



AGENDA
ATHENS CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025 AT 7:00 PM

e-mail: dwalker@ci.athens.oh.us

Streaming is available at www.ci.athens.oh.us/video

1. Establish Quorum

2. Disposition of Minutes:

- Special Session held April 14, 2025
- Regular Session held April 21, 2025

3. Communications

4. Reports and Communications from Other Elected Officials

5. Ordinances for Second Reading:

0-43-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 115-24.
Introduced by Council Member Risner

0-44-24

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 121-24; AUTHORIZING 2025 STAFFING LEVELS.
Introduced by the Finance & Personnel Committee

0-45-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 116-24; 2025 NON-UNION COMPENSATION, AUTHORIZED PAY GRADES, IN THE RECREATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER.
Introduced by the Finance & Personnel Committee

0-46-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 7, EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, OF ORDINANCE 117-24, THE 2025 FRINGE BENEFITS PACKAGE FOR NON-UNION PERSONNEL WITHIN THE CITY OF ATHENS.
Introduced by the Finance & Personnel Committee

0-49-25

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING EAST UNION STREET BETWEEN COURT AND UNIVERSITY TERRACE ON THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025, FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M. FOR THE COMMUNITY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION.

Introduced by Council Member Spjeldnes

0-50-25

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE CHAPTER 11.04, VENDING, PEDDLING AND SOLICITING, TO ALLOW VENDING IN A DESIGNATED AREA DURING THE COMMUNITY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION.

Introduced by Council Member Spjeldnes

0-51-25

AN ORDINANCE REQUESTING THE LAW DIRECTOR TO FILE A CIVIL LAWSUIT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF FOR THE UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS' RIGHT-OF-WAY AT 37 AND 37 ½ WOODWARD AVENUE.

Introduced by Council Member Swank

6. Ordinances for First Reading:

0-52-25

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE 2025 STREET PAVING AND REPAIRS PROJECT (#385).

Introduced by Council Member Spjeldnes

0-53-25

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO REDUCE 2025 YEAR-END APPROPRIATIONS.

Introduced by Council Member Risner

0-54-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 115-24, AND AUTHORIZING AN INTERFUND TRANSFER.

Introduced by Council Member Risner

0-55-25

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO FOR SUPPLEMENTAL DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Introduced by Council Member Risner

7. Announcements & Other Business:

- Appointments to the Environment & Sustainability Commission
- Appointment to the Community Relations Commission

8. Opportunity for Citizens to Speak on Legislative Items and City Services Not Covered on the Agenda

9. Executive Session:

- Pending Litigation

10. Adjournment

Sam Crowl
President of Council

The City of Athens supports the Americans with Disabilities Act. Requests for reasonable accommodation may be made with the ADA Coordinator in the City Building or by calling 592-3367.

0-43-25

Introduced by Jeff Risner, Chair
Finance & Personnel Committee

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 115-24.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: The 2025 Appropriation Ordinance 115-24 is hereby amended by appropriating from the unappropriated balance Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) to Water Fund, 740.637, T.C. 300, to be reimbursed by the Ohio EPA for abandonment of unused wells, and increasing the total appropriations by said amount.

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall be in effect and full force upon passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-44-25

Introduced by the Finance & Personnel Committee

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 121-24; AUTHORIZING 2025 STAFFING LEVELS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: Authorized staffing levels in the Recreation and Community Center are hereby amended to read as follows:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>F.T.E.</u>
270.940	Recreation	Director	0.5
270.940	Recreation	Assistant Director	0.5
270.940	Recreation	Program Specialist – APR	0.5
270.940	Recreation	Program Specialist – Arts	0.5
270.940	RECREATION	PROG.SPEC.-ATHLETICS & FITNESS	0.25
270.940	Recreation	Rec. Maint. Specialist	2
270.940	Recreation	Custodian	0.25
270.940	Recreation	Labor Supervisor	0.9
271.940	Community Center	Director	0.5
271.940	Community Center	Assistant Director	0.5
271.940	Community Center	Prog. Specialist – Childcare	1
271.940	Community Center	Prog. Specialist – APR	0.5
271.940	Community Center	Prog. Specialist – Arts	0.5
271.940	COMMUNITY CENTER	PROG.SPEC.-ATHLETICS & FITNESS	0.75
271.940	Community Center	Operations Specialist	2 1
271.940	Community Center	Custodian	1.75

