

**CITY OF OBETZ  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**



**REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

The regular meeting of November 17, 2025 was held at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Government Center, 4175 Alum Creek Drive, with Mayor Angela Kirk presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Boumis called the roll. Mr. Michael Flaherty – present; Mr. Robert Kramer – present; Mr. Guiles Richardson – present; Mr. Derek Varney – present; Mr. Mike Kimbler – present; Mr. Todd Gibbs – present. Also present were Gene Hollins, Esq., Law Director; Stacey Boumis, AICP, Clerk; Mike Confer, Police Chief; and E. Rod Davisson, Esq., City Administrator.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2025 meeting. Motion made by Mr. Flaherty; seconded by Mr. Varney. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Abdoulaye Dieng, Field Representative Manager for Congressman Mike Carey addressed Council. He stated the government funding law recently passed included an investment of \$1.88 million dollars for the City of Obetz to replace its water tower and increase capacity to serve more local residents. Mayor Kirk and Council thanked Congressman Carey for all his work getting these funds for Obetz.

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Kirk presented proclamations to four Hamilton Township High School organizations as follows:

- Hamilton Township High School Marching Band – Director Riley Robey
- Hamilton Township High School Varsity Boys Soccer – Head Coach Michael Sutherland
- Hamilton Township High School Varsity Football – Head Coach Tennyson Varney
- Hamilton Township High School Varsity Competition Cheerleading – Head Coach Grace Yocum

Mayor Kirk also presented the Varsity Competition Cheerleading team with a \$5,000 donation from the Big Walnut Community Improvement Corporation. The Team will be traveling to Orlando, Florida to compete in the Universal Cheerleading Association’s National Competition.

**ORDINANCES**

*First Readings*

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 61 – 25: An Ordinance To Approve The 2026 Permanent Appropriations Of All Funds For The Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The City Of

Obetz. Mr. Davisson discussed the proposed budget. He stated Obetz was able to transfer money from the gas fund into the general fund. He then stated Obetz has received the GFOA award for years. Obetz has to look ten to twenty years ahead; the City is forever and our job is to protect its long-term future. The City's economic development policies are working. Obetz is thriving; however, the State of Ohio continues to pass laws that hurts cities. Starting in 2023, corporations were able to get larger refunds from cities. Obetz does not have a way to predict the amount of these refunds and when they will occur. He then discussed the various components of the City's operation and business segment losses. He stated the concession stands, the Fortress, the Obetz Athletic Club, youth athletics, Zucchinifest, and the Community Center all lose money.

He then stated money needs to be put aside each year to cover corporate refunds and to make sure those refunds don't disrupt operations. Money also needs to be put aside to cover conversion payouts.

Council controls the budget and will need to vote on the budget at the December meeting. Mr. Kramer inquired about corporate refunds. Mr. Davisson stated it is a rolling five years and it is difficult to predict refunds. He then stated the State of Ohio is pushing for centralized tax collections which will further take control away from Obetz.

Mr. Davisson stated the cost of policing is growing at a staggering rate and he is working on figuring out what to do. There could come a time when Obetz does not have its own police force. There are no layoffs in the current budget; however, people that retire or quit may not be replaced.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 62 – 25: An Ordinance Authorizing The Mayor Or Administrator To Enter Into Various Recurring Contracts Necessary For The Continuous Operation Of The City And Declaring An Emergency.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 63 – 25: An Ordinance Approving The Final Plat For Section 3 Phase A Of The Buckstone Bend Subdivision And Declaring An Emergency.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 64 – 25: An Ordinance Adopting A Cybersecurity Program To Ensure The Availability, Confidentiality, And Integrity Of The City's Data, Information And Technology ("IT") Systems, And It Resources, And To Declare An Emergency.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 65 – 25: An Ordinance Amending Section 939.03 Of The Codified Ordinances Of The City Of Obetz Regarding Water And Sewer Rates And Declaring An Emergency.

#### *Second Readings*

No second readings.

### *Third Readings*

No third readings.

### *Emergencies*

Ms. Boumis read Ordinance 66 – 25: An Ordinance To Approve Changes To The 2025 Appropriations For The Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The City Of Obetz. Mr. Davisson discussed the Ordinance. He stated the changes are payroll related as well as money for the incubator building and commodity charges for water. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to suspend the rules regarding the adoption of Ordinance 66 – 25. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Gibbs. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes. Motion carried. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 66 – 25. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes. Motion carried.

### *Tabled*

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to remove Ordinance 39 – 25 from the table. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes. Motion carried. Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 39 – 25: An Ordinance To Amend Section 182.012 Of The Codified Ordinances Of The City Of Obetz To Increase In The City Income Tax Rate From The Current Rate Of Two And One-Half Percent (2.5%) To A Rate Of Three Percent (3%) To Become Effective On January 1, 2026 To Provide For Safety Services, And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Davisson stated that since the levy did not pass, then the Ordinance needs to be voted down. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 39 – 25. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – no; Mr. Kimbler – no; Mr. Varney – no; Mr. Kramer – no; Mr. Richardson – no; Mr. Gibbs – no. Motion failed. The ordinance did not pass.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Kirk congratulated the Councilmembers that were re-elected. She then stated the Christmas Kick-Off is coming up. The tree has been installed. Staff has been busy preparing the budget.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

No reports.

### **ADMINISTRATION'S REPORTS**

Chief Michael Confer – Chief Confer stated he does not have a formal report. Mr. Kimbler asked him if the speed trailer was in a rotation. Chief Confer stated there is no formal rotation. Mr. Kimbler stated a resident in the Charlotte Road/Bridlewood Blvd area has requested the trailer in the area.

Gene Hollins, Esq., Law Director – Mr. Hollins congratulated the Councilmembers that were re-elected.

Stacey Boumis, AICP – No report.

E. Rod Davisson, Esq. – Mr. Davisson congratulated the Councilmembers that were re-elected. He then stated the personalized bricks will be installed by the Christmas Kick-Off. Staff is working on a new website. Next, he discussed the process of creating the budget this year. There was a comprehensive change in how it was done. He then stated the City is performing at the highest level and has \$5 million dollars in the bank.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

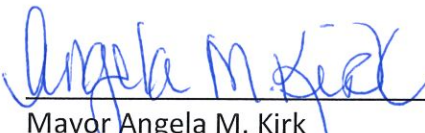
Andy Borders thanked Mr. Davisson for getting the Rathmell Road right of way cleaned up.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to go into executive session under ORC 121.22(g)(8) to discuss economic development. Motion made by Mr. Flaherty; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes. Motion carried. Council went into executive session at 7:33 PM. Council returned from executive session at 8:26 PM with all six members present.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Richardson. All ayes. Council adjourned at 8:27 PM.

  
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Mayor Angela M. Kirk

  
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Stacey Boumis, Clerk of Council