

The meeting was called to order in regular session on January 5, 2026 by Mayor Keith Imes. Also present were Fiscal Officer Valerie Gardner, and two active council members Lila Booth and Denise Melzer. Solicitor James Ong and new Street Commissioner Doug Sanders. Visitors included Mike Booth and Jewel Sanders, and Johnnie Nicholas. All present rose in the pledge to the flag.

No guests addressed Council when permitted.

To fill two seats; Ms. Melzer nominated Ms. Sanders to fill the seat she vacated for the term 2026-2029, Ms. Booth seconded the nomination, and Sanders accepted. Roll call vote, all in favor. Solicitor Ong gave Ms. Sanders the oath of office.

Ms. Booth nominated Mr. Booth to fill the seat he vacated also for the term 2026-2029, Ms. Melzer seconded the nomination, and Mike accepted. Roll call vote, all in favor. Solicitor Ong gave Mr. Booth the oath of office. There are still two seats remaining open.

Reorganization of Council: Ms. Booth nominated Mr. Booth to serve as Council President for 2026. Ms. Sanders seconded the nomination, and he accepted. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Ms. Sanders motioned to keep the same committees as last year, seconded by Ms. Melzer, roll call vote, all in favor. They are as follows:

Street: All 36 streets divided

Park: Sanders, Melzer

Equipment: Mayor Imes, M. Booth

Audit/Finance: Melzer, L. Booth

ARWSewerDist: Val Gardner appointed in Nov. 2024

Public Records: F.O. Gardner, Mayor Imes, Solicitor, L. Booth, Nancy Schaar

Water Planning: Mayor Imes, Melzer

Regional Planning Rep: Jim Gardner

The December 2025 minutes were approved with a motion by Ms. Melzer, seconded by Ms. Sanders, all in favor, motion carried. They had been distributed by email prior to the meeting. Ms. Gardner presented the December bank reconciliation, a year-end summary with certified ending balances. A current balance of \$51667.63 in the General Fund; \$15316.94 in the Street Fund, and \$10085.88 in the State Highway fund. Total 2025 income tax collections were \$33016.14 and royalties were \$12542.66. There has been no activity yet for 2026. Mr. Booth motioned to approve the report as presented, seconded by Ms. Melzer, all in favor. Gardner reported the Annual Financial report has been filed today with the State Auditor, and that will update the OhioCheckbook.com and the Hinkle site but she will check for confirmation. A notice has been published that it's available for viewing.

Gardner presented the list of bill payments from the last of December totaling \$4714.80 and they were approved with a motion by Ms. Melzer, seconded by Ms. Booth, all in favor, motion carried. Gardner reported W2's are ready but not sent out because she still has to upload data to IRS and Ohio. The BWC payroll report and PERRP have been filed. She presented \$33250 in Blanket Purchase orders and \$16828.15 in regular PO's. Ms. Melzer motioned to approve the given list of purchase orders, seconded by Mr. Booth, all in favor, motion carried.

She reported zero balances but purchase activity on all credit cards and Val's card has 4542 reward points and Bill's card has 2144 and has been cancelled, Mayor Imes' card has zero points.

Street: We wanted to welcome Doug Sanders to his first meeting. He relayed some street repair concerns, and some inventory and clean up he's done. We look forward to his ideas. We discussed snow plowing. Ms. Gardner stated we paid over \$17000 in 2025 for contract service and she expressed that is too much of an annual budget to realistically spend!

Committee Reports: It was noted to perform first quarter inspections on equipment and the playgrounds/parks. We plan to get the new pavilion project completed in the next several months. We had a public records meeting just prior to this meeting and Solicitor Ong will draft a resolution for next meeting to dispose of obsolete records and update our schedule and retention policy. We learned the OPWC Grant for street paving was not funded this time around. We'll try again. Ms. Gardner had to miss the Steering Comt and monthly Zoom meetings for the Active Transportation grant but there's no real news.

It was agreed to forego any major monthly celebrations for the America 250OH and focus on something for July 4th and around Christmas.

New Business: Gardner presented a two-year maintenance program contract from Henry's Heating & Cooling for the fire station and EMS building furnaces for \$475 for two years. Ms. Melzer motioned to accept the contract for \$475, seconded by Ms. Sanders, roll call vote taken. Mr. Booth abstained but all others were in favor, motion carried.

Good of the Village: Ms. Gardner reported Sherrodsville Lions Club Soup & Sandwich Jan. 18th

Next meeting will be held Monday, February 16, 2026 at 730pm.

Mr. Booth motioned to adjourn, second by Ms. Booth, all in favor, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

ATTESTS:

Fiscal Officer Valerie Gardner

Mayor Keith Imes