

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of WEST CARROLLTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR Meeting

Held June 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Barnhart at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call followed.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Rick Barnhart, Councilmembers Jill Tomlin, Mike Boyle, Rick Dobson, Angie Fryman, and Keith Tilton. City Staff: City Manager Amber Holloway, Law Director Lori Denlinger, Assistant City Manager Dan Wendt, Finance Director Julie Duffy, Planning & Community Development Director Greg Gaines, Service Director Rich Norton, Interim Police Chief David Wessling, and Clerk of Council Tracy Moore.

MINUTES

Mrs. Fryman moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 27, 2025. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

Mrs. Fryman moved, seconded by Mr. Dobson to approve the special meeting minutes of June 2, 2025. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Barnhart introduced Resolution 27-2025.

Resolution 27-2025 - A Resolution Recognizing The West Carrollton High School Class Of 2025 Valedictorian And Salutatorian.

Mayor Barnhart provided a brief background on Valedictorian Eliana Williams, and Salutatorian Amara Snow. Council congratulated Miss Williams and Miss Snow.

Mrs. Tomlin moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve Resolution 27-2025. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

Whitewater Park Presentation

City Manager Holloway began the presentation by providing an overview of the project, along with a project timeline. Then Ms. Holloway turned the floor over to the representatives from Muller Engineering. Chris Kroeger, Project Manager, provided a brief background of Muller Engineering, along with an overview of their internal team. Additionally, he explained Patriot Engineering, Burkhardt Engineering, and PROS Consulting are all local consultants for this

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project. Rick McLaughlin, Lead Engineer, gave an overview of the three phases of the Whitewater Park Project. Phase one involves permitting and dam saing, phase two involves the whitewater course (adjustable wave), upland improvements and parking, and phase three involves the bypass or recreational channel. In Mr. McLaughlin's opinion, phasing the project will allow for better funding options.

Mr. Tilton inquired about fishing. Mr. McLaughlin stated he feels there will be better access to the bank for fishing.

Mr. Boyle shared concerns over the potential of flooding, the CMAR process versus Design, Bid, Build, how the project phases out, and the overall cost of the project.

Mr. Dobson asked if the city will be paying for 100% of the design when it is still unknown if the city will be able to afford the total cost to build all phases of the project.

Mr. Kroeger, Mr. McLaughlin, and City Manager Holloway attempted to address Council's questions and concerns.

COMMENTS BY THE AUDIENCE

Phil Reynolds, from 1805 Sheltering Tree, addressed Council to share concerns regarding the paving of South Alex Road. He is in favor of keeping it five lanes. Mr. Reynolds read a letter that he sent to City Manager Holloway regarding his concerns over this pavement project. Mr. Reynolds also shared concerns over the city spending \$70,000,000 on the Whitewater Park.

Mr. Boyle responded to Mr. Reynolds to clarify \$70,000,000 was his personal number. He further stated the projected budgetary numbers are \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Barnhart moved, seconded by Mr. Tilton to amend Ordinance 3803, by removing Item #1 – Funds for the Completion and Submission of ODOT Safety Funds for S. Alex Road. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-no, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-no, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

Ordinance 3803 – An Ordinance To Make Appropriations For Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The City Of West Carrollton, State Of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025, Amending Ordinance 3795, Repealing Any Ordinances In Conflict Herewith, And Declaring An Emergency

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Mayor Barnhart moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve Ordinance 3803 as amended. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-no, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-no, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

*Note – Ordinance 3803 failed per Section 5.03 of the West Carrollton City Charter.

Ordinance 3804 – *An Ordinance Further Extending The Moratorium On The Issuance And Processing Of Permits For Dispensaries, Cultivators Or Processors Of Adult Use Cannabis Within The City Of West Carrollton, Ohio, And Declaring An Emergency*

City Manager Holloway presented Ordinance 3804. She explained City Council passed Ordinance 3763 on December 12, 2023 to place a moratorium on the issuance and processing of permits for dispensaries, cultivators, or processors of adult use cannabis. This moratorium was extended by Council passing Ordinance 3777, which is set to expire on June 30, 2025. Ordinance 3804 would further extend the moratorium until March 30, 2026. Ms. Holloway explained the Division of Cannabis still has not adopted any rules to establish standards and procedures for implementation. Therefore, staff recommends this extension to allow time to study current and forthcoming rules from the Division of Cannabis before making a recommendation to City Council.

