RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of The Regular Meeting

August 25, 2025 @ 7:00 P.M.

Council met in Regular session with Lora Lyons, Brad Bohland, Jason Hower, Nancy Speice, Allen Wobler, Jennifer Zartman, and Priscilla Kadolph present.

Guests Present: Officer Brandon Shuherk

The Minutes from the August 11, 2025 meeting were read. Councilwoman Zartman made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Kadolph seconded. Councilmen Hower, Bohland, and Wobler voted yes. Councilwoman Speice voted yes. Motion passed.

**EMS: EMS Coordinator Lyons** was not present and nothing was reported.

**Fire Department: Chief Hefner** was not present. Councilman Hower reported that Nowak Supply in Fort Wayne has jaws that they sell for $28,678.17 plus tax. Nowak Supply is also willing to come demonstrate their equipment for free as they are just recently getting into the business.

**Police Department:** **Police Chief Miller** was not present. **Mayor Lyons** reported the following to Council:

1. Chief Miller needs 2 tires for the back of the police car. Each tire is $276 through Best One Tire. Then, Schultz Automotive will mount and balance the tires for $60 each. Councilwoman Zartman motioned to approve. Councilwoman Kadolph seconded. Councilmen Bohland, Hower, and Wobler voted yes. Councilwoman Speice voted yes. Motion approved.

**Street:** **Mayor Lyons** reported the following to Council:

1. The issue at State Route 49 near Dollar General is currently pending.
2. AEP stated that they would get the lights repaired shortly.
3. Traffic Signage: Truck signs are ordered and will be put up when they arrive.

**Zoning: Zoning Inspector Sinn** was not present.  **Mayor Lyons** reported the following to Council:

1. Zoning is in the process of creating an ordinance for having chickens in the Village.

**Committee Reports:**

1. Tree Risk Assessment: Councilman Bohland has made an ordinance for the grant the Village is applying for.
2. Grant Opportunity: A grant application is due August 27.

**Correspondence Letters:**

1. Rock the Block: Scheduled for September 13–14, 2025.
2. There will be two clean up days on 8/27/25 at 7PM and 9/1/25 from 1PM-4PM.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. The Orchard Street residents have had letters mailed to them on 8/14/25 to let them know about the upcoming project.
2. The Townline residents have had letters mailed to them on 8/15 to inform them of the upcoming project to the waterline.
3. Maumee Valley has had addresses provided to them for the LMI survey.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Councilman Bohland provided a quote from Joseph McGuigan for tree removal for $4,800.00. Council is waiting to hear if that includes stump grinding and clean up.
2. Due to repeated damages caused by Metalink, the Mayor informed Council that the company will be required to sign a subcontractor agreement. Councilman Wobler recommended a temporary cease-and-desist order be issued by the Village solicitor. Mayor Lyons will follow up.
3. Benton Township requested a pre-budget meeting to review 2026 EMS and Fire service costs. Tentatively scheduled for September 22, 2025, at 6:00 PM (prior to the regular council meeting).
4. Mayor Lyons presented a proposed ordinance and registration form for vacant properties. The documents will be sent to the solicitor for review before initiating the appeals process.
5. The Village plans to apply for an OPWC grant for improvements to the Fairfield 1.5” line and Main Street (lead). Resolution 2025-P was made to Authorize Kleinfelder’s to apply on the Village’s behalf. Councilwoman Zartman moved to suspend any previous resolutions. Councilwoman Kadolph seconded the motion. Councilmen Bohland, Hower, and Wobler voted yes. Councilwoman Speice voted yes. Motion passed. Councilman Bohland motioned to approve Resolution 2025-P. Councilwoman Kadolph seconded the motion. Councilmen Hower and Wobler voted yes. Councilwomen Speice and Zartman voted yes. Motion passed.
6. The 6.96 acres of tillable real estate was brought up to potentially rent it out for farming. Councilwoman Kadolph motioned to annex the property. Councilman Wobler seconded the motion. Councilmen Bohland and Hower voted yes. Councilwomen Speice and Zartman voted yes. Motion passed.

**BPA: Mayor Lyons** reported to council:

1. There was a preconstruction meeting on 8/12/25 at 9AM. Construction is to start after labor day and be completed in 6-8 weeks.
2. Brant is currently updating the Water Drinking Source Protection Plan for the EPA.
3. Rate Study Discussion:
   * Council and BPA previously reviewed the rate study on July 28.
   * A new utility fee is expected to be added to water bills starting January 2026.
   * BPA is evaluating the appropriate amount.
   * Sewer budget is currently more strained than water; fee allocation between accounts is under consideration.
   * BPA is exploring alternative service providers for emergency repairs due to high current vendor rates.
   * Project estimates from Kleinfelder are reportedly higher than actual costs; further review is needed.
   * BPA will assess whether to pay off near-complete project loans to improve cash flow.
   * Discussion is ongoing about increasing tap-in fees for both residential and commercial accounts.
   * Councilman Wobler suggested selling surplus water meters currently in storage, as their 10-year battery life is ticking down. Approximately 60 are in inventory; some will be retained for potential housing growth in Young Estates.
   * BPA will consider whether to annex or lease the 7-acre parcel owned by the Village.
   * BPA is evaluating changes to the minimum usage threshold before rate increases apply.
   * Councilman Wobler and Brant will inspect water meters at Flatrock Creek Apartments and Vancrest.
   * ▪ It was noted that the laundromat in the apartment complex is currently unmetered; a meter will be installed.
   * ▪ The house across from the apartments needs water rate adjustments. Annexation efforts have stalled as the property owner has refused to sign.

**Good and Welfare:**

Council expressed appreciation to Lora and Bill Lyons for their cleanup efforts at Buckeye Park.

The Payne Police Department extended thanks to residents who assisted at the scene of a recent accident.

Councilman Bohland motioned to approve the financial reports from the Fiscal Officer. Councilwoman Kadolph seconded the approval. Councilmen Hower and Wobler voted yes. Councilwomen Speice and Zartman voted yes. Motion passed.

Councilwoman Kadolph motioned to approve the payment of bills presented. Councilman Wobler seconded the motion. Councilmen Bohland and Hower voted yes. Councilwomen Speice and Zartman voted yes. Motion passed.

With no further business, Councilwoman Zartman moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Kadolph. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

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Mayor Lora Lyons Fiscal Officer Cassie Wright