

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

July 14, 2025

The July 14, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Scott Moore, Acting Chairperson. Downtown Committee members present were Marc Mays, Scott Moore, and Zach Morral. Tom Karcher, Nicole Morris, Kate Niederkohr, and Graham Treadway were absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Ethan Korte, Administrative Assistant; Brittney Walton (via telephone), Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce Director; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the June 9, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Downtown Committee member, were approved as received.

Mrs. Brittney Walton, Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce Director, joined the meeting via telephone and indicated that the language regarding the allowable locations of food trucks, as contained in Ordinance No. 233-13 authorizing and regulating mobile food vendors in the City, has available locations primarily in the south part of the downtown. Mrs. Walton suggested a more subjective movement be permitted, for instance when a business wants a food truck to be located in front of their business and that location is not permitted in Ordinance No. 233-13, she would like to have the ability to allow a food truck to operate in that location. Downtown Committee members discussed creating alternate allowable locations for food trucks and agreed to review Ordinance No. 233-13 for potential changes. Mayor McColly inquired if mobile trucks, other than food trucks, should be required to obtain a waiver from businesses for their locations.

Mr. Ethan Korte inquired about the following possible changes to Ordinance No. 233-13: adding non-food vendors and charging permit fees; and changing the one-year term of a food truck license to instead make the license obtained valid for a specific calendar year. Mr. Korte indicated that he has been notifying Police Chief Jared Lucas when food truck vendors don't have a license from the City so a warning can be issued.

Mr. Ethan Korte also inquired about parking on North Sandusky Avenue, at the east end of the closed alley located between 116 and 120 North Sandusky Avenue and noted that signs are posted in the downtown area indicating the maximum length of vehicles permitted to park in the angle parking spaces downtown. Mr. Korte also presented a request received today to limit the size of the vehicles permitted to park in the parking space(s) located to the east of the north/south alley located between the west side of the main branch of First Citizens National Bank, 100 North Sandusky Avenue, and the east side of the US Post Office, 122 West Wyandot Avenue, where vehicles traveling south in the alley turn onto West Wyandot Avenue. The request was made due to poor visibility when larger vehicles are parked in these parking space(s) and traffic at this alley intersection has increased due two sections of the alleyways in this area being closed, with one section at the north end of the north/south alley to reopen once construction in the area is completed.

Mr. Ethan Korte further inquired about the placement of trash cans and pick-up of trash from these cans in the closed alley located between 116 and 120 North Sandusky Avenue. Downtown Committee members discussed adding trash cans in the closed alley.

Mayor McColly shared a draft of a Special Event Application Form with the members of the Downtown Committee and reported that an event is being planned to take place at 505 West Wyandot Avenue, which has been determined by the Law Director to be outside of the downtown area and not subject to approval by the Downtown Committee. Mayor McColly stated that there is no reason why the Downtown Committee can't be informed about special events involving food trucks taking place in the City.

Mr. Ethan Korte asked about the possibility of closing the roads in the downtown during 1st Thursday events. It was noted that this would be difficult with several of these roadways also being State Routes and with the amount of semi-truck traffic that travels through the City.

Mr. Moore indicated that it still hasn't been clarified as to what the "downtown" area is that should be overseen by the Downtown Committee. Possible boundaries of the "downtown" were discussed including the boundaries set by the DORA. Mayor McColly will be meeting with Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director, tomorrow and they will discuss this issue further.

Mayor McColly stated that it is important to make sure everyone is informed about special events involving food trucks. Mr. Mays added that it could be beneficial if Police Chief Jared Lucas or Street and Sanitation Supervisor Brad Taylor sign off on special event requests.

Downtown Committee members reviewed "No Parking After 2 pm" signs drafted by Mr. Ethan Korte for use on 1st Thursdays. The signs could be placed at locations where food trucks are scheduled to be located as part of the 1st Thursday events and it would allow time for the food trucks to set up and give the Police Department time to notify motorists to move their vehicles if necessary. The enforcement of the signs and possible towing of vehicles was discussed. Mayor McColly will consult with Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director, regarding these issues.

It was noted that Fire Chief Mike MaGinn has indicated that the Fire Department has been approached by food truck vendors about inspections of their propane hoses. Mayor McColly will be consulting with Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director, on this matter for his input and opinion.

There being no quorum, the Acting Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Scott Moore, Acting Chairperson