

VILLAGE OF WAYNESFIELD  
COUNCIL MEETING

January 27, 2025

1. The meeting was called to order on January 27, 2025, at 6:30 P.M. with the following answering Roll Call: Mayor Luna; Yes; Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walth, Yes.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
3. Fiscal Officer reported \$1,679,662.73 in all funds. \$342,496.51 in the General Fund.
4. The Bills were read. A motion was made by Hutson, seconded by Walth to pay the bills presented.  
VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walth, Yes.

5. GUESTS:

Craig Mescher from Access Engineering attended the meeting. He discussed the survey. He stated we have only received 24 and with the 24 we are at 55% LMI. We need 200 surveys. Mr. Mescher discussed Kip Wright who used to work as a Police Officer. He will go around and get the surveys done by going door to door. He charges \$40 an hour. Council member Nickles asked how long it took him to get the other villages. Mr. Mescher stated that he was able to get all surveys in about a month.

The Village needs to have these surveys by June, however, it would be safer to have it by the end of March so we can have the public meetings to discuss it.

Council member Nickles suggested how the council could try to get as many they could and then see where they are at. Then the council would revisit using Mr. Wright to help get the rest of the surveys. She is concerned of the price with Mr. Wright and feels confident that the Council could do some of the leg work themselves before bringing him in.

Council member Ball asked if surveys could be collected via phone calls. Mr. Mescher wouldn't recommend doing too many over phone. These need to be done by the residents. Council member Ball asked if we could at least call to set up a time.

Motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Hutson, to take surveys door to door as a Council from January 28 - February 11, and after that Administrator Bender would be authorized to hire Mr. Wright to complete the surveys we cannot get. Hutson seconded.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walth, Yes.

Advertising for the East Wapakoneta street project will be February 6<sup>th</sup> – February 13<sup>th</sup>. Bids will be opened on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Access Engineering will go through them and give a letter of recommendation of who the Village should choose for the project.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

7. POLICE REPORTS:

HOLIDAY LIGHTS COMPETITION ONGOING

Chief Motter reported that the annual Village Holiday Lights competition saw 66 residential properties with light displays in the 2024 competition. The Annual Holiday Lights competition completed with Marshall's on Tussock Street winning, a tie for second place with Darnell's on West Wapakoneta Street and Wittenbrink's on Wayne Street, Carter's on North Westminster Street winning third place, and Faraglia's on Morning Glory Drive taking fourth place. Pictures of the winning property, as well as additional information, are on the Waynesfield PD Facebook page.

Council member Nickles commended Chief Motter for continuing to do the Christmas light competition. She has been pleased with how much she has seen it grow. She would like to suggest that we publicize when we are doing the judging. Chief Motter stated it can be hard in order to get all judges together and sometimes and there is not much of a notice to publicize the dates.

EMERGENCY DISASTER PLAN

The Safety Committee has yet to meet to discuss this.

TORNADO REIMBURSEMENT

Chief Motter reported that he is still waiting on reimbursement check to arrive. He checked with Ohio EMA and they are still processing paperwork from Logan County and there is no timetable on reimbursement.

**STATE MANDATED TRAINING FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

For 2025, the State of Ohio is requiring a minimum of 24 training hours (not including firearms training) for each officer in order to maintain certification as a peace officer with a maximum reimbursed training of 40 hours per officer. Much of this training can be done online, and the state will reimburse the village for 50% of each officer's wages.

Chief Motter reported the police department has always exceeded the state minimum in training because he thinks it is important to be as highly trained as possible. So, there are several trainings throughout the year that officers will be attending.

**ROADWAY UPDATES**

Chief Motter reported that he regularly and routinely provides roadway updates on the Waynesfield PD Facebook page, including videos and pictures of the current road conditions. As inclement winter weather persists, he will continue to produce that information to help motorists. Some of the more recent weather-related posts have been seen by over 5,000 people. The police department has received multiple messages thanking them for those updates as it helps area residents in deciding whether or not they will venture out or stay at home.

**SNOW-COVERED SIDEWALKS**

Chief Motter asked that the Safety Committee meet with him to discuss snow-covered sidewalks, enforcement of non-compliant properties, options for residents to gain compliance, property owned by elderly and their ability to keep their properties in compliance, etc.

**END OF YEAR ANNUAL REPORT**

Chief Motter provided his 2024 end of year annual report to the council.