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall be in effect and full force upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-45-25

Introduced by Finance & Personnel Committee

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 116-24; 2025 NON-UNION
COMPENSATION, AUTHORIZED PAY GRADES, IN THE RECREATION AND
COMMUNITY CENTER.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: An Ordinance amending Ordinance 116-24, 2025 Non-Union
Compensation, authorized Pay Grades, in the Recreation and Community Center, as
attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION III: This Ordinance shall be in effect and full force upon passage and
approval by the Mayor.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

President of Council

APPROVED:

Mayor

City of Athens Pay Grades

PAY GRADE	MIN	MID	MAX	POSITION TITLE
12	\$41.79	\$50.66	\$59.54	Service-Safety Director
11	\$38.59	\$47.28	\$55.97	City Engineer/Director of Public Works; Fire Chief; Police Chief; Assistant Law Director
10	\$35.40	\$43.37	\$51.34	Human Resources Director; Deputy Auditor; Director of Arts, Parks and Recreation; Director of Development, Enforcement and Facilities; Government Channel Director; Deputy Service-Safety Director; Prosecutor (2)
9	\$32.48	\$38.97	\$45.47	Fire Captain; Police Captain; Assistant City Engineer; WTP Manager; WWTP Manager; City Planner
8	\$29.80	\$35.76	\$41.72	Assistant Director of Arts, Parks and Recreation; Assistant Director of Development, Enforcement and Facilities; Assistant Director of Public Works
7	\$27.34	\$32.81	\$38.28	Lab Technician (2); Environmental Coordinator; Clerk of Council; Building Project Supervisor; [Labor Supervisor (4) Water, Sewer, Streets, APR]
6	\$25.08	\$29.47	\$33.86	Social Worker; Project Inspector; Income Tax Administrator (2); IT System Administrator
5	\$23.01	\$27.03	\$31.06	Account Administrator I (Auditor); Executive Administrator (Auditor); Account Administrator II (Utilities Billing); Program Specialist (Arts); Program Specialist (APR); Program Specialist (Childcare); PROGRAM SPECIALIST (ATHLETICS & FITNESS PROGRAMMING); Human Resources Coordinator; DEIA Coordinator
4	\$21.12	\$24.81	\$28.50	IT Technician; TGC Technician; Solid Waste Control Inspector; Building Projects Technician; Administrative Coordinator (E/PW); Executive Assistant (SSD); Court Security; Court Administrator; Diversion Program Coordinator
3	\$19.37	\$22.75	\$26.14	Administrative Assistant II; Account Administrator I (Utilities Billing); Production Specialist (TGC); Executive Assistant (Mayor); Intensive Probation Director
2	\$17.77	\$20.87	\$23.98	Operations Specialist (21); Legal Secretary II; Court Reporter; Diversion Administrative Assistant; Probation Officer (2)
1	\$16.29	\$19.15	\$22.01	General Secretary (Fire); General Secretary (Code); Legal Secretary I; Data Entry Operator (2)

0-46-25

Introduced by Finance & Personnel Committee

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 7, EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, OF ORDINANCE 117-24, THE 2025 FRINGE BENEFITS PACKAGE FOR NON-UNION PERSONNEL WITHIN THE CITY OF ATHENS.

