

7Council met in **REGULAR SESSION** on Monday, October 27, 2025 at 7:01 P.M. in the Council Chambers with President Greer presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the invocation was given by Ms. Gearhart.

The Clerk called the roll: Members present: President Greer, Mr. Heitic, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Hager, Mr. Easterling, Mrs. Beck, Mr. Griffin, Ms. Gearhart, and Mr. Harris.

It was moved by Mrs. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Griffin to approve the Minutes of the Regular Legislative Meeting held on Monday, October 13, 2025 as presented. No remarks made. All Members present voted “Aye”. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Griffin to accept the Finance Report for the month of September, 2025 as presented. No remarks made. All Members present voted “Aye”. Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND CLAIMS

There were none.

MATTERS REFERRED

Each Council Member, the Mayor, the Safety and Service Directors were given a report prepared by the Council Clerk listing all matters before all committees with their packets.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING COUNCIL

There were none

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 155-2025

PRESENTED BY MR. EASTERLING TITLE: DONATION OF PROPERTY PARCEL ID 0114009 AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING THE CITY OF BARBERTON TO DONATE PARCEL ID 0114009 TO SUMMIT COUNTY FOR THE ASSESSED AMOUNT/VALUE OF \$700.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mr. Easterling seconded by Ms. Gearhart, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mr. Easterling, seconded by Ms. Gearhart, that **ORDINANCE NO. 155-2025 BE ADOPTED.** All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 156-2025

PRESENTED BY MR. EASTERLING & MRS. THOMPSON TITLE: APPROPRIATION PARKS DEPARTMENT AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$9,927.87 FROM THE UNAPPROPRIATED LINE ITEM OF THE GENERAL FUND REVOLVING FUND TO THE PARKS ADMINISTRATIVE CAPITAL BUDGET OF THE GENERAL FUND, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

It was moved by Mr. Easterling seconded by Mrs. Thompson, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mr. Easterling, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, that **ORDINANCE NO. 156-2025 BE ADOPTED.** All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 153-2025

PRESENTED BY MR. HEITIC TITLE: RAYMOND JAMES COMPANY CRA
ABATEMENT AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A 100% 15 YEAR CRA TAX
ABATEMENT FOR THE RAYMOND JAMES COMPANY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This is the Second Reading. The First Reading was on October 13, 2025.

It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, that **ORDINANCE NO. 153-2025 BE ADOPTED.** Mr. Heitic, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Beck, Ms. Gearhart, and Mr. Harris voted “Aye.” Mrs. Hager and Mr. Easterling Voted “Nay”. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 154-2025

PRESENTED BY MR. HEITIC TITLE: AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 91-2019
 “CREATION OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT” AN ORDINANCE
 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 91-2019 “CREATION OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING
 DISTRICT” TO REFLECT A CHANGE BY REMOVING PARCELS 01.12849 AND 01.03928 FROM
 THE TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT (TIF), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

This is the Second Reading. The First Reading was on October 13, 2025.

It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, that the rule as required by Section 5.10 of the Barberton City Charter be suspended. All Members present voted “Aye.” Motion carried. It was moved by Mr. Heitic, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, that **ORDINANCE NO. 154-2025 BE ADOPTED.** Mr. Heitic, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Hager, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Beck, Ms. Gearhart, and Mr. Harris voted “Aye.” Mr. Easterling Voted “Nay”. Motion carried.

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

THERE ARE NONE

APPOINTMENTS

THERE ARE NONE

MISCELLANEOUS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

During this portion of the meeting President Greer scheduled a Council Work Session / Discussion regarding the independent investigation into the placing of the political advertisement into the Parks Fall Program Guide. President Greer explained his reasons for calling the work session. All parties were given their chance to voice their opinions on the actions taken and the results thus far. A complete copy of the discussion is in the audio recording located in the Clerk of Council's Records.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE BODY

President Greer opened the floor to any comments other than what had been discussed in the work session. With no comments from the Body or Department Heads, President Greer stated that he wanted to thank all persons who have answered calls and explained the Charter Amendments to citizens that have inquired. Mrs. Beck and Ms. Gearhart created a video and posted it which effectively explains the changes and posted it on social media platforms. Citizens have been expressing their appreciation for this explanation.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor began his comments by announcing to all those who haven’t already observed, Wooster Road West is now open to traffic going both directions. Although not fully complete and the finishing touches are ongoing the detours are now down and normal traffic flow has resumed. The Mayor reminded everyone that this total reconstruction was an \$11,000,000.00 project and that \$9,000,000.00 of that was in the form of grants awarded and received.

Summit County has used many of their AARPA dollars to connect all the safety agencies throughout the county with a fiber ring called Summit Connects. They will be moving into Barberton later this month to install the lines to our Police and Fire stations. This is strictly for first responders and is not open to the public. This will be coming in from the New Franklin area and should only take a couple of months to complete.

With the closure of the government and the questions revolving around SNAP benefits to citizens we have started our food drive a month early. Any non-perishables or toiletries may be dropped off in the Mayor’s office and places around town. These items will be given to Barberton Area Community Ministries (BACM) and the Salvation Army to be distributed to our citizens in need. Our drive usually goes for the months of December and January.

Mr. Heitic requested a map of the installation of the fiber ring for First Responders. The Mayor stated the route he believes they are using but will supply a map so that citizens will know if it is the Summit Connects or OMNI Fiber being installed.

Mrs. Thompson questioned if Wooster Road West to Krantz will be paved this year. The Mayor stated that the weather turned sooner than expected so it will be paved in 2026.

President Greer called for, and Mr. Heitic made a motion for a five (5) minute break. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and with no objections, Council broke for a 5-minute break.

President Greer brought the Meeting back to order at 8:39 P. M.

At this time President Greer requested a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss matters to remain confidential regarding Economic Development. A motion was made by Mr. Heitic and seconded by Mrs. Thompson to exit into Executive Session. All persons not directly involved in the discussion were asked to vacate the chamber. All recording / electronic devices were turned off. Council entered into Executive Session at 8:41 P. M.

Council returned to the Regular Legislative Meeting at 9:16 P. M.

With nothing further, it was moved by Mr. Heitic and seconded by Mrs. Thompson to adjourn. All Members present voted “Aye”. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned 9:16 P. M.

Justin Greer
President of Council

Laura J. Ries-Price
Clerk of Council