

Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting

June 15, 2026

Members: Mary Nichols-Rhodes, Chair
Mike Brillhart, Vice Chair
Brian Ashton, Joe Siegferth, Susan Spinner

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed

Temp. Ord. A-40

Temp. Ord. A-41

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. A-40

An ordinance amending Ordinance 105-2024 to reflect the transfer of \$67,000 from the General Fund to the Princeton Crossroads TIF Fund, as an advance, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Bryan Hoffman, Finance Director, The City's independent public accountant audit firm requested a correction to Ordinance 105-2024 to reflect that the original entry should have been recorded as an advance and not a transfer.

The original entry was intended to be an advance from the General Fund to the Princeton Crossroads TIF Fund, but was approved and processed as a transfer in 2024. This discrepancy was not noted until after the 2025 year-end, when 2025 financial statements were compiled. The 2025 final appropriations ordinance authorized the repayment of the advance.

Ordinance 105-2024 will be amended to reflect the transfer of \$67,000 from the General Fund to the Princeton Crossing TIF Fund, as an advance.

Mr. Hoffman stated that this ordinance is a correction to the cleanup ordinance ending the year 2024. It was inadvertently classified from the General Fund \$67,000 to the Tax Equivalent Fund for the Princeton Crossroads TIF Fund and was put in as a transfer and should have been put in as an advance. That was ultimately caught this year with the audit for 2025 when the documents that were submitted to Council were passed that it should be an advance coming from the Tax Fund back into the General Fund. An advance is described as a loan from the General Fund to the Tax Equivalent Fund, the TIF Fund. To correct that issue, they are submitting a correction to the 2024 ordinance that correctly describes the \$67,000 as an advance rather than a transfer.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. There were none.

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Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-40 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Spinner. Motion passed (5-0).

Temp. Ord. A-41

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for overhead power line clearance services, including tree maintenance, tree and brush removal services, and mowing, for a period not to exceed three years, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Jimmy Filon, Assistant Electric Superintendent, presented Temporary Ordinance A-41 to Council. Mr. Filon stated that this is an annual budget item that is spent to clear around overhead lines to keep electricity from going out. This is a three-year contract. Two companies came out to bid at this time, Davey Tree and Asplund, and Davey Tree won the contract with the lowest and best bid. They are currently their contractor until July 19th, and the new contract would start July 20th.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes stated that the total cost estimate is \$1.2 million and that is exactly what was budgeted for under Electric Other Operations. Last year, it was about \$100,000 less. When she asked Mr. Rod Troxell, Electric Superintendent, how the list was made, he stated that it goes by substations. Mr. Filon stated that there are 13 substations in the city. Out of those 13 substations are 37 feeders. The tree company has five crews, and they just go through each feeder, starting at a substation, go methodically through the system to do preventative maintenance on the lines.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes stated that if a resident has a tree on their property that is threatening a line, the City will Davey Tree will cut or trim the tree, but the tree, itself, is actually still the responsibility of the private property owner.

Mrs. Cebula asked if, with the new satellite system, they anticipate being able to do it in a more targeted manner. Mr. Filon stated that, right now, they have those five crews doing preventative maintenance. They are going to continue doing the preventative maintenance feeder by feeder but are also going to take half of that workforce and start targeting hot spot areas that they know to be an issue. It is going to be going to be pretty effective. They are still working out the details.

Ms. Nichols-Rhodes asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. There were none.

Mr. Brillhart moved to bring out Temp. Ord. A-41 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mrs. Spinner. Motion passed (5-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.