



**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG CITY COUNCIL
November 10, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Shanette Strickland called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Cotner, Baker, Johnson, Strickland, Towns, Salvati, Pyakurel, Hill
ABSENT:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2025

The regular meeting minutes of October 27, 2025, were approved as submitted.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Community Comments

**John Seryak
8322 Bedlington Drive**

Mr. Seryak explained that he was here to represent Reynoldsburg Reads, which was a grassroots movement that began in Reynoldsburg this past June. The group can be seen around the City reading once a week and enjoying each other's company. They met in City Council Chambers today because of the weather, and were grateful that Councilmember Salvati helped make that happen. He stated that the group has been a very enjoyable endeavor, and they would love to see more people join. Mr. Seryak explained that this activity began because of the empty benches on East Main Street. He noticed that no one ever stopped to sit on the benches and explained that literacy rates in the country were declining, so a group of people started to meet on the benches once a week to read independently and discuss their books as a group after. He stated that the group could also be found on Facebook as Reynoldsburg Reads.

President Strickland thanked Mr. Seryak for starting this group and was glad to see more community engagement.

Mayoral Comments

Mayor Begeny

Mayor Begeny stated that on Tuesday, November 11th, the City of Reynoldsburg and the VFW on Waggoner Road will be hosting a Veterans Day ceremony at 1pm. He also stated that there will be no change in trash pickup this week and if residents have pumpkins or political signs they would like to throw away or recycle, they can bring them to City Hall.

Mayor Begeny explained that they plan to present the budget at the Council meeting on November 24th.

African American Male Wellness Presentation

Kendall White, Program Manager of the African American Male Wellness Agency, expressed his sincere gratitude for the opportunity to present before Reynoldsburg City Council. He admired the work Council did in the community and observed that same dedication in action in the events held in Reynoldsburg. He added that it was an honor to connect with Council in a professional capacity and wanted to share how his agency was serving residents across Franklin County—particularly in Reynoldsburg. As a new Program Manager with the African American Male Wellness Agency, his role was to help build meaningful partnerships across the state of Ohio. One of AAMWA's main programs was to offer the Black Men's Wellness Day. Black Men's Wellness Day isn't just an event – it's a movement. It's about understanding the health disparities that exist, taking actionable steps towards better health, and celebrating the strength and resilience of our community. It was an event that was fun, but provided an opportunity for men to seek health information in a relaxed atmosphere. He wanted to ensure that Reynoldsburg's leadership had a seat at the table and remained actively involved in upcoming events and initiatives. He looked forward to continuing this important work alongside the City—serving those who needed it most. The City could always count on the African American Male Wellness Agency to show up, support, and partner in the community. Thank you again for your leadership and partnership. He looked forward to staying connected to continue this vital work together. (A video showing the work AAMWA did was shown to Council.)

Councilmember Baker thanked AAMWA for bringing their presentation to Reynoldsburg and understood the need to encourage men to seek medical care.

PROCLAMATIONS

A Proclamation Recognizing the Reynoldsburg FRC Team 4085 for Their Efforts to Support STEM Outreach Experiences

Councilmember Pyakurel read the Proclamation.

Councilmember Towns stated that she was able to attend the event on Saturday, and she was so impressed by everything their team does and wanted to encourage them to continue doing great work. She thanked Team 4085 for the invitation to their event.

Councilmember Salvati made a motion to approve this Proclamation. Second by Councilmember Baker. Motion carried.

Josie Nutter stated that she is a sophomore and this was her first year on the robotics team. She thanked Council for this Proclamation, recognizing their efforts to support STEM outreach and experiences for the community. This recognition is not just a celebration of the team's handwork and dedication, it speaks to the importance of STEM and its continued existence in their district and community. Since their founding in 2012, Technical Difficulties has worked tirelessly to provide more STEM opportunities to young people in the community through three main outreach initiatives: women in STEM, refugee immigrant STEM experiences (RISE), and First Lego League. Team 4085 actively works to make science, technology, engineering, and math a field where everyone, regardless of gender, can find a sense of belonging. They are able to design initiatives and events that are reflective of its members and the communities they serve.

Aditi Pyakurel explained that she is a senior and this is her third year on the team where she currently serves as the marketing supervisor. She originally joined the team because many of her friends were on the team but decided to stay because Team 4085 is more than just a robotics team. She stated that she enjoys the marketing side of the robotics team because they are able to introduce and spread STEM in their community. She has had the opportunity to work with different organizations, interact with the community in new and exciting ways, and advocate to the City and State level politicians about the importance of STEM and their team. She recently had the chance to organize the 4085's inaugural Women in STEM Conference. She was able to attend a Women in STEM panel at a robotics competition. She stated that they were so insightful, but they were all chemical engineers. She knew that there were so many more opportunities for women in STEM besides being a chemical engineer, so she started to design an event that would be more representative of all opportunities for Women in STEM. Over the

next 6 months, with the help of her teammates and coaches, she was able to create the Women in STEM and National STEM Day event. While she does not plan on going into a traditional STEM field, she stated that being on this team has taught her so much about teamwork, organization, and what it means to be a leader.

