

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held

20

## REGULAR MEETING June 2, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Barbara J. Lloyd with the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance".

Roll Call: In Attendance - Paul Lowe, Kim St. Clair, Ed Harlan,  
Mike Nunley, Greg Gibson

Absent - Bo Coconis

Kim moved to accept the minutes of the Regular Village Council Meeting held May 5, 2025. Seconded by Mike. Gibson - yea, Nunley - yay, Harlan - yay, St. Clair, and Lowe - yay. Motion Carried.

Paul moved to approve the Fiscal Officer's Bank Reconciliation Report for April 2025. Seconded by Greg. Lowe - yay, St. Clair - yay, Nunley - yay, Harlan - yay, and Gibson - yay. Motion Carried.

Paul moved to dispense the Fiscal Officer's Bank Reconciliation Report for May 2025. Seconded by Mike. Gibson - yea, Nunley - yay, Harlan - yay, St. Clair, and Lowe - yay. Motion Carried.

Mayor Lloyd asked Council if they saw the June 2025 Mayor's Court Data?

## CITIZENS AND GUESTS

None.

## DEPARTMENT HEADS

Administrator - Danny Wiseman - Absent

Wesley Wiseman gave an update on the park. They will continue to level out the dirt and determine if they need more.

Fire - Russell Taylor

Fire Chief Russell Taylor reported that the department responded to a total of 96 calls last month, with 65 of those being EMS-related. He noted the annual chicken barbecue event was a major success, drawing the largest crowd he's seen to date and resulting in a complete sellout. To improve future efficiency, the department plans to purchase a charcoal cooker to help speed up the cooking process.

Chief Taylor also distributed a fire hydrant inspection and testing pamphlet to Council, providing a proposal for improved maintenance and background information on the department's last ISO rating from 2022. In that evaluation, the department scored 26.8 out of a possible 40 points in the hydrant-related section,

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with scores of 2.8 for water supply capability, 2.6 for inspections, and 0.36 for flow. The proposed plan includes a district-based rotation for hydrant inspections, annual spring testing procedures (including checking for damage, cap condition, obstructions, and various pressure levels), and documentation of what each hydrant needs in terms of repair, painting, or replacement. Josh compiled the testing and inspection sheets used in the proposed system.

Council approval is not required to begin the inspection process; only coordination with the Water Department is necessary. Chief Taylor plans to contact Dan Wiseman, Village Administrator, to establish a start date, and only one representative from the department is needed to assist during the inspections. He emphasized the importance of functional hydrants in emergency fire situations and noted that while some hydrant replacements and testing have already occurred, certain flow test data—such as static pressure readings—are not currently on hand. Although ISO is not scheduled to return for re-evaluation for another two years, Chief Taylor expressed the goal of completing the full hydrant inspection and repair plan by the end of this year.

## Police – Mark Ross

Police Chief Ross reported that the department responded to 150 call records in May, an increase from 132 in April. From these, the department completed 23 reports and made zero accident reports. Officers made five warrant arrests, one of which involved resistance requiring the use of a taser. In addition, there were four misdemeanor arrests: two for theft, one for criminal trespassing, and one related to a loose dog with a tag. Chief Ross also appeared before the grand jury on May 21st regarding a 2024 felony theft of a firearm case, which resulted in an indictment.

Regarding traffic enforcement, the department conducted 56 enforcement actions, including citations, written warnings, and verbal warnings. Of the three auxiliary officers, only one logged the required eight service hours; the others were unavailable due to family and personal obligations.

On May 13th, thanks to efforts by Officer Patterson, the Zanesville VFW donated \$2,000 to the South Zanesville Police Department's auxiliary fund. These funds will be used for equipment, including the planned purchase of a red dot scope for a Unit 3-4 rifle, with the local gun shop also donating a sling for that rifle.

As a follow-up to previous council discussions, Chief Ross and Officer Patterson attempted several times to speak with Adam Hunt of 104 South Pembroke Avenue regarding speeding in the alley, but were repeatedly told he was unavailable. They relayed a message to his wife stating that enforcement action will be taken if the behavior continues.

Chief Ross also discussed the growing issue of public records requests involving body camera footage, which often includes sensitive personal information such as Social Security numbers, addresses, and private interior views of homes. He informed council of a new Ohio state law allowing departments to charge up to \$75/hour (capped at \$750) for fulfilling redacted video requests. Chief Ross proposed a contract with a company called Equature, which would handle video redaction and transcription. The company charges no fees unless services are used, and fees are passed on to the requestor (not the village). For example, a redaction project may cost \$200, which the requestor would be required to pay.

