

Minutes for the August 24, 2026 Council Meeting

1 Roll Call

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

Richard Myser, Village Solicitor administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Police Chief Matthew Tippie.

2 Minutes

Mr. English moved, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from August 10, 2026.

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

Motion carried 5-0-1

3 Finance-Contract-Ordinance

a. Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the payment listing in the amount of \$83,813.61.

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

Motion carried 5-0-1

b. Mr. Myser presented the third reading of Resolution #4050-Request for New Debt Service Fund #3302 for the 2026 Paving/Street Improvement Project.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. English to approve Resolution #4050-Request for New Debt Service Fund #3302 for the 2026 Paving/Street Improvement Project.

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

Motion carried 5-0-1

c. Mr. Myser presented the third reading of Ordinance #4052-An Ordinance to Amend the Annual Appropriation Ordinance #4035 to Book the OPWC Loan for the 2026 Street Improvement Program.

Mr. Lucas moved, seconded by Mr. English to approve Ordinance #4052-An Ordinance to Amend the Annual Appropriation Ordinance #4035 to Book the OPWC Loan for the 2026 Street Improvement Program.

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

Motion carried 5-0-1

d. Mr. Myser presented the third reading of Ordinance #4053-An Ordinance Abolishing and Replacing Section 925.03 Water Rates.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Mr. McCort to approve Ordinance #4053-An Ordinance Abolishing and Replacing Section 925.03 Water Rates.

Mark Lucas Council Member stated he would like to vote the Ordinance down. He believes the increases are too much for the Residents of the Village and suggested 5% increases over ten years, with review after five years.

Brad English Council Member noted that the increases are about sustainability rather than profitability. The matter has been discussed at length, including with RCAP. The funds continue to project losses, even with the proposed increases, which are needed to sustain the plant for current and future generations.

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

Motion carried 4-1-1

e. Mr. Myser read the third reading on Ordinance #4054-An Ordinance Abolishing and Replacing Section 929.02 Sewer Rates.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Ordinance #4054-An Ordinance Abolishing and Replacing Section 925.03 Sewer Rates.

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

Motion carried 4-1-1

4 Street-Alley-Sidewalk

a. Roger Deal Village Administrator reported that the 2026 Street Improvement Program was expected to begin later in the week, weather permitting. The Project to take approximately two and a half weeks, also weather permitting.

b. Adam Ackerman reported on the South Broadway Project. The Project is about halfway complete with the storm line and roughly on budget, running slightly over due to the replacement of all the water service taps. He discussed with Council the main waterline and its poor condition, crews have patched multiple leaks, to continue with a full main waterline replacement it was estimated at approximately \$200,000 additionally. Council discussed completely replacing the existing waterline and patching or total reconstruction of the road afterwards. Approximately 70% of the road will be disturbed by the utility work.

Mr. Lucas moved, seconded by Mr. English to proceed with the South Broadway Project to include replacement of the main waterline and to restore the roadway to a passable condition.

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

Motion carried 5-0-1

c. Mayor Hershberger briefed Council on a Street-Alley-Sidewalk Committee meeting that was held on August 13, 2026 regarding E-Scooters and E-bikes. The Committee's consensus was that existing Ordinances are sufficient to regulate their use at this time, however emphasis to be on awareness and education for Parents and Children. Police Chief Tippie is preparing safety literature for the Village and Police Department Facebook pages and website, and possibly working with the school on safety education. Council discussed applicable traffic rules, sidewalk use, helmets, parental responsibility, and the possibility of a safety class in the future if needed.

Council emphasized safety and that the Village wants Kids outside having fun, but to slow down and obey traffic laws.

d. Mr. Lucas asked for an update on Sleepy Hollow Drive. Mayor Hershberger stated that the recent storm provided a substantial test on the drainage improvements. The Resident's garage stayed dry and the storm system handled the volume of water. The Village will continue to monitor the area and keep in contact with the School.

e. Terry McCort Council Member commended Tony Johnson and Family for their outstanding care of the downtown flower baskets.