WHEREAS, the Mayor intends to appoint Jarod Balderson as the next City Engineer and Director of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Balderson has the experience and displays the necessary leadership qualities to lead the City's largest and most complex department; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Balderson holds an ABET-accredited bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and the necessary experience to sit for the Ohio engineering principles and practice exam, but has not yet done so;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: Section 7, Educational Requirements, of Ordinance 117-24, the 2025 Fringe Benefits Package for Non-Union Personnel, is hereby amended to postpone the educational requirements for two (2) years from the date of appointment, allowing Mr. Balderson the necessary time to complete the required state applications and examinations, and shall read as follows:

7. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

As a job requirement, a related professional license shall be held by the following employees:

Fire Chief	Certifications equivalent to fire fighters' labor Agreement requirements
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Fire Captain	Certifications equivalent to fire fighters' labor agreement requirements
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Plant Manager	Class III Operator License
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Director of Public Works/City Engineer	Professional Engineer (within 2 yrs. of appt. of Mr. Balderson)
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Utility Labor Supervisor	Class II Distribution or Class II Collection
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Nothing in this section precludes the requirements prescribed for any position by the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest moment permitted by law upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-49-25

Introduced by Solveig Spjeldnes, Chair
Transportation Committee

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING EAST UNION STREET BETWEEN COURT AND UNIVERSITY TERRACE ON THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025, FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M. FOR THE COMMUNITY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION.

WHEREAS, a request has been received from Ohio University and the Athens County Foundation, to close a portion of East Union Street in order that the Community Juneteenth Celebration may be held;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: The Mayor and Service-Safety Director are hereby authorized, at their discretion, to implement the following:

- Close East Union Street, between Court and University Terrace to vehicular traffic in the City of Athens from 1:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2025, for the Community Juneteenth Celebration, except for necessary fire lanes at the intersections, and any other essential streets, deemed necessary, for effective and safe management of this event.
- Ban public parking on East Union Street in the City of Athens between Court and University Terrace on Thursday, June 19, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. for the Community Juneteenth Celebration.
- Employ, as necessary, uniformed members of the Athens City Police Department and other City employees to preserve peace and public order.

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall be in effect and full force upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-50-25

Introduced by Solveig Spjeldnes, Chair
Transportation Committee

AN ORDINANCE SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF ATHENS CITY CODE CHAPTER 11.04, VENDING, PEDDLING AND SOLICITING, TO ALLOW VENDING IN A DESIGNATED AREA DURING THE COMMUNITY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: The enforcement of Athens City Code Chapter 11.04, Vending, Peddling and Soliciting, is hereby suspended as follows:

- on Thursday, June 19, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., to allow vending in the designated Community Juneteenth Celebration street closure area, as determined appropriate by the Administration.

SECTION II: Prospective vendors shall register their name, address and items to be vended with the Code Enforcement Office on or before two (2) business days prior to the listed events, by 2:00 p.m. Vendors shall be entitled to vending spots on a first come basis, as determined by the Code Enforcement Office. Vendors must comply with all rules and regulations established by the Office of Code Enforcement.

SECTION III: Vending shall be subject to the following:

- those vendors currently holding a license to vend on East Union Street shall be allowed to continue to operate, at a time and location determined by the Service-Safety Director and the event organizer;
- a fee of \$25.00 per vendor and food license permit from the Athens City-County Health Department shall be established for all others per trailer, and paid to the City of Athens Code Enforcement Office; and
- any such additional administrative rules and regulations as may be established by the Service-Safety Director.

SECTION IV: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest moment permitted by law upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-51-25

Introduced by Alan Swank, Chair
Planning and Development Committee

AN ORDINANCE REQUESTING THE LAW DIRECTOR TO FILE A CIVIL LAWSUIT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF FOR THE UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE CITY OF ATHENS' RIGHT-OF-WAY AT 37 AND 37 ½ WOODWARD AVENUE.

