

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carver called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on April 20th, 2026.

INVOCATION

Mark Phillips offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Carver led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members of council answered roll call: Chris Sherbourne, Mark Phillips, Sondra Carey, Paige Bierce, Kay Hines, and Joe Johnson. Administrator Derek Allen, Fiscal Officer Cathy Davis, Police Detective Chase Beekman, and Solicitor Matt Griffith were also present.

MINUTES

Carey moved, and Bierce seconded to approve the April 6th minutes. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

GUESTS

Earl Linder from Mid-Ohio Sanitation.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Beekman stated that Police Chief Lakey will have a report at the next council meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

No report.

FINANCE - CHRIS SHERBOURNE

Sherbourne reported that the trash bids are complete. Effective 6/1/26, we will no longer be picking up commercial trash. We will be recycling for all residents.

Mayor Carver handed out a flyer from Snyder Monuments for the 5 gateway signs. These will be granite, not what we have now. Total cost, including installation, for all five is \$17,225.00. Bierce asked why they are needed. Mayor Carver explained what the material is made of now and how deteriorated it all is.

Bierce also asked whether we are keeping recycling and whether, if a resident has a trash problem, they should still call the office. Mayor Carver said yes on both questions.

Sherbourne moved, and Carey seconded to purchase the granite obelisk from Snyder Monuments. Roll Call: 6 ayes.

The next meeting will be determined.

SAFETY - KAY HINES

The next meeting will be determined.

SERVICES - CHRIS SHERBOURNE

The committee met and discussed the water treatment plant project update. Sherbourne stated that we will have a 30-year loan instead of a 20-year loan, so we wouldn't have to modify the water rates again.

The next meeting will be determined.

RULES - MARK PHILLIPS

The next meeting will be on 4/27 at 6:00 pm.

ADMINISTRATOR - DEREK K. ALLEN

Allen reported that the benches and trash cans from the automobile accident have been ordered. The police department invoiced the driver's insurance.

The signpost for the historical marker is ready for installation, and staff will install it next week.

The pool has been caulked and will be filled on 5/1/26. The repairs to the outside restrooms are ongoing.

We are obtaining a quote for outfield fences at West Park (Edison ballfields).

He met with Kokosing on April 16th and marked out the areas for base repair. They may start paving work at the end of next week, weather permitting.

Trees for Arbor Day planting have been obtained. Arbor Day festivities were delayed until May.

The OEPA forwarded notice that our NPDES permit is up for renewal. This is a five-year permit. The notice was forwarded to GPD Group, and they will provide a quote to review, respond to, and analyze our permit.

There was a bid opening for the water plant project. The two bids were from Adena and Simonson and were taken under advisement. GPD Group is reviewing the bids and will make a recommendation.

There were two bids for trash service, Rumpke and Mid-Ohio Sanitation. Rumpke bid \$16.80 per household, and Mid-Ohio bid \$16.50. Hines moved, and Bierce seconded to accept the Mid-Ohio Sanitation bid at \$16.50 per household. Roll Call: 6 ayes.

He has a memorandum of understanding for temporary service starting April 21st. The service will cost the village \$27,225.00. Johnson moved, and Bierce seconded to accept the memorandum of understanding at \$27,225.00. Roll Call: 6 ayes.

We will discontinue commercial service effective 6/1/2026. The commercial accounts will be able to choose their own service.

There is a Mt. Gilead Planning Commission meeting scheduled for May 28th for the rezoning request for Safe Harbor.

A \$750,000.00 CDBG grant is available and requires several components. The only other entity in Morrow County that is interested is Chesterville, and they have only one component: stormwater. This will be used for project boundaries on W High, Town St, Highland, and N. Delaware. We would be putting in a new water line, sewer line, curb and sidewalk, resurfacing, and maybe some storm. This would give us 4 or 5 components, making us a qualifying applicant.

Phillips asked if McChesney would be hauling sludge this year. Allen stated that we are going to try to get a company to press it and then haul it.

He also asked for an update on the ODOT repair work on the bridge at East Point. Allen stated that they will be closing the road for bridge replacement. This is estimated to take a couple of months. ODOT's plan also includes a bike path leading to the State Park dam.

Sherbourne asked Allen about the WTP project loan. Allen said the loan would be for 30 years instead of 20, so we wouldn't have to raise water rates.

