

**CITY OF OBETZ  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**



**REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2026**

The regular meeting of September 28, 2026 was held at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the Government Center, 4175 Alum Creek Drive, with Mayor Angela Kirk presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Kirk called the roll. Mr. Michael Flaherty – absent; Mr. Robert Kramer – present; Mr. Guiles Richardson – present; Mr. Derek Varney – present; Mr. Mike Kimbler – present; Mr. Todd Gibbs – present. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to excuse Mr. Flaherty. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes. Also present: Gene Hollins, Esq., Law Director; Michael Corbitt, PE, Deputy City Administrator, Mike Confer, Police Chief; E. Rod Davisson, Esq., City Administrator, Joe McDaniels, Esq., Assistant Law Director, and, Stacey Boumis, AICP, Clerk.

**MINUTES**

The minutes were not available for approval.

**ORDINANCES**

*First Readings*

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 63– 26: An Ordinance Vacating, Releasing, Terminating, and Extinguishing a Sanitary Sewer Easement Previously Granted to the Village of Obetz, Now the City of Obetz.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 64– 26: An Ordinance Declaring the Necessity of the Acquisition, Construction, and Improvement of an Air Quality Facility.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 65– 26: An Ordinance Determining to Proceed with the Acquisition, Construction, and Improvement of an Air Quality Facility.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 66– 26: An Ordinance Levying Special Assessments for the Purpose of Acquiring, Constructing, and Improving an Air Quality Facility.

*Second Readings*

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 60 – 26: An Ordinance Canceling The Regularly Scheduled Council Meetings Of November 23, 2026 And December 28, 2026. Mayor Kirk discussed the Ordinance. She stated these are the regular meetings around Thanksgiving and Christmas.

*Third Readings*

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 52 – 26: An Ordinance Approving The Recodification, Editing And Inclusion Of Certain Ordinances As Parts Of The Various Component Codes Of The Codified Ordinances Of Obetz. Mr. Corbitt discussed the Ordinance. He stated this is done yearly.

Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 52 – 26. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kramer. Voting as follows: Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 53 – 26: An Ordinance To Rezone Parcels 152-000851 From 152-000866, 153-000006, 153-000017, 153-000004, And 153-000030 From Community Facilities To Planned Industrial District. Mayor Kirk stated the developer is still working through the zoning process. This is not ready for Council action. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to table. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Varney. Voting as follows: Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 54 – 26: An Ordinance Approving The Final Plat For Section 2 Of The Buckstone Bend Subdivision. Mr. Corbitt discussed the Ordinance. He stated this is the next to the last section within the subdivision. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 54 – 26. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Varney. Voting as follows: Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 57 – 26: An Ordinance Accepting The Donation And Conveyance Of Approximately 0.084 Acres Of Real Property From CB Garage, LLC. For Public Road Right-Of-Way Purposes. Mr. Corbitt discussed the Ordinance. He stated this is for a fifteen-foot strip of land in front of Grumpy's. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 57 – 26. Motion made by Mr. Varney; seconded by Mr. Richardson. Voting as follows: Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 58 – 26: An Ordinance Accepting The Donation And Conveyance Of Approximately 0.065 Acres Of Real Property From Riha Properties, LLC. For Public Road Right-Of-Way Purposes. Mr. Corbitt discussed the Ordinance. He stated this is for a twenty-foot strip of land in along Maureen Boulevard by Subway. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 58 – 26. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 46 – 26: An Ordinance To Rezone Parcel 152-000851 From Suburban Office and Institution To Planned Commercial District. Mayor Kirk opened the public hearing. Ms. Boumis gave a presentation to Council. She reviewed the proposed site plan and development text. The development text contains a section titled "Order of Development" that requires a second use prior to opening of any fuel station. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval. Mr. David Hodge, attorney for the applicant, addressed Council. He stated the project will have heightened architecture and landscaping. This project fulfils the need in the community for more restaurants and retail space. No public comments. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 46 – 26. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Kramer – yes; Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes.

