

CITY OF *Beachwood*

**BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026, 6:00 PM
BEACHWOOD CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM A
25325 Fairmount Boulevard, Beachwood, Ohio 44122**

Called to order at 6:00 PM by Council President Danielle Shoykhet

Roll Call

Present – Ms. DeLong, Mr. Isaacson, Ms. Jacobs, Ms. Shoykhet, Mr. Smith, Ms. Stern,
Ms. Taylor

Absent –

Others Present – Mayor Berns, Mr. Heiser, Mr. Kurz, Mr. Lombardi

1. Mayor's Report

None.

2. Public Records update and discussion

The Clerk of Council provided the Committee with an update on public records matters. She discussed training requirements for departmental records secretaries and other members of the administration and reminded members of Council of their training obligations, requesting that all required training be completed by June 2026.

The Committee discussed the current public records process for the request, redaction, and production of body-worn camera and dash camera footage. Assistant Law Director Matt Kurz was in attendance to discuss the matter, including a request that Council consider establishing fees associated with the preparation of video records for inspection or reproduction pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43(B)(1), in order to help offset the costs of maintaining and operating the City's public records management systems used to fulfill such requests.

The Committee was afforded the opportunity to ask questions regarding this matter.

As part of the discussion, the Committee requested examples of similar practices from other municipalities and elected to continue the matter to a future meeting.

Following the conclusion of discussion, Ms. Shoykhet asked if there were any further questions or comments regarding this item, and there were none and the Committee moved on to the next outstanding agenda item.

3. Discussion regarding the appointment of an Assistant Clerk of Council

Ms. Crook led the discussion and requested that Council consider appointing Ms. Martha Jones, currently a Legal Assistant in the Law Department, as Assistant Clerk of Council to serve in the Clerk's absence. Ms. Crook noted that Ms. Jones already performs Council-related duties in her current role in support of the Clerk of Council. It was further clarified that this appointment does not constitute a promotion or title change, but is intended solely to formally designate Ms. Jones as the official backup for the Clerk of Council.

The Committee was again afforded the opportunity to ask questions regarding this item. Ms. Crook responded to all Committee questions, and there was no objection to placing this matter on the next available Council agenda for consideration. Ms. Shoykhet thanked the Clerk of Council and asked if there were any further questions or comments regarding this item or any other items on the evening's agenda. There being none, Ms. Shoykhet adjourned the Committee meeting without objection.

4. Any other matters coming before the Committee of the Whole

None

Adjournment

Adjourn at 6:48 PM

Whitney M. Crook

 Clerk

[Signature]

 Mayor

**Pursuant to Ordinance Number 2020-78 Council has determined that the Video Recording of
 the meetings shall stand as the official Minutes of its Body, its Committees,
 and those of the Planning and Zoning Commission.**
A written synopsis of all agenda items and votes shall also be promptly prepared and kept