

# **Cleveland City Council**

*Cleveland City Hall, Room 216  
601 Lakeside Avenue, N.E.  
Cleveland, OH 44114*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, April 7, 2025**

**7:00 PM**

**The meeting will be live broadcast. See meeting notice for details.**

**Council Chambers**

**City Council**

[Item-1026](#) Cleveland City Council Meeting Notice for April 7, 2025

**Attachments:** [Council Meeting Notice for 4-7-2025](#)

**CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL**

7:02 p.m.

**Present** 17 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, Richard A. Starr, and Danny Kelly

**MOMENT OF REFLECTION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**DISPENSE WITH THE JOURNAL**

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 17 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, Richard A. Starr, and Danny Kelly

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Comments were made by Janice Pohl, Antoine Tolbert, Austreeia Everson, Mark Thomas, Teri Wang, James Germalic, Nikki Hudson and Stacey Steggert.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**•Communications**

[459-2025](#) From Jaden Baxter, Office of the Mayor, City of Cleveland. Notice of grant acceptance from The George Gund Foundation of \$5,000 for support expenses for the Junior Mayor's Association.

**Attachments:** [459-2025-COMMUNICATION-notice of grant acceptance by Mayor's Office from Gund Fdn for Junior Mayor's Assn](#)

**This Communication was received and filed.**

[460-2025](#) From Director Calley Mersmann, City Planning Commission, City of Cleveland. Notice of gift acceptance valued at approximately \$170,000 from Cuyahoga County of installed bicycle racks and signs for shared mobility parking hubs across the city.

**Attachments:** [460-2025-COMMUNICATION-notice of gift acceptance by CPC from Cuya County for shared mobility parking hubs](#)

**This Communication was received and filed.**

[467-2025](#) From Michael Deemer and Board of Directors of Downtown Cleveland Improvement Corporation. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1710, in connection with proposed expansion of the Downtown Cleveland Special Improvement District, amended articles of incorporation, new services plan, and executed petitions of property owners.

**Indexes:** COMMUNICATIONS; DOWNTOWN; SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

**Attachments:** [DCID-Cover Letter](#)  
[DCID-Exhibit A-Comp Services Plan 2026-2032](#)  
[DCID-Exhibit B-Amended Articles of Incorporation for DCIC](#)  
[DCID-Exhibit C-SID estimated assessments 2026-2032](#)  
[DCID-Ltr fr Chair to Members + DCIC Impact Report](#)  
[DCID-Petition to reauthorize \[sample\]](#)

**This Communication was received and filed.**

•The Ohio Division of Liquor Control

[461-2025](#) #26312758210. New License Application, C2. Family Dollar Stores of Ohio LLC [Store 25742], 7415 Superior Ave. (Ward 7).

**Attachments:** [461-2025-COMMUNICATION-Liquor7415Superior](#)

**This Communication was received and filed.**

[462-2025](#) #8246630. Transfer of Ownership Application, D1 D2 D3 D3A D6. SM Pub LLC, 1306 West 65th St. (Ward 15).

**Attachments:** [462-2025-COMMUNICATION-Liquor1306West65th](#)

**This Communication was received and filed.**

**SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS**

•Condolence; Moment of Silence

[470-2025](#) Condolence Resolution for Francis McGarry

**Sponsors:** Richard Starr

**Indexes:** CONDOLENCES

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[471-2025](#) Condolence Resolution for Dawud Ali

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell

**Indexes:** CONDOLENCES

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[472-2025](#) Condolence Resolution for James Edward Williams

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell

**Indexes:** CONDOLENCES

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[473-2025](#) Condolence Resolution for Melvia Watson

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell

**Indexes:** CONDOLENCES

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[474-2025](#) Condolence Resolution for Anita France

**Sponsors:** Blaine Griffin and Richard Starr

**Indexes:** CONDOLENCES

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[482-2025](#) Condolence Resolution for Mattie L. Adams

**Sponsors:** Michael Polensek

**Indexes:** CONDOLENCES

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[483-2025](#) Condolence Resolution for George Edwards

**Sponsors:** Anthony Hairston

**Indexes:** CONDOLENCES

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

**•Congratulations/Recognition/Appreciation/Commendation/Commemoration/Welcome**

[475-2025](#)      Congratulations Resolution for Edward Eckart. Jr.