Aiden Slisher stated that he is a junior and this is his third year on Team 4085. He serves as the business lead. However, that is not really where his journey began with this team. For 4 years, he watched his brother be a member of this team and his dad mentor the team. He heard them talking almost every night during the season about the team and all the incredible work the team does, and he was even able to attend some meetings with them. When he joined the team as a freshman, he began working on the First Impact Award. The First Impact Award celebrates the team that embodies the mission of First, which is using robotics in a way to teach life skills to build a better world. This requires three elements: an executive summary that addresses a short list of questions provided by First, an essay that discusses your team's impact on the community, and an in-person presentation that summarizes the information in an engaging way. He has seen the most personal growth through working towards this award. He used to be much more shy and never imagined he would be volunteering to speak publicly and have the confidence to approach new people and start a conversation. This forced him to step out of his comfort zone, which gave him the opportunity to practice speaking and collaborating with others and develop his leadership skills.

Fenet Mosissa stated that this is her fourth year on the team, and she currently serves as a bill supervisor. When she joined as a freshman, she did not know anything about robotics. She joined the mechanical subteam to build confidence and knowledge. Over time, she learned more about tools, teamwork, and problem-solving. She eventually became the mechanical leader her junior year and is now the bill supervisor. She has always valued organization and taking initiative and the Robotics team has allowed her to bring those traits to life. As a leader, she had the chance to lead initiatives for RISE, help with outreach events, and mentor new members as they found their own paths. There have been many moments on this team that are unforgettable. She doesn't see herself as just a leader, but a teammate. Robotics isn't just about one person, it is a collaboration where they work and learn as a team to build something meaningful. Team 4085 has taught her how to collaborate, lead with a purpose, and grow alongside others who share the same passion.

Anika Som stated that she is a freshman and this is her first year on the team. She explained that they are more than just robots. As they strengthen their program through outreach and engineering, they ensure the sustainability of the team by sharing STEM with younger generations. By introducing these skills and

opportunities, they keep the team alive and continue to spread the message of First. They are grateful to the City of Reynoldsburg and the community leaders that acknowledge the importance of education and support youth-driven initiatives. Their team is entirely self-funded through sponsorships and grants. They accept this Proclamation with pride and with a renewed commitment to continue their outreach, expand their impact, and build a future where every young mind has the opportunity to explore, learn, and lead through STEM. She thanked the Council for the Proclamation and their support and encouragement.

President Strickland thanked them for the invitation to attend and participate in National STEM Day. She is proud of the work they do and enjoys seeing young people doing the work and working as a team.

Councilmember Pyakurel wanted to recognize Aaron and Alana for their handwork that makes this team possible and the opportunities they have given these students.

Councilmember Baker asked how long it took to build the robot they brought to Council. Fenet stated that this was an older robot that they remodeled, and the remodel alone took around 2 months.

REPORTS

Clerk of Courts Report for October 2025

The Clerk of Court submitted monies collected from the courts held in October 2025 in the amounts of \$30,908.00.

Liquor Permits

Khan Brothers Food Mart

Chief Baker advised that the investigation was completed for a transfer of a liquor permit for 1735 Brice Road LLC, located at 1735 Brice Road. The restaurant is doing business as Pop-A-Top carry out. The permit was being transferred to Khan Brothers Food Mark LLC. The owner of this business is Irgan Khan. The liquor permit was for a C-1 and C-2 permit class, which allowed for beer, wine, and mixed beverages to be sold for carry out only. The Chief stated that there was nothing that would allow for the refusal of this transfer. He did not recommend the City request a hearing for this permit transfer.

Councilmember Baker stated that there had been issues in that area previously related to alcohol establishments. Chief Baker explained that the police have not experienced any issues in that area recently, and certainly nothing that could prohibit the issuance of this permit.

Kabab and Curry Bar

Chief Baker explained that the investigation was complete for a new liquor permit application for Kabab and Curry Bar LLC, which will operate as a business at that location (6563 East Livingston Avenue). The business was owned by Narayan and Krangcha Alley. The liquor permit was for a D - 1 and D - 3 class permit, which was for on-premises consumption of beer in the original sealed container carry out until 1 am. It also allowed for the on-premises consumption of spirituous liquor purchased before 1 am. The Chief advised that there was nothing that allowed for the refusal of this permit. The Ohio Department of Liquor Control advised the City that they were not aware of anything that would prevent this permit from being transferred. The Chief did not recommend the City to request a hearing for this permit application to be transferred.

There is no Development, Parks & Recreation Committee meeting.

There is no Public Safety, Law & Courts Committee meeting.

There is no Public Service & Transportation Committee meeting.

