Minutes for the November 2, 2026 Council Meeting

Mayor Hershberger gave a shout-out to the Shamrock Football Team for a 10-0 season, terrific job and best of luck in the playoffs.

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 Ms. Dowdle to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2026.

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

Motion carried 6-0

3 **Finance-Contract-Ordinance**

a. Mr. English moved, seconded by Mrs. Misner to approve the payment listing in the amount of $296,663.31.

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

Motion carried 6-0

b. Richard Myser Village Solicitor presented the second reading on Resolution #4060-A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a Contract as a Result of an Emergency Pursuant to Section 735.051 of the Ohio Revised Code to Permit a Contract to Replace the Main Sewer Trunkline to the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the Village of Barnesville without Public Bidding of the Project and Declaring an Emergency.
Mr. Myser explained that contracts exceeding $79,568 normally require public bidding, and that the estimated cost of this project will exceed that threshold, making this situation an emergency.
Brian May and Isaac Goodson of May Engineering Company, who has been developing the plans and the Engineer-stamped cost estimate required for any OPWC funding application, reported that the line was installed by hand in approximately the 1920's and it is the principal line carrying the entire Village's wastewater to the treatment plant. Given the location, creek crossing, unstable hillside, environmental permitting, bypass pumping, and grade corrections make the project unusually difficult. The preliminary engineering estimate was approximately $4.7 million.
May Engineering explained the estimate; approximately $522,000 for temporary bypass pumping, soil nails, dump rock, excavation, trench boxes, culverts, extensive geotechnical work to stabilize the hillside, removal of roughly 60 mature trees, environmental work up front, survey, and permits. An estimated timeframe of 6-7 months was given for preliminary studies, site prep and clearing, before any excavation could begin.
Samantha Hearn and Montana Fonner of the Belmont Coil and Water Conservation District presented Council with a site report. They reviewed the potential health and environmental risks of sewage into public waterways. Mike Cook, a nearby landowner, stated this has been ongoing for years and wants it corrected properly. Mayor Hershberger noted daily samples are being reviewed by the EPA. Mayor Hershberger stated the Engineer-stamped estimated will be submitted to the OPWC for emergency funding. He clarified that the passage of Resolution #4060 waives the public bidding requirement only and is not approval to spend $4.7 million. The project scope and cost will be worked to find the most cost-effective approach.

Mr. English moved, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Resolution #4060-A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a Contract as a Result of an Emergency Pursuant to Section 735.051 of the ORC to Permit a Contract to Replace the Main Sewer Trunkline to the Wastewater Treatment Plant without Public Bidding of the Project and Declaring an Emergency, with suspension.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Mr. Lucas moved, seconded by Mr. English to approve Resolution #4060-A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a Contract as a Result of an Emergency Pursuant to Section 735.051 of the ORC to Permit a Contract to Replace the Main Sewer Trunkline to the Wastewater Treatment Plant without Public Bidding of the Project and Declaring an Emergency, motion for passage.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Following Executive Session, Council returned to open session and reviewed and passed the following Ordinances.

c. Mr. Myser presented Ordinance #4061-An Ordinance increasing pay rates for hourly Village Employees by $2.00 an hour.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve Ordinance #4061-An Ordinance increasing pay rate for hourly Village Employees, with suspension.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Mrs. Misner made a motion, seconded by Mr. English to approve Ordinance #4061-An Ordinance increasing pay rate for hourly Village Employees, motion for passage.

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

Motion carried 6-0

d. Mr. Myser presented Ordinance #4062-An Ordinance increasing the salary for the Village Administrator.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Ordinance #4062-An Ordinance increasing the salary for the Village Administrator, with suspension.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Mrs. Misner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Ordinance #4062-An Ordinance increasing the salary for the Village Administrator, motion for passage.

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

Motion carried 6-0

e. Mr. Myser presented Ordinance #4063-An Ordinance increasing the salary for the Fire Chief and Asst. Fire Chief.

Mr. English made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Ordinance #4063-An Ordinance Increasing the salary for the Fire Chief and Asst. Fire Chief, with suspension.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Ms. Dowdle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve Ordinance #4063-An Ordinance increasing the salary for the Fire Chief and Asst. Fire Chief, motion for passage.

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

Motion carried 6-0

f. Mr. Myser presented Ordinance #4064-An Ordinance increasing the "per call" rate for fire calls.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Ordinance #4064-An Ordinance increasing the "per call" rate for fire calls, with suspension.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Mrs. Misner made a motion, seconded by Mr. English to approve Ordinance #4064-An Ordinance increasing the "per call" rate for fire calls, motion for passage.

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

Motion carried 6-0

g. Mr. Myser presented Ordinance #4065-New Starting Wages.

Mr. Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dowdle to approve Ordinance #4065-New Starting Wages, with suspension.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Mrs. Misner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve Ordinance #4065-New Starting Wages, motion for passage.

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

Motion carried 6-0

4 Street-Alley-Sidewalk

a. Roger Deal Village Administrator presented the proposed contract from May Engineering Company for design and related services for the Church and North Chestnut Street Intersection Improvement Project. May Engineering was the only firm to respond to the Request for Qualifications and was scored and determined qualified. The contract includes design, construction documents, bidding assistance, and project support for $119,206 Engineering cost.

Project improvements include replacement of the existing traffic signal system, installation of pedestrian countdown signals and accessible pedestrian features, construction of ADA-compliant curb ramps, sidewalk reconstruction, pavement resurfacing, parking modifications, and and associated roadway improvements. The Village intends to modernize the intersection and improve the overall safety for both motorists and pedestrians. The new equipment will be modeled after the other two signalized intersections for maintenance and part commonality.

