by Ms. Harmych. Roll call vote 6-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Nahorn motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Wachholz. Roll call vote 6-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-26-19.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS SECOND READING: NONE

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS THIRD READING: NONE

Miscellaneous and acknowledgement of the public: Mrs. Wasilk introduced Ms. Linda Booth of 4640 Oak Point Road Lorain, who spoke to Nitrous Oxide. She wished to address council about a serious problem in Amherst with the vape shops. located in Amherst. Nitrous Oxide, commonly referred to as "laughing gas" or N2O. is a non flammable, colorless gas with a slightly sweet odor and used primarily by dentists. She provided a report on this subject. She noted that a year ago she and her son had written a piece on this. Her son had been

overcome by nitrous oxide, it affected his nerve endings and he could not go to work for three months. He is still addicted and she wants to make sure that this does not happen to others. She provided names of establishments that sell this in the city of Amherst. She explained the ways inhaling this nitrous oxide can affect people. She spoke further on this subject. She held up the canister that this product (referred to as whippets) can come in. She had dropped off a canister at our police department and was not sure if it was put to use in any way. California and Louisiana have prohibited the sale of nitrous.

Mr. Mowcomber asked if this is available on line if not sold in stores. Ms. Booth said not that she was aware of but has not checked on Amazon. She called a vape shop in Amherst and asked if they carried a license that this product would fall under, but the person hung up on her. There were other questions by council and it is found to be a legal product. The information provided by Ms. Booth is on file. Mr. Pecora said a friend had lost his son due to this product, but there are many questions about the sales of this and how it is handled. Mr. Winiarski noted that the last he heard, we are "handcuffed" from doing anything. Ms. Booth advised that googling Nitrous oxide NPR will provide the link with her son Christopher Booth being interviewed. Mayor Costilow has had discussions with the police are looking into these things and this is regulated and looked at the same way as under age tobacco and alcohol sales.

Agenda requests and committee meeting schedules:

- A-26-24 Finance - Authorization to allow the Mayor to enter into an agreement for an Amendment to the existing Amherst Township/Amherst JEDD; emergency
- A-26-25 Building and Lands – Authorization to allow the Mayor to enter into a real estate Agreement for the purchase of a portion of a certain parcel of land.

Ordinance - May 4, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. A-26-20 (DORA)

Finance – May 4, 2026 at 7:05, A-26-24

Building and Lands May 4, 2026 A-26-25

The remainder of the Committee Meetings for May 4, 2026 are cancelled.

Reports from the Administration

Auditor Phillips: No report

Treasurer Miller: The March report has been distributed

Safety/Service Director Jeffreys: No report

Law Director Pecora: No report

Mayor: Reported that a public hearing regarding JEDD has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 13. He asked that we go into Executive Session per ORC 121.22 (g)(2) regarding the purchase of property. He noted there will be a special council meeting on Thursday to discuss the purchase of salt. The State gives us a very small window time wise so we will adopt that ordinance at that time. It is a huge cost saving for the City. Mr. Janik motioned to accept the Reports of the Administration. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 6-0 to accept the reports of the administration.

Acknowledgement of the receipt of the Auditor and Treasurer monthly reports for April, 2026. Should have been MARCH. Mr. Nahorn motioned acknowledged the receipt of the MARCH auditor and treasurer reports. Seconded by Ms. Harmacych. Voice vote 6-0 to acknowledge the receipt of the reports.

Mr. Wachholz motioned that we go into Executive Session per ORC 121.22 (g)(2) regarding the purchase/acquisition of property. Seconded by Mr. Janik. Roll call vote 6-0 to go into Executive Session. Council meeting was recessed at 7:29 and reconvened at 7:47.

Mr. Wachholz motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Voice vote 6-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.