Mayor Barnhart asked Council if there were questions or comments. There were none.

Mrs. Fryman moved, seconded by Mayor Barnhart to approve Ordinance 3804. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

Mayor Barnhart introduced Resolution 28-2025.

Resolution 28-2025 – *A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Understanding With The West Carrollton School District For The Staffing Of A School Resource Officer Position At The West Carrollton High School.*

City Manager Holloway presented Resolution 28-2025. She explained this resolution would authorize her to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the West Carrollton City Schools for a School Resource Officer for the 2025 – 2026 school year.

Mayor Barnhart asked Council if there were questions or comments. There were none.

Mr. Tilton moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve Resolution 28-2025. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

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Mayor Barnhart introduced Resolution 29-2025.

Resolution 29-2025 – A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Negotiate, To Enter Into, And To Execute A Capital Improvement Community Park, Recreation / Conservation Project Pass-Through Grant Agreement Between The Ohio Department Of Natural Resources And The City Of West Carrollton For \$250,000 For The West Carrollton Whitewater Park Project Pursuant To Substitute House Bill 2 Of The 135th General Assembly Of The State Of Ohio And To Execute All Necessary Documents To Administer The Funding Program.

City Manager Holloway presented Resolution 29-2025. She explained this resolution would authorize her to enter into a grant agreement with ODNR for \$250,000 to be used for the final design, engineering, permitting, and development of construction documents for the West Carrollton Whitewater Park.

Mayor Barnhart asked Council if there were questions or comments.

Mr. Dobson clarified that the funding is a grant, with no pay back required by the city. Ms. Holloway answered Mr. Dobson was correct.

Mayor Barnhart moved, seconded by Mrs. Tomlin to approve Resolution 29-2025. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

Mayor Barnhart introduced Resolution 30-2025.

Resolution 30-2025 – A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Negotiate, To Enter Into, And To Execute A Capital Improvement Community Park, Recreation / Conservation Project Pass-Through Grant Agreement Between The Ohio Department Of Natural Resources And The City Of West Carrollton For \$1,000,000 For The West Carrollton River District And Whitewater Park Project Pursuant To Substitute House Bill 2 Of The 135th General Assembly Of The State Of Ohio And To Execute All Necessary Documents To Administer The Funding Program.

City Manager Holloway presented Resolution 30-2025. She explained this resolution would authorize her to enter into a grant agreement with ODNR for \$1,000,000 to be used for construction and soft costs related to the dam hazard mitigation, whitewater course development, utility relocation, and public infrastructure improvements for the West Carrollton Whitewater Park.

Mayor Barnhart asked Council if there were questions or comments.

Mr. Dobson clarified that the funding is a grant, with no pay back required by the city. Ms. Holloway answered Mr. Dobson was correct.

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Mayor Barnhart moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve Resolution 30-2025. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS

City Manager Holloway announced the bid for the city's annual resurfacing project was awarded to Barrett Paving, as the lowest and best bidder, in the amount of \$545,330.05. This bid came in 22% under the engineer's estimate. Ms. Holloway stated given these cost savings, the city would work with Barrett Paving to add Grantwood Drive between Heincke Road and Cherry Blossom Drive. With this addition, the contract price will rise to \$618,808.78, which is still within the 2025 Budget. Ms. Holloway encouraged residents to attend the first in the Concert Series, which includes a drone show, to be held on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 1 South Elm Street. This is a free event. Finally, she reminded citizens the city offices will be closed on June 19, 2025 in observance of the Juneteenth Holiday.

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS

Comments by the Audience

Kim Boring, of 1485 South Alex Road, addressed Council to share her concerns over the paving of South Alex Road. She is in favor of keeping it five lanes.

Allen Gould, of 1440 South Alex Road, addressed Council to share his concerns over the paving of South Alex Road. He is in favor of keeping it five lanes.

Abby Cochran, of 20 East Cottage Avenue, addressed Council to share her reasons on why she is in favor of the three-lane pavement option on South Alex Road.

Comments by Council

Mrs. Tomlin congratulated the Valedictorian and Salutatorian on their achievements. She also encouraged residents to attend the concert and drone show. Mrs. Tomlin reassured residents that Council is taking everything into consideration regarding South Alex Road. She wanted everyone to know Council is listening and taking residents perspective into consideration.