Hines commented that she would like to see expenses from the baseball/softball commission.

MAYOR - DONNA J. CARVER

Mayor Carver gave a proclamation declaring April as Arbor Month.

She met with the America 250 committee.

There will be one more screening of the railroad movie at the Capital Theater on April 30th at 6:00 pm.

On Saturday, April 25th, from 10:30 to noon, the Veterans banner applications will be held at the Williamsport Grange Hall.

SOLICITOR

No report.

FISCAL OFFICER - CATHY DAVIS

Phillips moved, and Carey seconded to approve the bills. Bierce asked if the credit cards would be broken down by each user. I will separate all the users on their spreadsheet once everyone has their card. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Hines moved, and Phillips seconded to pass resolution 3-16-26 B "request for qualifications for reviewing and updating the zoning map". Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Hines moved and Carey seconded to pass resolution 3-16-26 C "request for qualifications for obtaining engineering for as-needed professional engineering services for calendar years 2026, 2027, 2028". Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Hines seconded to pass resolution 4-20-26 "adopting a credit card policy for the village" to the second reading. Roll call vote: 5 ayes, Carey abstained.

Sherbourne moved and Phillips seconded to suspend the reading of resolution 4-20-26 A "authorizing request for qualifications for obtaining engineering for professional engineering for community development block grant projects and declaring an emergency". Roll Call: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Carey seconded to pass resolution 4-20-26 A. Roll Call: 6 ayes.

Johnson moved and Carey seconded to pass resolution 4-20-26 B "opposing the placement of a data center". Roll Call: 6 ayes.

Bierce moved, and Carey seconded, to pass ordinance 2014, "amending ordinance 2001," which would repeal the U-turn ordinance. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Johnson moved, and Bierce seconded to pass ordinance 2015 "for the administrator to enter into an administration, observation, and technical representation agreement with GPD group for the water treatment plant". Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Carey moved, and Hines seconded to suspend the reading of ordinance 2016 "supplemental appropriations". Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved, and Sherbourne seconded to pass ordinance 2016. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Carey seconded pass ordinance 2018 "to amend part one, administrative code, title five administrative, chapter 147 village administrator, section 147.02, powers; duties; functions of the village of Mount Gilead codified ordinances" to the third reading. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Hines moved and Sherbourne seconded to pass ordinance 2019 "approving the editing & inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the codified ordinances; providing for the adoption and publication of new matter in the updated and revised codified ordinances; and repealing ordinances and resolutions in conflict therewith", to the second reading. Roll Call: 6 ayes.

Johnson moved, and Carey seconded to suspend the reading of ordinance 2020 "authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a memorandum of understanding for temporary residential trash collection and declaring an emergency". Roll Call: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved, and Hines seconded to pass ordinance 2020. Roll Call: 6 ayes.

Hines moved, and Sherbourne seconded to pass ordinance 2021, "awarding a bid for municipal residential trash collection and disposal". Roll Call: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved, and Bierce seconded to pass ordinance 2021. Roll Call: 6 ayes.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Bierce was concerned about staffing, workload, communication, and overall support. More importantly, there seems to be a hesitation for employees to come forward and express their concerns. This is not directed at one specific individual or incident.

She is focusing on consistency, which comes up in multiple situations. We should focus on a common theme that comes up in multiple conversations. If the employees don't feel comfortable coming forward with their concerns, then how will we address their issues? Mayor Carver said that, as far as she knows, they are coming forward because she hears from them all the time. Hines said that, as council members, they are not receiving messages indicating that employees are having issues or concerns. Mayor Carver said that most of the discord has been around the trash situation. If there is something else then she is not aware of. She also stated that if they don't feel comfortable going to Allen, then they should go to her. Bierce stated that the employees were told not to go to the Mayor. Allen said that they go to her when they don't like his answer. Allen stated that he thought the employees were stretched thin, which is why they wanted to rush to get rid of the trash. Allen said he is looking out for the residents, not the workers' needs.

Carey wanted to know who would be taking care of the tables in the green space. Mayor Carver said it is up to the Friends of the Village.

Hines moved to adjourn at 8:18 pm.

Cathy Davis, Fiscal Officer

Donna J. Carver, Mayor