

**Minutes for the January 12, 2026 Council Meeting**

Richard Myser Village Solicitor administered Oaths of Office to incoming Council Members; Cole Carpenter, Lindsay Dowdle, Bradley English, and Mark Lucas.

**1 Roll Call**

Mr. McCort - Here      Mr. Lucas - Here      Mr. English - Here      Ms. Dowdle - Here      Mr. Carpenter - Here      Mrs. Misner - Here

Mayor Hershberger provided the Mayor's Annual Report to Village Council.

Mayor Jake Hershberger asked Council for any nominations for Council President.

Mr. McCort nominated, seconded by Mr. Lucas to appoint Robyn Misner as Council President.

English - No      Dowdle - No      Carpenter - No      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye  
Motion tied 3-3  
Mayor's vote -No

Ms. Dowdle nominated, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to appoint Brad English as Council President.

Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - No      McCort - No      Lucas - No      English - Aye  
Motion tied 3-3  
Mayor's vote -Yes

Mayor Hershberger provided Council with a list of Committee Appointments for 2026.

Mayor Hershberger suggested to reappoint Michelle McLaughlin and Nick Bauman as Members of the Board of Commissioners of Public Parks both for three-year terms.

Mr. Carpenter moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the reappointments of Mrs. McLaughlin and Mr. Bauman to the Board of Commissioners of Public Parks.

Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English -Aye      Dowdle -Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

Mayor Hershberger suggested to appoint Lindsay Dowdle as the Council Member on the Planning Commission for a four-year term.

Mr. English moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the appointment of Ms. Dowdle to the Planning Commission for a four-year term.

Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

Mayor Hershberger suggested to reappoint Lynda Mayberry to the Board of Architectural Review for a three-year term.

Mr. Lucas moved, seconded by Mr. McCort to approve the reappointment of Mrs. Mayberry to the Board of Architectural Review.

McCort - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Misner - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

Mayor Hershberger suggested to reappoint Jim Jones to the Appeals Board for a two-year term.

Ms. Dowdle moved, seconded by Mr. English to approve the reappointments of Mr. Jones to the Appeals Board.

Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

Mayor Hershberger suggest to appoint Terry McCort as the Village Representative to the JEDD I and JEDD II Board for a two-year term.

Mr. Carpenter moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the appointment of Mr. McCort as the Village Representative on the JEDD I and JEDD II Boards.

English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

Mayor Hershberger stated that the Fire Disability Pension Board requires two Council Members. Robyn Misner and Lindsay Dowdle both have agreed to a one-year term.

Mr. McCort moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the appointments of Mrs. Misner and Ms. Dowdle to the Fire Disability Pension Board both for a one-year term.

Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

**2 Minutes**

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve the minutes from Council Meeting on December 29, 2025.

McCort -Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Abstain      Dowdle - Abstain      Misner - Aye  
Motion carried 4-0-2

**3 Finance-Contract-Ordinance**

a. Mr. McCort moved, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve the payment listing in the amount of \$346,651.97.

Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort -Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

b. Mr. McCort moved, seconded by Mrs. Misner to approve the December 2025 Financials & Bank Reconciliation.

English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

c. Richard Myser Village Solicitor read and Mayor Hershberger explained Resolution #4036-A Resolution Supporting the Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semiquincentennial (American 250-OH).

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve the Third Reading of Resolution #4036-A Resolution supporting the Ohio Commission for the U.S. Semiquincentennial (American 250-OH).

Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Abstain      English - Aye  
Motion carried 5-0-1

d. Mr. Myser read and explained Resolution #4038-Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Annexation Agreement with the Warren Township Trustees to annex 9.443 Acres into the Village. The property of Jefferis Real Estate in the general location on St. Route 147 across from Emerald Point Nursing Home. Mr. Myser detailed the steps involved for an annexation and discussed the acreage included with this

annexation.

**2nd Reading Only**

e. Mr. Myser stated that the Village is currently without a Fire Chief and an Assistant Fire Chief. Mr. Myser stated Mayor Hershberger has interviewed and selected a Fire Chief and an Assistant Fire Chief. The procedure is that the Mayor appoints the people and Council approves the appointments.

Mr. Myser read and explained Resolution #4039-A Resolution confirming the Appointment of Robert Froehlich, Jr. as Fire Chief and Chris Hendershot as Assistant Fire Chief.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Mr. English to approve Resolution #4039-A Resolution confirming the Appointment of Robert Froehlich, Jr. as Fire Chief and Chris Hendershot as Assistant Fire Chief, with suspension.

Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

Mr. English made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Resolution #4039-A Resolution confirming the Appointment of Robert Froehlich, Jr. as Fire Chief and Chris Hendershot as Assistant Fire Chief, motion for passage.

Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

f. Mayor Hershberger stated he gave written objection to Resolution #4037 to each new Council Member. Councilman Mr. English asked Mr. Myser if the written objection is something they just consider or something they have to do something with.

Mr. Myser informed Council that in the state of Ohio, the Mayor of a Village does not have the authority to veto legislation. The Mayor must sign the legislation and once he signs it, it becomes effective. If he has objections to it, he can register those objections by simply presenting them to Council. The objection must be noted in the minutes.

**4 Street-Alley-Sidewalk**

a. Roger Deal Village Administrator presented the bid results for the sale of the 2006 Ford F-550 Dump Truck. Mr. Deal suggest Council accept the highest bid of \$6,596 from Rob Miller.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Misner to accept the highest bid for the 2006 Ford Truck.

McCort - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Misner - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

b. Mr. Deal presented Council with an estimate from Thomas Garage, Inc. for the purchase of a new dump truck that was budgeted for 2026. A 2024 Dodge Ram 5500 cab and chassis for \$50,164. Mr. Deal stated it will be close to the \$100,000 that was budgeted once upfitted.

Mr. McCort made a motion, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve the purchase of the new 2024 Dodge Truck.

Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

**5 Safety**

a. Asst. Chief Hendershot presented Council with the Fire Departments Report Summary for December 2025 and totals for the year of 2025.

b. Mayor Hershberger presented Council with the EMS Departments Report Summary for December 2025.

c. Mayor Hershberger informed Council that the Fire Department submitted a State Fire Marshall Grant for \$15,000 for equipment, with no match from the Village.

d. Mayor Hershberger on behalf of the Fire Department asked Council for permission to apply for an Ohio Department of Natural Resources Grant for equipment. The grant is \$10,000 maximum with a 50% match from the Village. Asst. Chief Hendershot informed Council of the equipment being considered.

Mr. English made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCort to approve the application for the ODNR Grant with a 50% match from the Village.

English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

e. Mayor Hershberger mentioned to Council that an ambulance company reached out and stated they have one with the Village's specifications that is available until February 1, 2026 and thereafter it would be opened up to the public for sale. A discussion was held to include the need for an additional ambulance, the finances, the time-frame for a new one, transports, and the possibility of purchasing a used ambulance. It was tabled until the next Council Meeting for further discussion.

f. Chief Sirianni welcomed the new Council Members and stated he looked forward to working with them. He congratulated Bobby and Chris on their new positions with the Fire Department.

g. Mayor Hershberger gave the Mayor's Court Report for December 2025; State received \$492.50, the County received \$19.50, and the Village received \$1353.

h. Mayor Hershberger also presented Council with the 2025 Mayor's Court annual report.

**6 Parks and Recreation**

a. Mayor Hershberger informed Council that the next Park Board Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 18, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Youth Center.

**7 Cemetery**

**8 Water and Sewer**

a. Mayor Hershberger informed Council that a meeting is scheduled with RCAP on Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 10:30 am in Council Chambers to discuss the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project, and asked if the Water and Sewer Committee could meet before or after that to discuss a few things. A Water and Sewer Committee Meeting was scheduled for 9:30 am on Thursday, January 22, 2026.

**9 Land & Buildings**

a. Michael Hershberger - 330 South Gardner Street - Demo House

Mr. McCort moved, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve the building permit.

Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye      McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

**10 Old Business**

**11 New Business**

a. Mr. Batts informed Council that Airport Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2026.

b. Mr. Batts asked for clarification on the Ordinance passed back to Council with recommended changes from the Mayor. He stated the misinterpretation of ORC 705.75 and asked what the function of reconsideration meant to Mr. Myser.

Mr. Myser stated that the Mayor of a Village has no power to veto legislation, but the Mayor can register objections with Council.

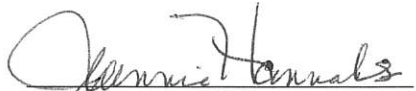
Mr. Myser offered Mr. Batts the name and number of the OML legal counsel that confirmed this with Mr. Myser.


**12 Executive Session**

**13 Adjournment**

a. Mr. Carpenter made a motion to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Lucas at 8:08 pm.

McCort - Aye      Lucas - Aye      English - Aye      Dowdle - Aye      Carpenter - Aye      Misner - Aye  
Motion carried 6-0

  
Jeannie Hannahs, Fiscal Officer

  
Jake Hershberger, Mayor