WHEREAS, the owner of 37 and 37 ½ Woodward Avenue constructed a brick paver patio and curbing in the City's right-of-way without first applying to the City for said use of the City right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, upon a complaint made to the Code Enforcement Office, the owner was informed of the unauthorized use of the City right-of-way and issued a Notice of Violation pursuant to Athens City Code Sections 49.07.01(A), right-of-way construction permits, and 23.06.02(A), zoning permit; and

WHEREAS, it is the consensus of the Athens City Council Planning & Development Committee to request the City Law Director to file a civil lawsuit for injunctive relief for the unauthorized use of the City right-of-way and seek an order that the property owner remove the paver patio and curbing from the City right-of-way;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: Athens City Council does hereby request the City Law Director to file a civil lawsuit for injunctive relief against Cameron Tope/Emerson Property Management, LLC in the Athens County Court of Common Pleas for the unauthorized use of the City right-of-way and for an order for said owner to remove the paver patio and curbing from the City right-of-way.

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest moment permitted by law upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-52-25

Introduced by Solveig Spjeldnes, Chair
Transportation Committee

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE 2025 STREET PAVING AND REPAIRS
PROJECT (#385).

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: The Service-Safety Director is hereby authorized to accept bids and enter into contract(s) with the lowest and best bidder, for 2025 street paving and repairs, Project (#385).

SECTION II: The 2025 Appropriation Ordinance, 115-24, is hereby amended by appropriating from the unappropriated balance the following sums:

Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) to Street Fund, 220, T.C. 500; and

Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) to State Highway Fund, 225, T.C. 500, and increasing the total appropriations by said amounts.

SECTION III: The Service-Safety Director is hereby authorized to expend up to Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) as follows:

Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000.00) from Street Fund, 220, T.C. 500; and

Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) from State Highway Fund, 225, T.C. 500, and increasing the total appropriations by said amounts, for said paving and repairs.

SECTION IV: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest moment permitted by law upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-53-25

Introduced by Jeff Risner, Chair
Finance & Personnel Committee

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO REDUCE 2025 YEAR-END APPROPRIATIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: The Auditor is hereby authorized to reduce the 2025 appropriations where anticipated receipts are not adequate and, when combined with the carry forward balance, not sufficient to approve the full appropriation of funds.

SECTION II: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest moment permitted by law upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-54-25

Introduced by Sam Crawl, Chair
Finance & Personnel Committee

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE 115-24,
AND AUTHORIZING AN INTERFUND TRANSFER.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: The 2025 Appropriation Ordinance 115-24 is hereby amended by appropriating from the unappropriated balance the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to Special Revenue Fund, 288, T.C. 600, for transfer, and increasing the total appropriations by the same amount.

SECTION II: The Auditor is hereby authorized to make the following interfund transfer:

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
Special Revenue Fund, 288	ACIC, 906	\$500,000.00

SECTION III: The Appropriation Ordinance 115-24 is further amended by appropriating from the unappropriated balance the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to ACIC Fund, 906, T.C. 500, for improvements to the Armory, Project #313.

SECTION IV: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor

0-55-25

Introduced by Jeff Risner, Chair
Finance & Personnel Committee

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AND ENTER INTO A WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND (WPCLF) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO FOR SUPPLEMENTAL DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER FACILITIES; AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Athens intends to apply for the Water Pollution Control Loan Funds to complete critical improvements to the City infrastructure that would allow for future growth; and

WHEREAS, this updates the authorization provided by Ordinance 144-19, adopted December 16, 2019, and Ordinance 09-24, adopted January 16, 2024, for Project #330; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund requires the government authority to pass legislation for application of a loan and the execution of an agreement as well as designating a dedicated repayment source;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATHENS, OHIO:

SECTION I: The Service-Safety Director is hereby authorized to apply for a WPCLF loan, sign all documents for and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund for planning, design and/or construction through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) and once approved, administered through the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA), to complete critical improvements to City infrastructure that would allow for future growth (Project #330).

SECTION II: The dedicated source of the loan repayment will be the Sewer Fund, derived from sewer fees.

SECTION III: This Ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the health, welfare and safety of the residents of the City of Athens, Ohio, in order to meet the loan application timeline of May 15, and it shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Clerk of Council

Mayor