

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL

Monday, May 4, 2026 – Special Council Meeting

Opening:

Medina City Council met in special open session on Monday, May 4, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by President of Council John Coyne III.

Roll Call:

The roll was called with the following members of Council present E. Isabella, C. Simmons, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, N. DiSalvo, and R. Haire. Bill Lamb was absent.

New Business:

Ord. 73-26

An Ordinance declaring necessity to appropriate a section of the Champion Creek property as set forth and described in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein for the municipal purpose of replacing the Huntington Street bridge. Ms. Haire moved for the adoption of Ordinance/Resolution No. 73-26, seconded by Mr. Simpson. Patrick Patton stated this is a piece of parcel under the stream bed that there is no identified owner. ODOT is paying for this project, it's a \$1.5 million dollar grant. They require us to somehow get control of it and legal authority to construct the project. Mr. Huber explained that we had Transfer Title do a title search and examination and the last known property of a parcel that describes this river bottom property is a gentleman by the name of Sanger from 1834-1835. We need to appropriate this property. After this Ordinance is passed, file a complaint naming Mr. Sanger's estate and any unknown heirs. We will have to publish the complaint and the ordinance for three consecutive weeks in a local newspaper. After three weeks we will have deposited the purchase price with the court, we will file for a default judgment and take ownership of the property. Likely nobody will claim the money, which means that the money will probably become a part of the State of Ohio's unclaimed funds. Ms. Haire asked if the property taxes have been paid the property? Mr. Huber stated he did not know the answer to that question but the property is only worth \$1,300.00. Ms. Haire moved that the emergency clause be added to Ordinance/Resolution No. 73-26, seconded by Mr. Simpson. The roll was called on adding the emergency clause and was approved by the yea votes of E. Isabella, C. Simmons, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, N. DiSalvo, and R. Haire. The roll was called and Ordinance/Resolution No. 73-26 passed by the yea votes of C. Simmons, D. Simpson, J. Coyne, N. DiSalvo, R. Haire, and E. Isabella.

Discussion:

Patrick Patton stated that he wanted to notify Council, last year you authorized us to go after a grant through the Ohio Railroad Development Commission, we applied for a 90% grant on a \$1.1 million dollar project. In December they came back and said congratulations, we are going to give you 30%. The 70% local match would have been over \$800,000 to be paid by us, and our three partners, Kokosing, Medina Supply and Spray Products. We felt it was too much to ask so they advised us to wait saying toward the end of the fiscal year (now), sometimes grant monies become available. We were notified last week that they are going to offer us 80%, which is great. We scheduled a Railroad Commission meeting for next Monday, May 11th because the next ORDC meeting is May 14th where we have to have someone present to apply for this.

We need the Railroad Commission, us and the three other members to bless this, agree that we are going to provide the local match. He has spoken to several of them and they are very much in favor of the project. The local match is the discussion I wanted to get your thoughts on prior to the meeting. One of the members asked if their share could be paid out over time. It's \$57,000

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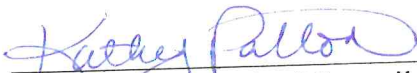
they have to come up with right away. They knew this was coming but just found out last week that they are going to have a \$57,000 bill. The second questions is, the City owns these tracks and will own them forever. They don't and may only be here a few more years. Why do they have to pay and the City should pay for 100% of the local match. We lease the land but own the track.

He asked council for feedback before the Commission meeting next week.


Keith Dirham explained that we charge them each a user fee and then we match that – it is split in 4. Our theory has always been, we pay part of it to keep it open for economic development reasons because the rail is available for other properties that it is not currently being used by. \$11,500.00/year is paid by each.

Council discussed and the consensus was to have them pay their shares, and if they wanted to spread out the payments, to only allow 2 years to do so.

There being no further business before council, the meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.



Kathy Patton, Clerk of Council



John M. Coyne, President of Council