Mr. Boyle congratulated the Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Mr. Boyle also stated he wanted residents to know that Council has a lot of conversations, and take many things into consideration while making decisions, including information they receive through the Work Sessions and Executive Sessions. He stated Council requested mailers be sent to the entire community regarding South Alex Road. The open house was held for all residents to come out and provide their opinion. He also stated he appreciated the residents who sent comments in online, and thanked the residents who attended the open house. Mr. Boyle stated there is a flyer going around asking for signatures to cancel property tax. He asked residents to take everything into consideration prior to signing. Mr. Boyle stated property tax is 60% of the state's budget. He encouraged residents to consider how that might impact sales tax, or other

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improvements like road repairs or capital improvements. Finally, Mr. Boyle stated he would like to see the 22% savings from the 2025 Paving Program be allocated to the South Alex Road pavement project.

Mr. Dobson thanked residents for attending the South Alex Road Open House. He was grateful to hear both sides, and all opinions. He also stated that he felt it was important for residents to see and hear all things that have to be considered with this project. Mr. Dobson stated his campaign promise was to represent the people. He stated he will do that every single time. Sometimes there is a fine line about the citizen versus safety and security of the community. Mr. Dobson stated in this particular case, the study showed 80% of the people who responded would like the roadway to remain the same as it is now – five lanes. The online response showed 60% felt it should remain the same. Mr. Dobson stated Strand's presentation did not answer 100% of his questions or concerns. Mr. Dobson stated that he went to 1,200 homes requesting feedback from the residents regarding this project. He felt it was important to listen to the people. He stated the overwhelming opinion was to leave it as it is currently with five lanes. Mr. Dobson stated Council has a difficult decision to make. With one decision, the city can receive assistance with the funding, but with the other decision the city has to pay for the entire project. He stated if the city has to pay for the entire project, it is likely other road repairs will be delayed and budgets will be cut. Mr. Dobson stated removing item number one from the supplemental appropriation felt right to him. He stated he didn't want to jeopardize the other monies that need to be appropriated for different projects, but also wasn't ready to vote on this issue. Mr. Dobson reiterated he was grateful for the residents who came to the open house to express their opinions. He stated 80% of the community that made representation doesn't want the change, and he doesn't feel like the city has proven to him it is the right decision. He stated that should represent what his vote will be. Mr. Dobson also stated he wished he could have attended First Thursday, but he had a family birthday party to attend. Finally, Mr. Dobson encouraged residents to attend the concert and drone show on Thursday evening.

Mrs. Fryman stated the South Alex Road project will be a difficult decision, and is something that is still being discussed.

Mr. Tilton congratulated the Valedictorian and Salutatorian, along with all of the graduates. Mr. Tilton stated he was grateful for the resident turnout at the South Alex Road Open House. Mr. Tilton stated he engaged residents as they were leaving to ask about what they felt after the presentation. Mr. Tilton stated he knows he didn't catch everyone, but he did speak with 109 people who prefer to keep it five-lanes, 21 who prefer the three-lane option, 7 who were undetermined, and 3 who requested taking the center lane out but keeping it 4-lanes. Mr. Tilton stated one of his concerns is because Central Avenue has become a nightmare since the lanes were changed. He stated he has difficulties getting out of his neighborhood. Mr. Tilton stated he understands the residents who have concerns. He stated this will be a difficult decision. Mr. Tilton stated he would have preferred for us to pause our paving program for this year so we could use the funding for South Alex Road. Mr. Tilton reassured residents that Council is still considering all options to make the best decision. Mr. Tilton thanked residents for attending the Council Meeting and for attending the South Alex Road Open House.

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Mayor Barnhart thanked everyone for attending the South Alex Road Open House. He explained chairs were not set out since this was an open house style meeting. The idea was for residents to move around and visit all the booths to talk with the representatives to get their personal questions answered. Mayor Barnhart stated he attended the 2025 West Carrollton Graduation Ceremony. He stated the students did a phenomenal job. Mayor Barnhart stated they were one of the top classes for scholarships in West Carrollton history. He stated he looks forward to them coming back and being leaders in our community. Mayor Barnhart stated First Thursday was a great event and was well attended. He stated Sheetz had their grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. Finally, Mayor Barnhart also reminded residents to attend the concert and drone show on Thursday, June 12, 2025.