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Mike motioned to authorize the Chief to enter into a contract with Equature for redaction services. Seconded by Paul. Lowe – yay, St. Clair – yay, Nunley – yay, Harlan – yay, and Gibson – yay. Motion Carried.

## Water – Danny Wiseman (Absent)

Water Department representative Wesley reported that during the month of May, the department completed 42 work orders and responded to 58 utility locates. He noted that the cost to purchase one fire hydrant is approximately \$4,000, with an estimated total of \$4,500 after shipping. Delivery timelines are currently unpredictable and may range from several weeks to a few months; the supplier will confirm a delivery window once the order is placed.

The department expressed the need to keep at least one spare hydrant on hand, though ideally more should be ordered depending on available funding. The hydrant at the end of East Berkeley and Pembroke was identified as a high-priority replacement. Discussion followed regarding funding sources, including the capital outlay line of the General Fund and possible remaining grant money. Rob recently sent a follow-up email regarding the status of available grant funds.

Council gave verbal approval to proceed with the purchase of three fire hydrants, using a combination of capital improvement, leftover Grant Funds, and general fund resources to cover costs as needed.

## Street – Danny Wiseman (Absent)

Wesley Wiseman reported that they are still waiting on construction to begin on the new salt bin. Once completed, the department plans to dig out the dirt in front of the structure and use asphalt grindings (received from Maysville Pike and ODOT), currently stored at the park, to create a driveway base.

Regarding traffic signage, the department priced out slow children/15 MPH combination signs for the alley off South Pembroke. The proposed plan being to install two signs total, one at each end of the alley.

## REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

### Street Committee –

The Street Committee discussed placing temporary speed bumps in the alley behind Pembroke due to ongoing concerns about speeding and child safety in the area. The committee recommended purchasing four 72-inch temporary speed bumps, with an estimated total cost between \$800 and \$1,200. These would be removable during winter months to avoid interference with snow plowing. Greg made a motion to move forward with the purchase and placement of the speed bumps. Seconded By Ed. Council Member Mike recused himself from the vote due to living in the affected area. Gibson– yea, Nunley – yay, Harlan - yay, St. Clair, and Lowe - yay. Motion Carried.

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## Finance/ Health Insurance Committee –

The Finance/Health Insurance Committee reported that they met with a new insurance consultant, Tony Palandri from Rankin and Rankin, who presented a more competitively priced health insurance plan for village employees. The proposed plan offers benefits comparable to the current coverage but with lower out-of-pocket costs for employees and significant savings for the village.

The committee agreed that employees should have an opportunity to review and ask questions about the plan before it is formally adopted. It was decided to hold an informational meeting at the village billing office, where Tony will present the plan directly to employees and answer any questions. After the employee meeting, Council will to adopt the new plan if there is consensus at the next council meeting.

## COMMUNICATIONS AND LETTERS

None.

## ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF EVERETTE C. KERBY WAS NOT READY TO BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL.

Barbara Lloyd noted we will take care of it at the next meeting.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Barb Lloyd noted that she should like Council to review the Personnel Policy that was provided to go through and see if there is anything they would like to change. It will be discussed at the Personnel Committee Meeting before the July Council meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

Council chairman Ed Harlan moved to enter into Executive Session under ORC 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or to investigate charges or complaints against a public employee, unless the employee requests a public hearing. Seconded by Greg Gibson.

Entered Executive session at 7:25 PM

Greg made a motion to return to Regular session at 8:12 PM with no actions taken. Gibson – yea, Coconis – yea, Nunley – yay, Harlan - yay, St. Clair, and Lowe - yay. Motion Carried.

