CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Donna J. Carver called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Joe Johnson gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

Phillips moved, and Johnson seconded, to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. Roll Call Vote**:** 5 ayes, Sherbourne abstained.

GUESTS

Attorney Ben Albrecht, Cody and Reggie Douglas, Shellie Moyer, Melodi Ward, Andrea Robinson, Kevin Curtis, Rhianna Mattix and Diane Bricker.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Lakey

The Police Department received its new drone. Because the original model was discontinued during the purchasing process, the department purchased a newer model using appropriated funds, Law Enforcement Trust Fund monies, and equipment budget funds. The Fire Department assisted with charger costs.
Officers are pursuing FAA Part 107 certification before placing the drone into service.

Seven local retailers underwent underage tobacco sales compliance checks. Duke's, Kroger, Sunoco, Pop-A-Top, Dollar General, and Drive-Thru 95 passed. A1 Vape Shop failed, and the clerk was cited for selling tobacco products to an underage individual. Follow-up compliance checks will continue.

Law Enforcement Trust Fund reports for 2021 through 2025 were submitted for Council review and approval.
Carey moved and Sherbourne seconded to approve the Law Enforcement Trust Fund Reports for 2021-2025. Roll Call Vote**:** 6 ayes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Chief Mark Carey

Chief Carey reported that the department has responded to 525 calls through August.

The Fire Department shared costs associated with the Police Department drone project because of anticipated operational benefits.
Fair Week operations were successful, with assistance from the Cardington and Johnsville Fire Departments.
The state fire investigation determined the Lincoln Street structure fire was accidental and electrical.
Chief Carey discussed EMS assist calls, mutual aid services, staffing levels, paramedic availability, and the potential future consideration of ambulance transport services. Just to supplement the county EMS.
No action was taken

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT – MARK PHILLIPS

Council President Mark Phillips reported that Attorney Ben Albrecht provided training regarding council roles, responsibilities, and Ohio open meetings requirements.

The planned wage discussion was not completed due to time constraints.

The Council discussed scheduling an additional Committee meeting and future wage and insurance discussions.

Sherbourne and Johnson would like to wait on discussing employee raises until we know how much the health insurance will cost.

Next committee meeting will be September 14th at 6:00 pm.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Village Administrator Derek Allen reported that twenty-nine properties remain on the code enforcement list.

One property owner appeared in court and was given until September 9 to correct violations. Two more summonses are set for September 9th, 2026.

The compost facility reopened September 1. The DKMM Solid Waste District paid to grind the brush and limbs.

The burned structure at 236 Lincoln Street has been demolished.
The nuisance property at 234 North Main Street has also been removed.

Pool operations concluded for the season. Baseball outfield fencing installation is nearing completion.

The basketball/tennis/pickleball courts line striping was scheduled for September 1, 2026, but it rained.

Quotes are being obtained for security cameras at the Service Department and Fire Training Facility.

Allen reviewed a demand letter from the owner of 318 Park Avenue regarding repeated sewer backups.
The Village previously paid cleanup costs and installed a check valve for the homeowner. The school reimbursed the Village for prior damages.
Allen indicated there is no known defect in the Village sewer line and no evidence of municipal negligence. Attorney Albrecht will review and provide an appropriate response.

Allen discussed Service Department staffing levels and how equipment is scheduled for use, which is partially based on plowing the streets and responding to water main breaks.

He also explained that he has 3 fewer employees due to the elimination of trash service, which saved approximately $250,000. Bierce commented that she does not understand how we can give raises if we don't have the money to hire 3 full-time people. Johnson stated that he can't

justify spending that much money and questioned the amount of health insurance. He also stated that he has a broker who handles his insurance. Fiscal Officer Davis stated that the Village also has a broker that deals with our insurance and tries to find the best deal for the Village.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Carver reported that she participated in meetings regarding renovations and fire suppression improvements at the Senior Center.

A meeting with representatives of Delaware-Morrow Mental Health and Recovery Services regarding an upcoming levy campaign.

SOLICITOR REPORT

No report.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Fiscal Officer Cathy Davis presented bills totaling $246,172.22. Sherbourne moved, and Carey seconded, to approve the bills. Carey asked about the Trojan Technology bill. Allen explained that this was for the sewer treatment plant low-level sensor repairs. Roll Call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Carey seconded to pass Resolution 8-17-26A "Authorizing the Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services to Perform a Needs Analysis for Fire Station Upgrades and Improvements" to the third reading. Roll Call vote: 6 ayes.

Sherbourne moved and Johnson seconded to pass Ordinance 2029, "Amending the Zoning Map for 4046 Township Road 246 from Manufacturing to R-3 Residential." Roll Call vote: 6 ayes.

Hines moved and Carey seconded to pass Ordinance 2033 "Establishing Pass-Through Invoicing Requirements for Village Contracts" to the third reading. Roll Call vote: 6 ayes.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Sherbourne commented that Damaged utility poles are still standing. Allen said that the utility companies won't remove it if another utility line is attached to it.

Hines moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Approved:

_____ _____

Cathy Davis, Fiscal Officer Donna J. Carver, Mayor