RECESS

Mayor Barnhart moved, seconded by Mr. Dobson to recess to a Work Session to discuss the items on the agenda. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

Mayor Barnhart moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle to recess to an Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1): To consider the employment of a public employee or official, to return to the regular meeting for adjournment. A vote was taken: Mrs. Tomlin-yes, Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

WORK SESSION

PRESENT: Mayor Rick Barnhart, Councilmembers Jill Tomlin, Mike Boyle, Rick Dobson, Angie Fryman, and Keith Tilton. City Staff: City Manager Amber Holloway, Law Director Lori Denlinger, Assistant City Manager Dan Wendt, Finance Director Julie Duffy, Planning & Community Development Director Greg Gaines, Service Director Rich Norton, and Interim Police Chief David Wessling.

Street Light Assessments

City Manager Holloway stated that Council had a memorandum from Finance Director Duffy in their packet which detailed the legislative steps needed to proceed with the annual street lighting assessments.

Mr. Dobson asked about the brightness of the lights. Ms. Holloway explained that the lights were changed out from high-pressure sodium to LED several years ago. Mr. Boyle asked about the street lights on Alex-Bell Road. Service Director Norton stated that they were on order.

Spine Road Discussion

Ms. Holloway recapped previous discussions on the naming of the Spine Road and asked City Council if they would like to further consider naming it in honor of former Mayor Jeff Sanner. Mrs. Fryman stated that the Sanner family was supportive of this.

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Discussion ensued. It was determined that the spine road would be named "Sanner Way" and would be officially dedicated on July 8th before the City Council meeting.

South Alex Road Traffic Study

Ms. Holloway asked if there was any further discussion needed on the S. Alex Road Traffic Study, noting that the City could not proceed with the grant funding for the 3-lane option this year given that the Supplemental Appropriation failed.

Mr. Boyle suggested not paving Grantwood Drive and saving the money toward S. Alex Road. Mr. Tilton asked about grant funding. Director Norton advised on grant timelines and processes.

Ms. Holloway then explained the timing of resurfacing S. Alex Road, noting that the City would first need to initiate curb and sidewalk work in the areas for resurfacing. Director Norton advised that notice of the curb and sidewalk program goes out about one year in advance.

Ms. Holloway walked through different funding options, including phasing the resurfacing, taking debt, or a street levy. Mr. Boyle suggested creating a fund for infrastructure. Mr. Tilton stated that we need to better plan for necessary infrastructure improvements. Additional discussion ensued.

Mr. Boyle asked Interim Chief Wessling how he felt about officer safety under the three-lane option. I.C. Wessling stated that he felt it would be safer for everyone. Discussion ensued about conducting a trial of the three-lane option.

Mr. Tilton expressed concerns over neutrality in our messaging. Ms. Holloway explained that yes, staff had a recommendation, but tried to educate and did not aim to persuade.

Ms. Denlinger advised that Council should consider all of the information that was presented by the engineering firm when reaching a decision.

Discussion ensued about the 2026 curb and sidewalk program as it pertained to S. Alex Road.

Mrs. Tomlin stated that she felt we should apply for the grant. Mrs. Fryman suggested that staff further investigate the three-lane trial as an option and understand how that would impact any potential grant funds. Ms. Holloway stated she would find out.

Mr. Boyle stated he was a no. Mayor Barnhart asked that Ms. Holloway email out the findings, adding that Council needed to make a decision one way or another soon.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENT: Mayor Rick Barnhart, Councilmembers Jill Tomlin, Mike Boyle, Rick Dobson, Angie Fryman, and Keith Tilton. City Staff: City Manager Amber Holloway and Law Director Lori Denlinger.

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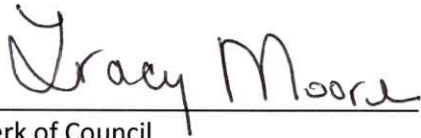
2025

Council met in Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1): To consider the employment of a public employee or official, and returned to the regular meeting for adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mayor Barnhart moved, seconded by Mr. Boyle, to adjourn the City Council Meeting of May 27, 2025. A vote was taken: Mr. Boyle-yes, Mr. Dobson-yes, Mrs. Fryman-yes, Mr. Tilton-yes, Mrs. Tomlin-yes, and Mayor Barnhart-yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.


Clerk of Council


Mayor