Joshua Bryan, a Fire Department Representative, presented a detailed plan for a multi-phase hydrant evaluation and maintenance program designed to enhance fire

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protection infrastructure and improve the village's ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating. He explained that he had spoken with local residents and agencies, including Maysville Water, the County Water Department, and the City of St. John, to provide a clearer understanding of the initiative and to gather support. The proposal consists of three phases. Phase one involves locating all hydrants, collecting data such as GPS coordinates, discharge rates, and operational status, and uploading that information into the County GIS system. In phase two, each hydrant will be inspected in collaboration with Wesley to determine functionality and identify any that are not working. Once this foundational work is complete, phase three will establish an ongoing maintenance and testing schedule. Rather than testing all hydrants every year, the village will be divided into zones and hydrants will be tested on a rotating four-year cycle, which reduces water system disruption. Bryan noted that district maps show inflated numbers because they include township hydrants; for example, District 1 lists 36 hydrants, but only 30 are applicable, and District 2 lists 48, but only 18 are within scope. Some zones have as few as six hydrants, while others have up to fifteen. By implementing this structured program, the village can receive full ISO credit, which may result in reduced homeowners' insurance premiums. The plan promotes safety, improves system accountability, and ensures the reliability of fire protection resources moving forward.

Council member Paul Lowe expressed strong support for expanding the Village of South Zanesville and emphasized the importance of infrastructure—specifically water lines—in making that growth possible. He recalled previous discussions about extending a water line to support new residential development, potentially adding five or more homes, but said the idea was dismissed due to claims that funding was unavailable. He urged the village to direct its grant writers to thoroughly investigate potential state infrastructure funding opportunities to determine whether assistance for water line extensions truly is out of reach. He argued that the village needs to focus on growing its tax base and that expanding infrastructure is essential to that effort. He voiced frustration with ongoing delays and a defeatist attitude that he believes is holding back development, comparing it to the multi-year struggle over fire hydrant improvements. He concluded by asserting that if someone has land and wants to build homes, the village should support that with access to utilities like water—stating plainly, “What the heck’s wrong with that?”

The Fiscal Officer, Taylor Bennett, provided an update on the Nature Works grant application, confirming that it was completed and postmarked on time. Rob had stopped by the office earlier that day to assist with finalizing the submission. The application includes quotes for several park improvements: a new sign, multiple benches, and a fence for the basketball court—requested by Barb—to help prevent basketballs from rolling into the street. A pamphlet with several sign design examples was shared, and members were encouraged to review them and text their preferred option. Once the majority has responded, the chosen design will be brought back for final approval. The update also highlighted a proposed decorative water feature, which Barb would like placed near the park entrance or at the beginning of the walking trail. The feature is designed to be low maintenance, with a self-recycling water system that does not require a drain or pump. The same company that installed the village memorial provided the quote for both the water feature and the new sign, including installation and surrounding landscaping like flowers. The overall tone of the update was optimistic, emphasizing how well these elements will come together to enhance the park. Funds from Nature Works aren't available until 2026.

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Taylor Bennett also brought up the importance of following the chain of command, referencing ongoing efforts that began years ago with Chris Kerby, the prior Fiscal Officer. They noted that they recently came across previous correspondence between Chris and Bo Coconis related to starting employee evaluations, which were tied into the broader discussion of organizational structure. As part of the update, the council member shared an example resolution that other villages have passed to reinforce and protect the chain of command. They encouraged anyone with questions to reach out for clarification and reiterated that the goal is simply to keep communication and authority flowing through the proper channels.

Council Member Greg Gibson brought up grass notices. During the discussion, council members reviewed the 10-day grass notice enforcement process referencing a particular property that also has a dog nuisance issue, with at least two dogs that cannot be seen but are frequently heard, raising safety concerns for anyone entering the yard, especially for maintenance workers like Tommy Tipton.

The council confirmed that multiple properties had recently received notices. They clarified the enforcement timeline: after 10 days from issuing the notice, if the property remains in violation, the village proceeds with mowing and charges the property owner at a rate of \$65 per hour, either through direct billing or by placing the cost on the property taxes.

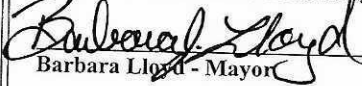
There was some discussion about the appropriate authority to handle the dog issue—initially referencing the dog warden, but ultimately noting that enforcement falls under the village's own nuisance ordinance, not the Humane Society or animal control. The council confirmed that proper written notices had already been issued in these cases and that enforcement would proceed accordingly. Taylor Bennett mentioned prior experience assisting with these notices, indicating familiarity with the established procedure.

## MISCELLANEOUS

None.

## ADJOURN

Ed moved to adjourn, seconded by Mike. Mayor Lloyd asked all to vote by stating I. All did. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

  
Barbara Lloyd - Mayor

  
Taylor Bennett - Fiscal Officer