



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

4th FLOOR

MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026 — 1: 00P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council President Miller called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council President Miller asked Clerk Richardson to call the roll. Councilmembers Houser, Simon, Kelly, Sweeney, Casselberry, Gallagher, Schleper, Conwell, Jones, Turner and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Loh addressed Council regarding various agenda and non-agenda items.

Ms. Marcia Goldberg addressed Council regarding various Charter amendment proposals.

The following individuals addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0169, providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Article XVI of the County Charter to provide that the Sheriff be elected quadrennially commencing at the 2028 countywide general election,

- a) Mr. Jack Hall, Lorain County Sheriff**
- b) Mr. Eric Weisburn, Stark County Sheriff**
- c) Mr. William Niemi, Ashtabula County Sheriff**
- d) Mr. Kurt Schneider, Ashland County Sheriff**
- e) Mr. Scott Hildenbrand, Geauga County Sheriff**
- f) Mr. Calvin Graham, Carroll County Sheriff**

Mr. Will Tarter, Jr. addressed Council regarding changes to SNAP benefits and invited Councilmembers to a webinar on Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. that will be hosted by Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries.

4. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2026-0080: A Resolution amending the 2026/2027 Biennial Operating Budget for 2026 by providing for additional fiscal appropriations from the General Fund and other funding**

sources, for appropriation transfers between budget accounts and for cash transfers between budgetary funds, to meet the budgetary needs of various County departments, amending Resolution No. R2025-0350 dated 12/09/2025; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Miller introduced a proposed substitute to Resolution No. R2026-0080. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Bridget Gibbons, Deputy Court Administrator for Juvenile Court, addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0080. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Ms. Gibbons pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

A motion was then made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Casselberry and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed substitute.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Sweeney, Resolution No. R2026-0080 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules, as substituted.

Mr. Miller read a short statement regarding the Charter amendment process and meeting schedules. He then turned the gavel over to Mr. Schleper, Chair of the Council Operations, Information Technology and Public Transportation Committee.

Mr. Schleper made brief remarks regarding the Charter amendment process.

- b) R2026-0167: A Resolution providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Article I, Section 1.02 of the County Charter to provide that no tax levied, extended, or renewed by the County shall go into effect until such question has been submitted to, and approved by, the electors of the County, and to provide for the manner of submitting such question to the electors.

Mr. Gallagher addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0167. Discussion ensued.

There was no further legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2026-0167.

- c) R2026-0168: A Resolution providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Article III, Section 3.09 of the County Charter to require the County Council to establish campaign laws by ordinance including, without limitation, campaign finance regulation, donor disclosure requirements, and enforcement.

Mr. Sweeney addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0168. Discussion ensued.

There was no further legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2026-0168.

- d) R2026-0169: A Resolution providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Article XVI of the County Charter to provide that the Sheriff be elected quadrennially commencing at the 2028 countywide general election, and providing for the qualifications and powers and duties for the office of the Sheriff.

Mr. Sweeney addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0169. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Kandy Fatheree, Summit County Sheriff; and Mr. Harold Pretel, Cuyahoga County Sheriff, addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0169. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Sheriffs Fatheree and Pretel pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

There was no further legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2026-0169.

- e) R2026-0170: A Resolution providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Article II, Section 2.03 and Article VI, Section 6.04 of the County Charter to require that County Council confirm the County Executive's removal of members of boards, agencies, commissions and authorities as are (1) created by or pursuant to the Charter or (2) as are provided by general law to be appointed by boards of county commissioners.

Ms. Simon addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0170. Discussion ensued.

There was no further legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2026-0170.

- f) R2026-0181: A Resolution providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Article XVI of the County Charter to provide the County Executive the power to suspend, discipline, or remove the Sheriff; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Erik Janas, Chief of Staff for County Executive Ronayne; and Mr. Michael King, Special Counsel, addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2026-0181. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Messrs. Janas and King pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

There was no further legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2026-0181.

- g) R2026-0182: A Resolution providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Sections 4.01 and 5.06 of the County Charter to delineate the powers and duties of the Prosecuting Attorney and Director of Law; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

There was no legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2026-0182.

5. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

- a) A Resolution providing for the submission to the electors of the County of Cuyahoga an amendment to Article II, Section 2.03, Article VI, Section 6.04, and Article XII, Section 12.09 of the County Charter to provide that appointments by the County to certain boards and commissions be equally divided between the Council and the County Executive, and to further provide that, for certain appointments requiring Council confirmation, if the Council fails to act on an appointment of the County Executive within sixty days such appointment shall be deemed rejected without further action by the Council.

Mr. Sweeney provided an overview of the proposal to amend Article II, Section 2.03, Article VI, Section 2.04 and Article XII, Section 12.09 of the County Charter regarding board and commission appointments. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Schleper turned the gavel back over to Mr. Miller.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Council President Miller adjourned the meeting at 4:51 p.m., without objection.