

Minutes for the July 27, 2026 Council Meeting

1 Roll Call

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

2 Minutes

Mr. Lucas moved, seconded by Mr. English to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2026.

McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye Lucas - Aye English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

3 Finance-Contract-Ordinance

a. Ms. Dowdle moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the payment listing in the amount of \$109,387.31.

Carpenter - Aye Lucas - Aye English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

b. Richard Myser Village Solicitor read and explained Resolution #4050-Request for New Debt Service Fund #3302 for the 2026 Paving/Street Improvement Project.

1st Reading Only

c. Mr. Myser read and explained Resolution #4051-A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program for 2027.

Roger Deal Village Administrator noted that the application must be submitted by August 31, 2026.

Mr. McCort moved, seconded by Mr. English to approve Resolution #4051-A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and /or Local Transportation Improvement Program for 2027, with suspension.

English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye Lucas - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

Mr. McCort moved, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Resolution #4051-A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and /or Local Transportation Improvement Program for 2027, motion for passage.

English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye Lucas - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

d. Mr. Myser read and explained Ordinance #4052-An Ordinance to Amend the Annual Appropriation Ordinance #4035 to Book the OPWC Loan for the 2026 Street Improvement Program. Jeannie Hannahs Fiscal Officer explained the amendment appropriates the \$107,865 from the Street Fund representing the Village's loan portion of the 2026 Street Improvement Project that was recently awarded to Shelly & Sands.

1st Reading Only

e. Mr. Myser read and Mayor Hershberger explained Ordinance #4053-An Ordinance Abolishing and Replacing Section 925.03 Water Rates.

Mayor Hershberger explained that the new proposed rates had been calculated from the rates contained in the latest water rates Ordinance, however, the final increase was never implemented in 2021, so the current billing rates differ from the ordinance rates.

Mayor Hershberger stated that any increase should be calculated from the actual current billing rates.

The Water and Sewer Committee Members previously met and recommended to Council that the increases be 15%-15%-10% for water and sewer over three years, followed by annual CPI adjustments.

Councilman Mr. English stated that these increases versus what was proposed by R-CAP are substantially a lot less and the Water Fund is projected to run significant deficits without an increase.

Councilman Mr. Lucas suggested smaller increment increases for a longer duration, perhaps 5% for 10 years.

Mayor Hershberger reviewed the new proposed water and sewer rates and provided an analysis for different amounts of usage reflecting the increased rates. Mayor and Council discussed the need for the increases.

Members of the public questioned and offered comments concerning affordability for the Seniors and fixed income Residents, lead service line replacement plans, Village tax revenue, bulk water Customers, and projected capital expenses. Mayor Hershberger and Council responded to each, also stating that raw water sales have allowed the Village to defer increases since 2020.

Council's consensus was to keep the Committee recommended percentage increases but correct the starting rates to the actual current billing rates. Ordinance #4053 to be amended to reflect these rates.

1st Reading Only

f. Mr. Myser read and Mayor Hershberger explained Ordinance #4054-An Ordinance Abolishing and Replacing Section 929.02 Sewer Rates.

1st Reading Only

4 Street-Alley-Sidewalk

a. Mayor Hershberger informed Council that the Back-to-School Fun in the Ville is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, 2026 and requested, on behalf of the Barnesville Area Chamber of Commerce, to close sections of Main Street and Broadway Street.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve the requested closures.

Carpenter - Aye Lucas - No English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye

Motion carried 5-1

b. Scott Whitacre from the Main Street Barrel House approached Council requesting the use of the East Main Street Parking Lot for a Car Cruise-In scheduled for Sunday, September 6, 2026 from 10 a.m. to noon. Mayor Hershberger noted it has been successful and this is the

third year for the event.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. McCort to approve the use of the East Main Street Parking Lot for the Car Cruise-In.

Lucas - Aye English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

c. Rhiana Long addressed Council about a drainage issue on Cedar Avenue. Ms. Long stated that she is having gravel come down Beech Avenue and fill up her sidewalk on Cedar Avenue every time it rains, and the need to pave or chip-seal the top of Beech Avenue.

Council to take a look at it and follow-up with Ms. Long.