**8. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

**Electric**

Administrator Bender stated that on January 4<sup>th</sup> a power pole was broken due to a vehicle and the snow-covered roads at the old sawmill. The Village had to call in Lakeview for mutual aid. Once they arrived, the Village was able to isolate power and get some residents power back on, others were out until the pole was fixed.

There have been several residents with power issues that has been home owner issues, not the Village's.

Administrator Bender stated that due to the timing of electric rate increase ordinance passage, the Village will be changing the timing the increase will take effect. This will be addressed in new business by amending current language.

**Water and Sewer**

We have had several residents with frozen water line issues lately with the frigid temps, all have been reminded to protect their lines. There was a water main break January 21<sup>st</sup> (-4-degree w/o windchill) at Pearl and E. Wapak St. Service saddle bolts broke on 6" main, new saddle put on. We will dress up the area once the ground is not frozen. We've working on getting wrinkles worked out of software so meter reads and billing continues with no issues.

**Surveys**

Administrator Bender discussed the survey progress with the council. Out of the 200 sent out, we have only received 24. We will send out the 30 alternate letters with the next billing cycle. Administrator Bender discussed 2 options of getting the surveys completed. The first option would be going to the residents and seeing how many more the can get filled out. The second option would be to use a contracted person thru Access Engineering at an hourly rate. The surveys need to be completed by mid-March.

**Park Updates**

Administrator Bender informed the Council that the home run fence has been scheduled to be completed before the first spring game. Material will be in this month and weather depending work will start in March.

The prep work for corn hole concrete pads is complete. Once weather allows pads will be poured.

Administrator Bender stated that he will be reaching out to companies for the playground rebuild this month. When we get some ideas, it will be brought to the park committee.

**Lands and buildings**

Administrator Bender stated that the Village will be looking at getting prices to insulate and heat one of the bays at the maintenance garage. Currently there is no heat in any of the bays. Most of this work can be done with our crew. By

heating this bay, the Village will be able to protect trash pumps used for water leaks so that they are readily available. This will also be a bay that we can de-ice plow trucks and keep the salt truck in so that the road salt distributes better on road ways.

**9. MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- a. Mayor's Court Report- \$741.00 was deposited in the General Fund from the Mayor's Court Account for the month of December.

Mayor Luna gave the Council members the new Committee assignments for 2025. They are as follows:

The Village is combining Utilities, Street and Storms Sewers Committees:

Tom Hutson, Vern Fox and Robert Miller

Safety:

Robert Miller, Deborah Ball, Tim Walti

Records:

Lisa Nickles, Deborah Ball, Robert Miller

Park:

Vern Fox, Tim Walti and Tom Hutson

Lands and Building and Property Maintenance:

Lisa Nickles, Deborah Ball and Tim Walti

Finance:

Robert Miller, Vern Fox and Tom Hutson.

Council member Nickles expressed her displeasure regarding her being removed from the park committee. She asked the Mayor why she was removed from the park committee. The Mayor stated that he was told that she has been very busy. Council member Nickles stated she has not been too busy to be on a committee and she is not sure why he took her off the Park Committee. She has been involved with the Park Committee since she started and since we received the Grant money. She has not once been late or missed a Council meeting or Committee meeting.

Council member Nickles stated that she doesn't appreciate being involved in a committee and being able to have some kind of input and then be randomly taken off a committee. She stated that the reason the Mayor took her off of the committee is because she is too vocal, talks too much and expresses her opinion. She said she does not think it is a fair to members of the community that she is not allowed to give representation of a committee that she has given expertise on and has been involved in.

Mayor Luna stated that committees used to change every year. Council member Nickles stated that committee haven't been changed in 3 years except for when she has been removed from a committee and she has the records to prove it.

**10. OLD BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Nickles seconded by Walti, to assign Randy Carter, Aaron Bender and Brian Hardin to be the representatives for the Board of Tax Review.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

Administrator Bender spoke to the Postmaster regarding the Mailbox Ordinance and the changes that were added. The Postmaster has no issue with the change.

A motion was made by Ball seconded by Fox for the second reading of Ordinance 24-12-1 An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 02-9-1 to Approve Mailbox Rules and Regulations.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**Council President**

Council member Walti, seconded by Ball nominated Lisa Nickles for Council President.

VOTE: Fox, No; Ball, Yes; Hutson, No; Walti, Yes.

Council member Fox, nominated Tom Hutson for Council President.