### *Emergencies*

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 59 – 26: An Ordinance To Further Extend And Update The Moratorium On The Establishment And Operation Of Licensed Cultivators, Licensed Processors, And Licensed Dispensaries Within The City Of Obetz Through October 1, 2027, And Declaring An Emergency. Mr. Joe McDaniels, Assistant Law Director, addressed Council. He stated Council could create a permanent moratorium against these types of facilities. The City is not likely to see any additional legislation regarding these types of uses. Mayor Kirk stated she would like to continue the moratorium for a year to give the City time to decide how to move forward. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to suspend the three-reading rule. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Gibbs. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt. Motion made by Mr. Richardson; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Boumis read the title of Ordinance 62 – 26: An Ordinance To Approve Changes To The 2026 Appropriations For The Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The City Of Obetz. Mr. Corbitt discussed the appropriations. The first two line items move money out of uniforms and into training in the police department. The next four line items are for employee leave, cash out, and pay outs. The next line is for Mayor’s Court computers and printers. The last line is for electric meter upgrades that will occur when water meters are upgraded. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to suspend the three-reading rule. Motion made by Mr. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Richardson. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried. Mayor Kirk called for a motion to adopt. Motion made by Mr. Kramer; seconded by Mr. Richardson. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Flaherty – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried.

### *Tabled*

Ordinances 35 – 26 remained tabled.

### **MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Kirk stated the County Engineer’s Office is hosting Touch a Truck at the Fortress on October 15<sup>th</sup>. There is a senior citizen disco night on October 15<sup>th</sup> as well. Transportation is offered. She then stated the Franklin County Health Department is who sprays for mosquitoes in the area. The City can request additional spraying but cannot make them spray; they make the call. ZucchiniFest photos are now online. Trick or treat is October 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Fright Night at Fortress Obetz is October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. September is Hunger Action Month, and the City’s food pantry is accepting donations for the entire month.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Varney stated there is a Committee meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> to continue discussing e-bikes and micromobility devices.

## **ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT**

*Mike Confer, Police Chief* – Chief Confer stated stats were shared by email. Michael Thompson built a new rolling log sheet that is searchable allowing Council to pull reports. There is a lot more information on the log sheet. It breaks down everything the Department does.

Chief Confer stated there have been six interactions with kids related to e-bikes over the last week weeks. He then stated he found an on-line class that kids can take rather than get a citation if they are breaking the e-bike rules.

Chief Confer discussed the City's Flock safety cameras. Flock is nothing but a brand name. There are several other companies that make these cameras. The Flock cameras are like the cameras on thousands of police cars around the country; however, the Flock cameras are stationary. He then discussed how a Flock camera works and who has access to the data. Flock cameras are one part of the City's investigations. The City has other software that is used in investigations that give much more detail than a Flock camera. Chief Confer then reviewed the City's policy regarding Flock camera usage. Anyone misusing the Flock camera system will be fired. Chief Confer audits Flock camera usage monthly. There has been no misuse of the City's Flock camera system.

Mr. Varney asked if the system tracks who gets on and looks for information and what information is retrieved. Chief Confer stated he can look back to the beginning of the City's implementation of the system.

Mr. Davisson stated what Chief Confer didn't touch on was that the Flock system has enabled the City to do multi-jurisdictional investigations and track vehicles that are suspicious.

Chief Confer discussed rumors in the community and dispelled them stating those rumors are not true. Mayor Kirk asked Chief Confer to confirm that there are no Flock cameras in individual neighborhoods. Chief Confer confirmed that the only cameras in Obetz are cameras owned by the City. Chief Confer further confirmed that the City's cameras are faced directly at the road to read license plates. There is no facial recognition software in the Flock camera system.

*Gene Hollins, Esq., Law Director* – Mr. Hollins stated an executive session is needed tonight.

*Stacey Boumis, AICP, Community Services Director/Clerk* – No report.