**Sponsors:** Kerry McCormack

**Indexes:** CONGRATULATIONS

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[476-2025](#)      Congratulations Resolution for Virginia Bynum - 100th Birthday

**Sponsors:** Stephanie Howse-Jones

**Indexes:** CONGRATULATIONS

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[477-2025](#)      Congratulations Resolution for Village of Joy Birthing Beautiful Communities

**Sponsors:** Stephanie Howse-Jones

**Indexes:** CONGRATULATIONS

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[478-2025](#)      Recognition Resolution for Elaine Gohlstin

**Sponsors:** Joseph Jones

**Indexes:** RECOGNITION

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[479-2025](#)      Recognition Resolution for Tyler Matthew Sowden

**Sponsors:** Brian Kazy

**Indexes:** RECOGNITION

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[480-2025](#)      Recognition Resolution for National Drinking Water Week

**Sponsors:** Blaine Griffin

**Indexes:** RECOGNITION

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

[481-2025](#) Recognition Resolution for National Public Works Week

**Sponsors:** Blaine Griffin

**Indexes:** RECOGNITION

**This Ceremonial Resolution was read into the record.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were presentations made by Council Member Conwell, by Council Member Kazy, and by Council Member Spencer.

**FIRST READING LEGISLATION**

**•Emergency Ordinances Referred**

[463-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Public Utilities to enter into one or more requirement contracts without competitive bidding with BissNuss Inc. for the purchase of various proprietary equipment and services to maintain and replace existing components of various drinking water systems, for the Division of Water, Department of Public Utilities, for a term of two years.

**Sponsors:** Brian Kazy, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS; UTILITIES DEPARTMENT; WATER DIVISION

**Attachments:** [463-2025-Dir Req K w BissNuss for various water proprietary equipment](#)

**This Emergency Ordinance was read and referred to administrative review.to the City Council**

[464-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Public Utilities to exercise the first option to renew Contract No. CT 2002 PS 2024-23 with Partners Environmental Consulting, Inc. to provide environmental, health, safety, and engineering services for the Divisions of Water, Water Pollution Control, and Cleveland Public Power, Department of Public Utilities.

**Sponsors:** Brian Kazy, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Attachments:** [464-2025-Exercise option to renew K w Partners Environmental Consulting, Inc for environment, health, engineering services](#)

**This Emergency Ordinance was read and referred to administrative review.to the City Council**

[465-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Parks and Recreation to enter into an agreement with The Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation to co-sponsor the 2025 One World Day.

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell, Anthony Hairston, Kevin Bishop, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Attachments:** [465-2025-K w Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation to sponsor One World Day 2025](#)

**This Emergency Ordinance was read and referred to administrative review.to the City Council**

[468-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into a lease of certain space located at the Northern Ohio Blanket Mills building at 3466 St. Rocco's Court, Cleveland, Ohio, with Blanket Mills Prime Tenant, LLC, or its designee, for a term of ten (10) years, for the public purpose of establishing and operating a health care clinic.

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Attachments:** [468-2025-City leasing property at Northern Ohio Blanket Mills for health care clinic](#)

**This Emergency Ordinance was read and referred to administrative review.to the City Council**

**•Emergency Ordinances Read in Full and Passed**

[466-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Consenting and approving the issuance of a permit for the Pigskin Classic 5K on November 29, 2025, managed by Hermes Sports & Events.

**Sponsors:** Kerry McCormack

**Attachments:** [466-2025-FOR PASSAGE-run permit-Pigskin Classic 5K 11-29-2025](#)  
[466-2025-Pigskin Classic 5K Course Map](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

**•Emergency Resolutions Referred**

[469-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION Recognizing National Black Maternal Health Week April 11 - April 17, 2025, and declaring this week Black Maternal Health Week in the City of Cleveland; and honoring the efforts of Black-led organizations driving systemic change in maternal health, and committing to supporting initiatives that promote equity, healing, and thriving communities.

**Sponsors:** Stephanie Howse-Jones

**Attachments:** [469-2025-Black Maternal Health Week](#)

**This Emergency Resolution was read and referred to administrative review.to the City Council**

## **SECOND READING LEGISLATION**

### **•Emergency Ordinances Passed**

[230-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Public Utilities to exercise the first option to renew Contract No. RC 2023-075 with Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP for inspection, testing and service of proprietary fire protections, life safety systems and replacement parts for the various divisions of the Department of Public Utilities.

**Sponsors:** Brian Kazy, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS; UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

**Attachments:** [230-2025-Exercise option to renew CT RC2023-75 with Johnson Controls Fire Protections for inspection and testing of systems](#)  
[230-2025 Executive Summary](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly



[237-2025](#)

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into an amendment to Contract No. CT 5001 PS 2024-364 with the Ohio Public Health Association, to provide additional temporary staffing and to change the term of the contract.