VOTE: Fox: Yes; Ball, No; Nickles, No; Walti, No.

Council Member Hutson nominated Walti for Council President.

VOTE: Fox; No; Ball, No; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, No.

Council member Nickles is the new Council President.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Ordinance 25-1-1 (Solicitor Contract---emergency)**

A motion was made by Hutson, seconded by Walti, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance, 25-1-1. An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor of Waynesfield, Ohio to enter into a contract with Daniel L. Bey, Reminger Co., L.P.A., for services of Village Solicitor and declaring and emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Fox, seconded by Hutson, to pass Ordinance 25-1-1, An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor of Waynesfield, Ohio to enter into a contract with Daniel L. Bey, Reminger Co., L.P.A., for services of Village Solicitor

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**Ordinance 25-1-2 (Ohio Basic Code ---emergency)**

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance, 25-1-2. An Ordinance Approving, Adopting, and Enacting American Legal Publishing's Ohio Basic Code Edition 2025 and declaring and emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to pass Ordinance 25-1-2, An Ordinance Approving, Adopting, and Enacting American Legal Publishing's Ohio Basic Code Edition 2025

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**Ordinance 25-1-3 (Amending Electric Rates Ordinance---emergency)**

A motion was made by Hutson, seconded by Nickles, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance, 25-1-3. An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 24-10-3. An Ordinance establishing Electric Rates increases for the Village of Waynesfield and declaring and emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to pass Ordinance 25-1-3, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 24-10-3. An Ordinance establishing Electric Rates increases for the Village of Waynesfield

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**Ordinance 25-1-4 (Junk and Abandoned Vehicles---emergency)**

A motion was made by Fox, seconded by Nickles, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance, 25-1-4. An Ordinance for Regulating Junk and Abandoned Motor Vehicles and declaring and emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to pass Ordinance 25-1-4, An Ordinance for Regulating Junk and Abandoned Motor Vehicles.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**Ordinance 25-1-5 (Rates for Preparation of Police video---emergency)**

A motion was made by Ball, seconded by Nickles, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance, 25-1-5. An Ordinance Establishing Rates for Preparation of Police Video record Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 149.83 (B)(1) and House Bill 315 and declaring and emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Ball, seconded by Walti, to pass Ordinance 25-1-5, An Ordinance Establishing Rates for Preparation of Police Video record Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 149.83 (B)(1) and House Bill 315.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**Resolution 25-1-1 (Appointing Magistrate---emergency)**

A motion was made by Walti, seconded by Hutson, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Resolution 25-1-1. A Resolution Appointing Matthew Mitchell to serve as Magistrate of the Village of Waynesfield and declaring and emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Fox, seconded by Hutson, to pass Resolution 25-1-1, A Resolution Appointing Matthew Mitchell to serve as Magistrate of the Village of Waynesfield.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**Resolution 25-1-2 (Sale of Personal Property---emergency)**

A motion was made by Ball, seconded by Fox, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Resolution 25-1-2. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property including but not limited to Equipment, Tools and Supplies which are no longer needed for Public use or are obsolete or unfit for the use for which they were acquired by internet auction per O.R.C. 721.15 and declaring and emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Ball, seconded by Fox, to pass Resolution 25-1-2, A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property including but not limited to Equipment, Tools and Supplies which are no longer needed for Public use or are obsolete or unfit for the use for which they were acquired by internet auction per O.R.C. 721.15

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

Motion made by Ball, seconded by Hutson to approve the council meeting dates for 2025.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

Motion made by Ball, seconded by Nickles to approve the advertising of bids for East Wapakoneta Street.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walti, Yes.

**12. SOLICITOR REPORT:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Ball, seconded by Fox at 7:34 p.m.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, absent; Walth, Yes.

Sarah Montgomery  
Fiscal Officer

Yosely Hutson  
Mayor

I Sarah Montgomery of the Village of  
Waynesfield, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a  
true and copy of No Council Min  
as passed by the legislative authority on the 24  
day of Feb 20 25  
Sarah Montgomery  
Clerk

I Sarah Montgomery Clerk of the Village  
of Waynesfield, do hereby certify that Council Min  
was published by posting for fifteen days at:  
1. FR 2. Glennard Building  
3. Wesley 4. Post office  
5. Waynes  
from the 28 day of Feb 20 25  
to the 17 day of March 20 25  
for no less than a period of fifteen days.  
Sarah Montgomery Clerk