*Michael Corbitt, Deputy City Administrator* – Mr. Corbitt stated Orchard 38 is wrapping up. The City will be handing the keys over to the tenants in mid-October. Mr. Corbitt then stated that over the next five to ten years there will be a lot of roads and utilities that need improvement throughout the City. The City is currently working on a Safe Streets for All study through a Federal grant. The study takes a look at the streets and intersections and classifies them. The City's interchange study is in full force. This is a very technical study. There is a lot of traction with the State and region. The City's projects need to be on MORPC's lists and plans need completed so when Federal funds become available the City can apply.

Mr. Corbitt discussed how the City is handling meter readings. He shared an example. He stated the meters are still reading correctly; it's the radio system that is failing and not getting the reading into the system. Mr. Kramer asked if there were any overcharges. Mr. Corbitt stated there were 35 accounts that were overbilled; 10 of those were commercial accounts. Commercial accounts are hard to estimate due to high usage. Accounts that were overbilled are offered a refund or they could choose to have a credit. The City is finalizing the contract to get the new meters installed. The City will need to get into people's houses. The City is replacing the meter, the radio, and the whole infrastructure.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

#### **REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Jerry Benson addressed Council. He stated he spoke to the students that were at the last meeting. He stated the students stated there was no place to ride e-bikes. Mayor Kirk stated e-bikes can be ridden in the same areas where a traditional bicycle can be ridden. She then stated the new laws are for the safety of the children. The children are not following the traffic laws and are going to get hurt. The new laws are not to punish anyone. Mr. Benson then stated that the student was looking for a place to ride a mini-bike. Mayor Kirk stated the City is not built for four-wheelers and all that on public streets.

Mr. Benson then stated that he was on a previous charter review commission, so he knows a lot about the charter. The charter requires men to wear a tie. He stated there are no Council members not wearing a tie tonight. Council and Mr. Benson discussed the charter. Mayor Kirk stated there is nothing she can do to enforce that rule. There is no punishment in the charter for not wearing a tie. She then stated she understands why the rule was put in the charter; but the current Council members would not show up like that. Mr. Benson stated anyone violating the rules of the charter should not be allowed on Council. Mr. Benson, Council, and Mayor Kirk continued discussing this issue. Mr. Varney stated he understands that when this was put in the charter this was a corrective measure and that the intent of the rule was to ensure that Council members didn't show up in painting clothes with drywall mud and that they dressed professionally. He further stated all the current Council members come to the meetings dressed professionally.

Mr. Davisson stated the charter is not written to be punitive. It is written to be a guide for government. Having a dress code in the charter is absurd and embarrassing and has been for the entirety of the time that it has been in place.

Mr. Davisson then stated he did not know Chief Confer was discussing Flock cameras tonight. The problem with Flock cameras is twofold. First, you have no expectation of privacy when you're

in public, meaning, when you're outside, people can record you. They can take pictures. The problem with Flock cameras is that when you assemble the data you have a way to conduct a warrantless search that violates the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution because you can track the movements of a particular vehicle all the way across the country without a warrant and that would theoretically violate the Fourth Amendment. This is why people are upset when they talk about Flock cameras. Court rulings currently heed to the standard that you have no privacy expectation in public and have not yet determined the use of Flock cameras to be a Fourth Amendment violation. The City's policy is written in a way that the City would not trigger a Fourth Amendment violation. Flock cameras are importation for the purposes for which the City uses them. They are used appropriately in Obetz.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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. Gibbs; seconded by Mr. Kimbler. Voting as follows: Mr. Richardson – yes; Mr. Kimbler – yes; Mr. Gibbs – yes; Mr. Varney – yes; Mr. Kramer – yes. Motion carried. Council went into executive session at 7:07 PM. Council returned from executive session at 7:48 pm with all five 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 7:49 PM.

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Mayor Angela M. Kirk

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Stacey Boumis, Clerk of Council