

DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE

September 8, 2025

The September 8, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Tom Karcher, Chairperson. Downtown Committee members present were Tom Karcher, Zach Morral, and Nicole Morris. Marc Mays, Scott Moore, Kate Niederkohr, and Graham Treadway were absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the August 11, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Downtown Committee member, were approved as received.

Mrs. Morris indicated that she was contacted regarding the time set by the Chamber of Commerce to close the downtown for the 1st Thursday event held on September 4, 2025. Mrs. Morris noted that for some businesses the closure of the downtown at 2:00 p.m. for the event was inconvenient. Mr. Karcher noted that the Downtown Committee at their August 11, 2025 meeting voted to approve the closure of Sandusky Avenue from Johnson Street to Walker Street, and Wyandot Avenue from Seventh Street to Fifth Street during the September 4, 2025 and October 2, 2025 1st Thursday events. Mr. Karcher also stated that nothing has been decided for next year's 1st Thursday events yet.

Mr. McColly reported that he received positive and negative feedback regarding the street closures for the September 4, 2025 1st Thursday event. Mayor McColly suggested a template be established including details about the Police and Street Departments participation in the road closures as Mayor McColly was informed by Police Chief Jared Lucas that if parking spaces aren't marked for closure parking cannot be stopped. Mayor McColly suggested the road closures for the 1st Thursday events take place at 12:00 p.m. (noon) when most employees are taking their lunch breaks. Mayor McColly indicated that the Street Department employees set up the barricades and detour signs for the street closures and Mrs. Brittney Walton, Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce Director, has indicated that the Chamber of Commerce does not have the manpower to tear down these barricades and signs, and if the Street Department employees were asked to tear down after the event each employee would be paid overtime at the rate of three (3) hours of call-out. Mr. Karcher stated that he is not in favor of the City paying call-out pay for City employees to tear down barricades and signs following 1st Thursday events, and that the Chamber of Commerce will need to find volunteers to assist with this work.

Mayor McColly stated that he also received a complaint from a caller about clean-up after the September 4, 2025 1st Thursday event. It was noted that food truck vendors should be providing trash containers as stated in the Ordinance addressing Mobile Food Vendors.

Mr. Karcher suggested that parking space closure signs for food truck vendors state the date and time of the specific closure.

Inspections by the Fire Department of food truck vendors' propane hoses, as discussed at the August 11, 2025 Downtown Committee meeting, was again reviewed. Downtown Committee members requested representatives from the Fire Department attend a future Downtown Committee meeting to discuss this matter further.

Mr. Karcher inquired as to how to enforce unlicensed food truck vendors to obtain a food license with the City. Mayor McColly indicated that Police Chief Lucas has indicated that he wants to be notified in these cases so he can address the matter.

Mr. Karcher reported that Special T Sandwiches food truck has requested to set up in front of the Wyandot County Courthouse on Saturday, October 25, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. It was noted that this is also the date of Trick-or-Treat. Mr. Karcher will send an email to the members of the Downtown Committee with more specific information on this request.

Due to a lack of quorum, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Tom Karcher, Chairperson