



CITY OF NORTON

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Mayor Mike Zita

Board of Control Minutes

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mayor Zita called the Board of Control meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mayor Mike Zita
Michael Rorar, City Administrator
Pamela Keener, Finance Director
Doug DeHarpert, President of Council
Don Harbert, Vice President of Council

Also Present:

Emma Hutchison, Secretary

Old Business – None.

New Business

1. Guardrail at 585 N and OH 21 N

Mr. Harbert remarked that the Service Department did a nice job preparing their documents for the Board of Control meeting. He asked if the city typically receives insurance money back from these types of situations. Ms. Keener stated that in this situation we did, but it is typically hit or miss. Mayor Zita stated that both guardrail repairs on the agenda are tied to insurance. Mr. Rorar stated that for the next two agenda items, insurance is pending. Mr. Harbert stated that he would follow up with administration regarding another guardrail on Cleveland-Massillon that is in bad shape. Mr. Rorar stated that the city is obligated to fix the guardrails as soon as possible since if an accident happened the city assumed liability. Mr. Harbert moved to approve the purchase. Mr. DeHarpert seconded.

Roll Call: Yes: Harbert, DeHarpert, Zita, Rorar, Keener

No: None

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Guardrail at ramp of OH 585 N to OH 21 N

Mr. Rorar stated that the city is still working with the insurance companies to determine if a payout will be received for repairs. Mr. Harbert asked if the repairs will be made before winter is over and Mr. Rorar responded that is will need to be repaired as soon as possible. Mr. Harbert moved to approve the purchase. Mr. DeHarpert seconded and added that both payments from the city are being made to Lake Erie Construction Company.

Roll Call: Yes: Harbert, DeHarpert, Zita, Rorar, Keener

No: None
Motion passed unanimously.

3. Fence Repair at Bushey Dr and W Frontage Street

Mr. Rorar explained that there is a sharp turn at Bushey Drive into Frontage Street and that it appears that a vehicle went straight ahead through the fence, causing damage. He stated that the fence is in place to keep residents from venturing out onto the highway. Mr. DeHarpart remarked that the fence is close to the highway. Mr. Harbert moved to approve the purchase. Mr. DeHarpart seconded.

Roll Call: Yes: Harbert, DeHarpart, Zita, Rorar, Keener
No: None
Motion passed unanimously.

4. Road Salt from CUE

Mr. Harbert and DeHarpart asked where we are with salt today. Mr. Rorar stated that he had 1,400 tons with a delivery that came in that day as well. Mr. Harbert asked if there were any concerns about a salt shortage and an increase in price as a result. Mr. Rorar responded that every winter that will typically happen. Ms. Keener stated that the price of the salt is a very good price for us. Mr. Harbert stated that the price is lower in comparison to previous years. Mr. DeHarpart asked if there were two salt programs and Ms. Keener responded yes, that CUE and ODOT provide salt. She stated that the previous Service Director opted to use CUE for salt but purchase in the future will be left to Mr. Rorar and the new Assistant Service Director, Mr. Magazine. Ms. Keener stated that Mr. Hess was good about not exceeding the budgeted limit for salt and Mr. Harbert remarked that the funds for the salt were all budgeted. Ms. Keener stated that we do have another \$100,000 for salt this year in a different budget. Mr. Harbert moved to approve the purchase. Ms. Keener seconded.

Roll Call: Yes: Harbert, Keener, Zita, Rorar, DeHarpart
No: None
Motion passed unanimously.

5. 2025 Stormwater MS4 Annual Discharge Fee

Mr. Harbert asked if this was a new purchase. Mr. Rorar stated that this is the annual fee for the EPA to manage the stormwater system in Norton. Mr. Rorar stated that he questions the square mileage that has been assigned to Norton through this program as Mr. Rorar thinks that there is less square mileage than what has been assigned. He reached out to the EPA and has not heard back yet. Mr. Rorar stated that the city might receive a better price once the square mileage is worked out. Mr. Harbert moved to approve the purchase. Mr. DeHarpart seconded.

Roll Call: Yes: Harbert, DeHarpart, Zita, Rorar, Keener
No: None
Motion passed unanimously.

6. 18-inch Culvert Replacement

Mr. Rorar stated that a culvert failed at Dorothy Court going down to the Service Department. He stated that it looks like it either separated or caused a sinkhole next to the road, which is problematic since it is the only way in and out of the Service Department. For this reason, this is an emergency repair. Both Mr. Magazine and Mr. Rorar acquired quotes for the project from separate companies, both of whom are reputable, and Cementech is the company recommended by Mr. Rorar for the job. Mr. DeHarpert stated that he saw a 20" pipe but Mr. Rorar confirmed that it is 18" and explained the how the sizing of the pipe impacted the failure. Mr. Harbert asked about the timing on this project and Mr. Rorar said that the project can be completed over the course of a weekend and that the contractor would like to complete the work on a weekend to have the road closed. Mr. DeHarpert stated that he appreciated the acquisition of multiple quotes for the project and moved to approve the purchase. Mr. DeHarpert seconded.

Roll Call: Yes: DeHarpert, Harbert, Zita, Rorar

No: Keener

Motion passed 4-1.

Minutes

December 15, 2025 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Control, the meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Emma Hutchison, Secretary

Approved:



Mayor Zita

Date

Note: These minutes are not verbatim. A full recording is available on the city website.