The Cleveland City Council Archives is the repository for records of Cleveland City Council dating back to the establishment of the Township of Cleaveland in 1803, preserving, maintaining and making accessible the records to the council, scholars, researchers and the general public.

The Archives were established with the Act of Incorporation of the Village of Cleveland on December 23, 1814. Stated therein: “That it shall be the duty of the recorder to make and keep a true and accurate record of all laws and ordinances made and established, of streets laid out by the trustees, and of all their proceedings in their corporate capacity, which records shall at times be open to the inspection of every elector in said village.”

For more than 180 years, first the village recorder and later the city clerk served as the “archivist.” In 1985, the council hired its first professional archivist. The records were stored in in Cleveland City Hall but in 2005 they were moved to a renovated space with proper environmental controls necessary to keep the paper documents from decaying.