The Project is funded 75% by the Ohio Department of Development Grant Funds.

Mr. English moved, seconded by Mr. Carpenter to enter into an agreement with May Engineering Company for Engineering Services on the Church Street and North Chestnut Street Intersection Improvement Project.

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

Motion carried 6-0

b. Sam Richardson of Belomar Regional Council addressed Council and a large audience regarding the proposed compact roundabout at the Shamrock Drive and East Main Street Intersection. He explained Belomar's role as the federally designated Organization serving Belmont County area, which assists Municipalities with transportation planning and federal funding. The proposal came from the Safe Routes to School Plan which flagged this area as needing reviewed. Belomar reached out to ODOT and a compact roundabout was their suggestion. He explained that the current traffic counts reportedly do not warrant a traffic signal, while a roundabout has no such volume requirement, and is eligible for funding, potentially at 100%.

Council Members, nearby Business Representatives, and Residents raised extensive questions and concerns about tractor-trailer access, school buses, pedestrian safety, the size and location of the roundabout, School traffic, business entrances, widening Shamrock Drive and other possible alternative solutions. Mr. Richardson noted that the actual size and configuration would be determined by a traffic Engineer. The next steps are: Engineering letters of interest are due to ODOT November 10, 2026; after which an Engineer will be selected and an actual design developed; a public meeting; no decision is being made until a design exists. Mr. Richardson also stated that the Project could be stopped during the design phase without any cost to the Village.

c. Denise Adkins-Leach Director of the Chamber of Commerce approached Council for permission to add a fourth vendor, a mobile boutique shop, to the "Christmas in the Ville" event on Saturday, December 5, 2026. Ms. Leach stated that Mayor Hershberger sought permission for the road closures for the event, however she also requested the usage of the West Main Street Parking Lot and the lot in between Avenues and Cheffy's. Council expressed their approval to add the fourth vendor and for the usage of the Parking Lots.

5 Safety

a. MaryAnne Stephens presented Council with the EMS Report Summary for October 2026.

b. Fire Chief Hendershot presented Council with the Fire Departments Report Summary for October 2026.

c. Chief Hendershot asked for Council's approval to add Jordan Ledger to the Fire Department.

Mr. Carpenter moved, seconded by Mr. Lucas to approve the appointment of Jordan Ledger to the Fire Department.

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

Motion carried 6-0

d. Police Chief Tippie presented Council with the Police Departments Report Summary for October 2026.

e. Chief Tippie reported that the Flock cameras are operational, with three trained users on the system; Chief Tippie, Sergeant Kubat, and Dispatcher Derek Deal, each of whom has completed the Flock Safety Training.

Brock Rogers reiterated his opposition, citing reported incidents of misuse and misreads.

f. Mayor Hershberger gave the Mayor's Court Report for October 2026; State received $317.50, the County received $13.50, and the Village

received $848.

6 **Parks and Recreation**

a. Mr. Deal reported that the Youth Center roofing and insulation work was substantially complete, with only minor touch-ups left to do.

7 **Cemetery**

a. Mr. Deal previously provided Council with proposed Green Burial rules and regulations issued by Chase Milburn of Campbell-Plumly-Milburn Funeral Home.

Mr. Milburn approached Council with a proposal for environmentally responsible burial practices, commonly referred to as green burials. Green burials are an environmentally friendly alternative with no formaldehyde embalming and no vault, using a shroud, wicker basket or simple wooden casket with minimal metal and plastic. No cemetery in the area currently allows it. Council discussed designating a limited area at Southern or Crestview Cemetery, most likely in the Potter's Field area, permitting a small flat marker, addressing future settling and maintenance, and establishing appropriate fees and regulations. Council expressed approval for Mr. Deal and Mr. Milburn to select the area, prepare the necessary rules and regulations, and pricing for future consideration.

8 **Water and Sewer**

a. Mr. Deal reminded Council that the Bulk Chemical Bid Opening is scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 10:00 am in Council Chambers.

b. Mr. Deal reminded Council that the Barnesville North Waterline Project Bid Opening is scheduled for tomorrow, November 3, 2026 at noon in Council Chambers.

9 **Land & Buildings**

a. Colin Hallstrom - 141 East Main Street - Painting Front of Building

Approval from the Architectural Review Board was provided.

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

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

Motion carried 6-0

10 **Old Business**

11 **New Business/Public Comments**

a. An Economic Development Committee Meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2026 at 5:30 pm prior to the next Council Meeting at 7:00 pm.

b. Several Officers of the Police Department and Dispatcher spoke in support of Chief Tippie, described his leadership and character and urged Council to hear both sides before making any decision affecting the Department and Community.

c. Chief Tippie asked for the specific reason a review of his position was being sought. Mr. Myser advised that the Chief of Police is an Administrative Office of the Village, and such personnel matters are properly discussed in Executive Session, and that Chief Tippie is invited to attend, which Chief Tippie requested.

12 **Executive Session**

a. Executive Session under Section 121.22 G (1) of the Ohio Revised Code for Employment of a Public Employee.

Mrs. Misner moved, seconded by Ms. Lindsay to enter Executive Session at 8:47 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 10:32 pm.

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

Motion carried 6-0

c. Mayor Hershberger stated that the Police Chief matter will be delayed two weeks for further collaboration and no action will be taken tonight. Council then took action on Ordinances #4061 through #4065, recorded under Finance-Contract-Ordinance above.

13 **Adjournment**

a. Mrs. Misner moved to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. English at 10:37 pm.

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

Motion carried 6-0

Jeannie Hannahs, Fiscal Officer

Jake Hershberger, Mayor