Finance & Administration Committee

This is the Finance & Administration Committee meeting for November 10, 2025.

Members in attendance are: Councilmember Salvati, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Pyakurel, Chair Baker, and President Strickland.

An Ordinance to Amend the Personnel Procedure Manual Regarding Separation, Compensatory Time, Inclement Weather, Sick Leave Conversion, FMLA, Donated Leave, Vacation Leave, Prior Service Credit, Holidays, Workers Compensation, City Clothing, Investigations and Discipline, and Declaring an Emergency

Director Cornell stated that she has requested Council's approval for some updates to the PPM (Personnel Procedure Manual). These adjustments mainly aim to streamline the PPM by addressing some overlapping content found in both the PPM and Chapter 160, as well as providing clarifications. She also added a section titled Separation, and combined everything in the PPM pertaining to separation into one area and made some clarifications regarding inclement weather regarding essential vs non-essential employees.

Councilmember Baker made a motion to forward this Ordinance to Council for a first reading. Second by Councilmember Johnson. Motion carried.

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 160 Employee Compensation, 160.01 Definitions - Employee Service Date and Prior Service Credit, 160.02 Authorized Positions, Personnel, Classification and Pay Grade, 160.03 Salary Schedule, 160.04 Other Compensation, 160.07 Longevity, 160.11 City Clothing, 160.12 City Clothing (Senior Police Management), 160.13 Paid Family Leave, Adding Section 160.14 Acting Interim Pay, and Declaring an Emergency

Director Cornell stated that the changes to Chapter 160 are mainly clean-up due to overlapping content found in both the PPM and Chapter 160. Also in the packet, the eligibility for paid parental leave has been changed to leave immediately upon the birth or placement of a child.

Councilmember Baker made a motion to forward this Ordinance to Council for a first reading. Second by Councilmember Pyakurel. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA FOR FIRST READING

These items stand for a first reading.

An Ordinance to Amend the Personnel Procedure Manual Regarding Separation, Compensatory Time, Inclement Weather, Sick Leave Conversion, FMLA, Donated Leave, Vacation Leave, Prior Service Credit, Holidays, Workers Compensation, City Clothing, Investigations and Discipline, and Declaring an Emergency

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 160 Employee Compensation, 160.01 Definitions - Employee Service Date and Prior Service Credit, 160.02 Authorized Positions, Personnel, Classification and Pay Grade, 160.03 Salary Schedule, 160.04 Other Compensation, 160.07 Longevity, 160.11 City Clothing, 160.12 City Clothing (Senior Police Management), 160.13 Paid

Family Leave, Adding Section 160.14 Acting Interim Pay, and Declaring an Emergency

CONSENT AGENDA FOR THIRD READING

RESULT:	PASSED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Baker
SECONDER:	Salvati
AYES:	Cotner, Baker, Johnson, Strickland, Towns, Salvati, Pyakurel, Hill

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with Media Promotion Enterprise (MPE) for the 2026 Tomato Festival

RESULT:	8 - 0 (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Councilmember Baker
SECONDER:	Councilmember Salvati
AYES:	Cotner, Baker, Johnson, Strickland, Towns, Salvati, Pyakurel, Hill

OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

Councilmember Hill thanked the Mayor and the City for the speed bumps that are coming to Retton and Rosehill that she has been advocating for a while. She stated that many drivers and parents will be happy about this new addition.

Councilmember Baker gave a shout-out to RPD and a happy Veterans Day.

Process for Selecting a New Council President

Clerk Prasher asked that Council choose how they would like to proceed with selecting a new Council President and when they would like to receive applications by and what date they plan to interview candidates.

Councilmember Salvati stated that last year, the Council did this around the same time, and they requested that applications be received by the end of November with the interviews being at a meeting in December.

Clerk Prasher stated that the December meeting dates are the 8th and the 15th.

Councilmember Salvati stated that they could receive the applications by the end of November and then vote at a meeting in December.

Councilmember Cotner stated that the Council cannot vote until the seat is actually



vacated. Attorney Shook agreed.

Clerk Prasher stated that they could host the interviews at the December 8th meeting, President Strickland could resign on December 14th, and Council could vote on December 15th with President Pro Temp running the meeting. Councilmember Salvati agreed with this schedule. Clerk Prasher would like to receive all applications by the end of the business day on December 3rd.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 11, 2025 Veteran's Day City Offices Closed
November 20, 2025 Planning & Zoning Board
November 24, 2025 Council
November 27 & 28, 2025 Thanksgiving Holiday City Offices Closed
December 4, 2025 Planning & Zoning Board
December 8, 2025 Council
December 15, 2025 Council
December 18, 2025 Planning & Zoning Board
December 24, & 25, 2025 Christmas Holiday City Offices Closed
December 31, 2025 New Year's Eve City Offices Closed

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Council President Strickland adjourned the meeting.

Shanette Strickland, Council President

Mollie Prasher, Clerk of Council