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** CONTRACTS; HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**Attachments:** [237-2025-Amend contract CT 5001 PS 2024-364 Ohio Public Health Association](#)  
[237-2025 Executive Summary](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

[293-2025](#)

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the purchase by one or more requirement contracts of materials, equipment, supplies, and services needed to repair, replace, and maintain the high-voltage static transmission pipe-type cable system components and for emergency oil spill cleanup, including labor and installation, if necessary, for the Division of Cleveland Public Power, Department of Public Utilities, for a period of two years, with two one-year options to renew, the first of which is exercisable through additional legislative authority.

**Sponsors:** Brian Kazy, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** CLEVELAND PUBLIC POWER; PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS; UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

**Attachments:** [293-2025-Req k high Voltage static pipe system and emergency oil spill cleanup](#)  
[293-2025 Executive Summary](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

[294-2025](#)

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the purchase by one or more requirement contracts of labor and materials necessary to maintain, test, evaluate, repair, or replace roofs and appurtenances, including but not limited to roofing systems, for the various divisions of the Department of Public Utilities, for a period of two years.

**Sponsors:** Brian Kazy, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS; UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

**Attachments:** [294-2025-Req K roofs- PU](#)  
[294-2025 Executive Summary](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

[383-2025](#)

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Finance, on behalf of the Office of Prevention, Intervention, and Opportunity, to enter into an amendment to Contract No. PS 2024-86 with Youth Opportunities Unlimited, to increase contract funds to recruit up to an additional 150 youth applicants and to hire four additional job coaches for 2025 and to exercise the renewal option.

**Sponsors:** Jasmin Santana, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** CONTRACTS; FINANCE DEPARTMENT; YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

**Attachments:** [383-2025-Amend K w Youth Opportunities Unlimited to add additional services, YOU](#)  
[383-2025 PRESENTATION](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

[422-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Finance to enter into an amendment to Contract No. CT 1506 PS 2023-287 with the Diligent Canada Inc., for Audit Management Software as a Service, or audit management software, and other services for the Department of Finance, to extend the term of the contract for a period of three years.

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** FINANCE DEPARTMENT; PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS

**Attachments:** [422-2025-Amend contract CT 1506 PS 2023-287 w Diligent Canada Inc for audit management software](#)  
[422-2025 Executive Summary](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

[425-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into contract with the Ohio Department of Health to perform environmental lead investigations of residences of Medicaid-eligible and non-Medicaid-eligible children; and to enter into one or more contracts with various agencies, entities, or individuals to provide services necessary to implement this ordinance.

**Sponsors:** Kevin Conwell, Blaine Griffin and By Departmental Request

**Indexes:** CONTRACTS; HEALTH DEPARTMENT; OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**Attachments:** [425-2025-K w Ohio Health for lead investigations- Medicaid reimburse](#)  
[425-2025 Executive Summary](#)  
[425-2025 as amended-desk copy-Final](#)  
[425-2025-Amend 425-2025](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

[435-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE To supplement the Codified Ordinances of Cleveland, Ohio 1976 by amending Section 127.49, as amended by Ordinance No. 151-2025, passed January 27, 2025, relating to funding for certain items for the Cleveland Commission on Black Women and Girls.

**Sponsors:** Stephanie Howse-Jones

**Indexes:** CLEVELAND COMMISSION ON BLACK WOMEN AND GIRLS ; CODIFIED ORDINANCES

**Attachments:** [435-2025-amend CO Sec 127.49 - Comm on Black Women and Girls](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

•Emergency Resolutions Adopted

[431-2025](#) AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION Recognizing April 2025 as Reentry Awareness Month

**Sponsors:** Stephanie Howse-Jones

**Indexes:** REENTRY AWARENESS MONTH ; RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

**Attachments:** [431-2025-declare April Reentry Awareness Month](#)

**A motion was made by Council Member Conwell, seconded by Council Member Spencer, that this Emergency Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 16 - Brian Kazy, Kerry McCormack, Kevin Conwell, Michael Polensek, Rebecca Maurer, Anthony T. Hairston, Blaine A. Griffin, Charles Slife, Deborah A. Gray, Jasmin Santana, Jenny Spencer, Joseph T. Jones, Kevin L. Bishop, Kris Harsh, Stephanie Howse-Jones, and Richard A. Starr

**Absent:** 1 - Danny Kelly

INTRODUCTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISCELLANEOUS

Council Members Conwell, McCormack, Jones, Howse-Jones and Slife made remarks.

**ADJOURN**

8:38 p.m.