

The meeting was called to order in regular session on July 20, 2026 with Mayor Keith Imes presiding. Also present were Fiscal Officer Valerie Gardner, roll call of council members Mike Booth, Lila Booth, Denise Melzer, and Jewel Sanders. Street Commissioner Doug Sanders and Solicitor James Ong. Visitors included Johnnie Nicholas, Amy Romig, and Cameron Kelley. Ms. Romig was here to represent the 10U Fall Ball League to request permission of the use of the Hot Stove Little league field. They will get an insurance rider to us as soon as they get it. And we will get them the lease agreement. Ms. Booth motioned to allow the use of the field, seconded by Ms. Melzer, all in favor.

Ms. Gardner apologized for not having everything ready but she'd undergone emergency appendectomy surgery on July 3rd and is just now getting back on track with Village business. The June 2026 regular meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Ms. Booth, seconded by Ms. Melzer, all in favor, motion carried. They had been distributed by email prior to the meeting. She presented the June bank reconciliation and a cash summary report with an unencumbered balance of \$32169 in the General Fund; with \$23763 still in purchase orders. She had no update for the income tax or royalties as there were no receipts processed yet this month. Ms. Sanders motioned to approve the report as presented, seconded by Ms. Melzer, all in favor. Gardner presented the bills and payroll since last meeting totaling \$7267.81 and they were approved with a motion by Ms. Melzer, seconded by Ms. Booth, all in favor, motion carried. Gardner reported the State Audit and BWC audit have been delayed and she is slow getting to income tax audit. Gardner presented the 2027 Budget and it was adopted with a motion by Ms. Melzer, seconded by Ms. Booth, roll call vote taken, all in favor. She reported she has a required meeting with the Budget commission Aug. 3rd.

Street: Doug Sanders reported he is working with the Post Office to use their materials to fill holes along the state route. He's also been working on the walk bridge along the sidewalk, removing a lot of poison ivy and growing trees. He's shored up many loose boards and plans to protect and stain it. The basketball court looks great and we discussed updating the posts and backstops. Paving High and Dawn Roads is pushed back another month.

Committee Reports:

Park: No news.

Active Transportation- No news.

America 250 OH- Gardner deeply apologized for having to cancel the July 4th event due to her surgery. We discussed it and reschedule to Monday, Labor Day Sept 7th. The entire day's event will be the same. Gardner reported we'd received \$700 in contributions so far!

Old Business: The truck is scheduled to go to Guess Ford in Carrollton for an oil change on Aug. 5th. Everyone was thankful for the American Flags displayed by Operation Flags for Freedom. Clean up day the past Saturday was a success as the roll off unit was stuffed full again!

Solicitor Ong detailed more about the Land Reutilization program, that the County may require money upfront if this was to be a forced Sheriff Sale for 120 Hazelton. It has over \$25000 tax liens against it and is not worth that much to sell.

Solicitor Ong also drafted **Emergency Ordinance #2026-06 to Vacate an unimproved alley between 234 and 240 South Church Street.** Ms. Sanders motioned to suspend rules of a regular meeting to pass an emergency ordinance, seconded by Ms. Melzer, all in favor, motion carried. Ms. Booth motioned to approved Ordinance 2026-06 as presented, seconded by Ms. Sanders, roll call vote taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Solicitor Ong also talked about dealing with non-filing taxpayers. We get compile a list and send a certified letter to respond within five days or we can take them to civil court in Carroll County. Gardner reported there are several.

New Business: None

Next meeting will be held Monday, Aug. 17, 2026 at 730pm.

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

ATTESTS:

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