

Ordinance No. 110-2026**By Council Member:** Griffin**An emergency ordinance to supplement the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio 1976, by amending Section 173.071, as amended by Ordinance No. 621-06, passed April 3, 2006, related to Reimbursement of Expenses for Members of Council.**

WHEREAS, Section 173.071 of the Codified Ordinance allows Members of Council to be reimbursed up to \$1,200.00 per month for expenses incurred during the course of their duties; and

WHEREAS, the reimbursement amount of \$1,200.00 per month was established 40 years ago by Ordinance No. 2292-86, passed September 22, 1986, and has not changed in those 40 years; and

WHEREAS, \$1,200.00 in 1986 is roughly equivalent to about \$3,500.00 in 2026 dollars; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance constitutes an emergency measure providing for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, or safety in that it is reasonable and appropriate to increase the reimbursable expense amount per month to \$2,500.00 because the expenses incurred in the performance of a Council Member's official duties have increased enormously since 1986; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That the Codified Ordinances are supplemented by amending Section 173.071, as amended by Ordinance No. 621-06, passed April 3, 2006, to read as follows:

Section 173.071 *Reimbursement of Expenses for Members of Council*

The Members of Council shall be entitled to be reimbursed for the cost of expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in an amount not to exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per month. Requests for reimbursement shall be submitted monthly in writing to the Clerk of Council.

Expenses submitted for reimbursement must be substantiated by written documentation in accordance with guidelines for the reporting of expenses by Members of Council promulgated by the President of Council and approved by the Rules Committee of the Council, based upon the applicable reporting requirements of the federal income tax code for employee expense reimbursement programs.

Notwithstanding the requirements of Section [171.43](#), Members of Council may be reimbursed for the use of their vehicles in the performance of their official duties at the rate for mileage allowance promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service.

Notwithstanding any ordinance to the contrary, any Council Member may increase his or her Executive Assistant's hourly rate of pay in excess of the standard rate in

effect for Council Member Executive Assistants consistent with the aforementioned Council expense reimbursement policy.

Section 2. That this ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed February 2, 2026.

Effective February 5, 2026.