5 Safety

a. Chief Froehlich presented Council with the Fire and EMS Departments Report Summary for June 2026.

b. Chief Froehlich reminded Council that Safety Day is scheduled for Saturday, August 1, 2026 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the High School. The event will feature numerous safety stations and several activities. Chief Froehlich asked Council for a donation of \$500 to assist with the event expenses.

Mr. McCort moved, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve a donation for \$500 for Safety Day.

English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye Lucas - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

c. Chief Sirianni announced that after nearly twenty years with the Police Department, including almost nine as Chief of Police, He will be moving to the next phase of his career, serving as a School Resource Office with the Village. He stated he believes he has accomplished everything he set out to do as Chief, and recommended that Lieutenant Matthew Tippie be appointed Chief of Police effective August 16, 2026. Mayor Hershberger stated that the Chief of Police is appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council.

Mayor Hershberger announced his appointment of Lieutenant Matthew Tippie as Chief of Police effective August 16, 2026, with a six-month probationary period, and asked for Council's confirmation.

Mr. Myser read Resolution #4055-A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of New Police Chief Matthew Tippie.

Mr. English moved, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Resolution #4055-A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of New Police Chief Matthew Tippie, with suspension.

Lucas - Aye English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

Ms. Dowdle moved, seconded by Mrs. Misner to approve Resolution #4055-A Resolution Confirming the Appointment of New Police Chief Matthew Tippie, motion for passage.

Lucas - Aye English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

Mayor Hershberger and Council Thanked Chief Sirianni for his years of service and wished him well in his new position with the Village.

6 Parks and Recreation

7 Cemetery

8 Water and Sewer

a. Mr. Deal informed Council that the Clear Well Rehabilitation Project bid opening is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, 2026 at 10 a.m. in the Village Administrator's Office.

b. A Water and Sewer Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 29, 2026 at 3 p.m. in Council Chambers.

9 Land & Buildings

a. Bonnie McGee - 109 Pine Lane - New Porch

b. Megan Perko - 738 East Main Street - New Porch

Mr. English moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the building permits.

Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Lucas - Aye English - Aye Mr. Carpenter - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

10 Old Business

11 New Business/Public Comment

a. Scott Whitacre requested that Council review the Village's Source Water Protection Plan in memory of Ron Preston, a local advocate for conservation and who was instrumental in the development of the Plan. Mr. Deal stated that he would consider reconvening the appropriate Committee to review the Plan.

b. Rick Stephens expressed his concerns with the conditions of the sidewalks and the use of wheelchairs on them. Mayor Hershberger noted the sidewalk loan program and that the Village continues to pursue grant funding.

c. Brian Yarnall asked for an update on Shamrock Drive. Mr. Lucas stated the local Jaycees Organization no longer exists, but he is pursuing grant assistance through the Ohio Valley Jaycees. Mr. Deal to follow-up with the County Engineer in regards to installing the guardrail.

d. Paul Cameron, Candidate for State Representative, introduced himself to Council and stated he is visiting Village Council meetings throughout the District to learn about local issues and ensuring that Southeastern Ohio is not forgotten by Columbus and that Villages are made aware of available grant opportunities.

12 Executive Session

a. Executive Session under Section 121.22 G (2) of the Ohio Revised Code to consider the sale of property.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to enter Executive Session at 7:58 pm.

Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Lucas - Aye English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Carpenter - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

b. Mayor Jake Hershberger returned Council to Regular Session at 8:15 pm.

Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Lucas - Aye English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Carpenter - Aye

Motion carried 6-0

c. Mayor Hershberger stated that Council had discussed a water agreement for raw water sales.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. McCort to authorize Mayor Hershberger or Mr. Deal to execute a Water Use Agreement with Gulfport Appalachia, LLC for raw water sales.

English - Aye Dowdle - Aye Misner - Aye McCort - Aye Carpenter - Aye Lucas - Aye

13 Adjournment

a. Mrs. Misner moved to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Dowdle at 8:19 pm.

McCort - Aye

Lucas - Aye

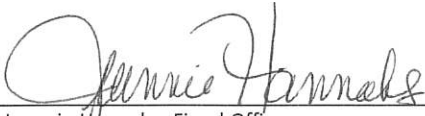
English - Aye

Dowdle - Aye

Misner - Aye

Carpenter - Aye

Motion carried 6-0


Jeannie Hannahs, Fiscal Officer
Jake Hershberger, Mayor