5 Safety

a. Chief Tippie informed Council that he plans to advertise for an additional Patrol Officer to fill the vacancy created by Rocky Sirianni moving to the School Resource Officer position.

b. Chief Tippie presented the possible purchase of two used, fully equipped police cruisers to Council, using the remaining capital budgeted funds. Council discussed the current fleet, vehicle mileage, maintenance, insurance and operating costs, and the existing two-year replacement cycle. Council's consensus was to defer the purchases and consider budgeting for a new cruiser in 2027. Chief Tippie to continue monitoring the market for a low-mileage, equipped unit and if available, bring it back to Council for further discussion.

6 Parks and Recreation

a. Mr. Deal reported that the recent storms were hard on the newly refinished park trails, washing away the material they just put down. The trails are coned off right now until repairs can be completed.

7 Cemetery

8 Water and Sewer

a. Mr. Deal provided Council with the results from the Clear Well Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project bids. Three bids were submitted. Mr. Deal stated that He and Doug Frye WTP & WWTP Superintendent recommended Mid-Atlantic Storage Systems, Inc. for the Project and Task #1 & Option #1 per tank, they are the manufacturer of the tanks and they would use manufactured approved parts and materials. Workmanship is warranted for twelve months following completion. Total cost for both tanks for Task #1 and Option #1 is \$266,428.

Mr. Lucas moved, seconded by Mr. English to accept the recommendation of Mid-Atlantic Storage Systems, Inc. for the Clear Well Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project.

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

Motion carried 5-0-1

b. Mr. Deal provided Council with a draft copy of the Switzerland of Ohio Water District Contract for their review. The proposed contract has a forty-year term, it includes a minimum and maximum purchase requirement, and incorporates the newly approved rates.

Council directed Mr. Myser to forward the contract to the Switzerland of Ohio Water District for its Board review. A final agreement will be presented to Council for approval.

9 Land & Buildings

a. John McIntire - 619 Wiley Avenue - New Garage

b. Adam Ackerman - 214 South Broadway - Demo House

c. Jeff Stephen - 341 Harrison Street - New Metal Roof

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

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

Motion carried 5-0-1

10 Old Business

11 New Business/Public Comments

a. Dominic Defelice Republican Candidate for Belmont County Commissioner approached Council seeking their vote in the General Election in November.

b. A new Homeowner on North Lincoln Avenue addressed Council with concerns of water in his basement from the recent storms. He stated the water backfilled through the storm and sanitary systems and blew the manhole cover off. Mayor Hershberger added that the area has known drainage issues and explained that stormwater and downspouts overload the system in extreme rains. The Village has smoke-tested the sewer system and made progress, however further improvements are being evaluated. Mayor Hershberger offered his contact information to keep the Resident informed.

c. Mayor Hershberger stated due to the Labor Day Holiday, the next regular Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

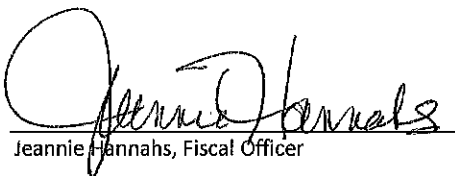
12 Executive Session

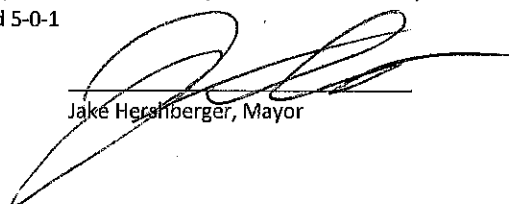
13 Adjournment

a. Mrs. Misner moved to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Dowdle at 8:40 pm.

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

Motion carried 5-0-1


Jeannie Hannahs, Fiscal Officer


Jake Hershberger, Mayor