

VILLAGE OF WAYNESFIELD
COUNCIL MEETING

January 26, 2026

1. The meeting was called to order on January 26, 2026, at 6:30 P.M. with the following answering Roll Call: Mayor Luma; Absent; Davidson, Present; Miller, Absent; Humes, Present; Nickles, Present; Ridenour, Present; Walti, Present.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
3. Fiscal Officer reported \$1,979,865.10 in all funds. \$390,966.97 in the General Fund.
4. The Bills were read. A motion was made by Humes, seconded by Walti to pay the bills presented.

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

5. GUESTS:

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Park AdHoc

The meeting of the Park Ad Hoc Committee was called to order. The financial report was presented, noting a fund balance of \$200.00 as of January 20, 2026.

Marilyn Shaw reported on the flag display, stating she has contacted the organization responsible to confirm dates for flag pick-up and use but has not yet received a response. She will continue follow-up efforts. The committee discussed the importance of having a sufficient number of flags available to be placed around the Gold Star Families Memorials.

Lisa Nickles reported that information for Picnic 250 has been submitted and the event has been officially registered on the Ohio250 website.

Chad Spencer reported that a contract is in place with Ohio Muffins for July 25, 2026. The event will include one women's game and one men's game, with games scheduled to begin at 1:00 PM. Waynesfield will need to recruit team members for both teams, with a minimum of nine players per team and a goal of twelve to thirteen participants per team. All players must be at least eighteen years of age. Ohio Muffins will provide all necessary equipment as well as a scorekeeper.

Updates were provided regarding invited speakers. The Mayor's attendance has been confirmed. Nathan reported he is in communication with the Governor's office; however, confirmation of attendance cannot be made until approximately sixty days prior to the event. Senator Susan Manchester's attendance has been confirmed. The County Commissioners' office is currently undergoing personnel changes, and follow-up will occur once staffing stabilizes. Kerry Burden will inquire about the availability of the local Honor Guard. Bailey Zimmerman-Poor confirmed she will attend the event. Due to current voice-related concerns, she will sing the National Anthem if able; otherwise, the anthem will be played digitally using the sound system provided by Motteriffic LLC.

Chad Spencer reported that extensive research has been completed regarding the individuals to be represented in the Gold Star Families Memorial, although verification difficulties remain for two individuals. Kerri Motter suggested producing a 5½" x 8" spiral-bound booklet containing information on each serviceman to be distributed at the dedication. The committee expressed support for this idea and agreed that further discussion and planning should proceed.

Lisa Nickles reported that a cornhole tournament is not feasible at this time, as the contact in Lima is no longer organizing tournaments.

The committee reviewed the proposed event schedule, which remains a work in progress. Lisa Nickles will contact Turner Tents to reserve a 40' x 80' tent for the event. Aaron Bender reported he will provide a 9' x 30' flat trailer to be used as the podium.

Brian Shaw will obtain aerial photographs of the park renovations using the school drone. Aaron Bender also reported that Village employees have taken photographs from the Village bucket truck.

Under new business, the committee approved including the Gold Star Families Memorial Dedication Ceremony in the proposed event schedule. Kerri Motter presented a marketing and fundraising proposal on behalf of Motteriffic Creations LLC. The proposal involves the sale of advertisements on a two-sided 8½" x 11" cardstock flyer, with Motteriffic Creations LLC handling all solicitation and distribution. The flyers would be mailed to approximately 850 residents in the Waynesfield and New Hampshire areas, with an estimated \$615.00 to be raised for the Park Dedication.

Aaron Bender reported he has been contacted regarding the possibility of three food trucks participating in the event. The committee agreed to further investigate this option, and Aaron will provide an update at the next meeting.

Kerri Motter requested appointment to the Park Ad Hoc Committee. By consensus of the members present, she was added as a committee member. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

7. POLICE REPORTS:

HOLIDAY LIGHTS COMPETITION

Chief Motter provided Council with the winners of the annual competition.

STATE MANDATED TRAINING FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Motter advised Council of the training requirements for police officers for 2026. He mentioned that the police department has always exceeded the state minimum in training because he thinks it is important to be as highly trained as possible.

SUICIDE, ATTEMPTS & THREATS INCREASING

Chief Motter reported that during the months of January and February, first responders typically see an increase in the number of suicide threats, attempts, and actual suicides. He explained possible reasons for this, and said the Village is not immune from the issues. He reminded Council that there is a 24/7 hotline that can be called or text. By dialing or texting 988, an individual can reach someone who is willing to try and help the person who is feeling suicidal.

VANDALISM/CRIMINAL DAMAGING

Chief Motter reported the Auglaize County Prosecutor's Office still has the case and they are reviewing it to make a determination of charges. The Prosecutor's Office wanted additional information before making a final determination.

SEARCH WARRANT SERVED

Chief Motter reported about a search warrant his department served on December 16, 2025, with the Auglaize County Dog Warden at 404 North Westminster Street.

END OF YEAR ANNUAL REPORT

Chief Motter provided his annual report to Council along with the annual statistics he has compiled since he took over as Police Chief. Chief Motter also outlined the goals he has for 2026 for the department and the community.

Power outage Power Protocol

Chief Motter gave a protocol sheet regarding power outages to the Council and went over the information.

8. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Water and Sewer

Administrator Bender stated that last month's utility bills needed to be estimated due to software issues. The Village of Waynesfield did purchase software support through a meter company to mitigate this happening in the future. The next billing cycle (January readings) there are no issues. The Village had an issue with a well pump motor at the water plant but is back in operation now. The Village has been working with RCAP as to what they need for rate study.

E. Wapak Street

The project is closed out and came in \$50,000 under budget, which means we ended up borrowing less money. The Village will be looking at anything that may need addressed late spring.

The Village did not get any CDBG funding in the last application. We will be working with the county engineer to see what all funding is available to reapply. We will know by end of March/ April as to when ODOT will be paving in the area.

Park

The slide and swing set have been removed from park. We started to work on tearing out playground equipment and will continue as weather permits. We have our engineer working on drawings for the shelter house at the north end of the park. The pre-construction meeting will be in February for the splash pad.

Snow Storm

Administrator Bender stated that crews went out Sunday morning and cleared as much snow as possible. After additional snowfall, they returned Sunday evening to plow the roads again to maintain clear conditions. Salt was applied to the roadways. He noted that staff will continue to monitor weather conditions to ensure the roads remain clean and safe.

Councilmember Nickles thanked the village for keeping the roads cleaned for the residents.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT:

- a. Mayor's Court Report- \$136.00 was deposited in the General Fund from the Mayor's Court Account for the month of December.

10. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

11. NEW BUSINESS:

Vote on Council President

Council member Walti nominated Lisa Nickles for Council President.

Council member Davidson nominated Margie Humes for Council President.

Nominations closed.

Humes, Ridenour and Davidson in favor of Humes.

Nickles and Walti in favor of Nickles.

Margie Humes is the new Council President for 2026.

Council meeting dates

Motion made by Ridenour, seconded by Walti, to approve the council meeting dates for 2026.

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

Council committees

President Pro Tempore Nickles went over all the council committees and the Mayor assigned council members.

Resolution 26-1-1 (Appointing Magistrate---emergency)

Motion made by Humes, seconded by Davidson, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Resolution 26-1-1. A Resolution Appointing Matthew Mitchell to Serve as Magistrate of the Village of Waynesfield Mayor's Court and to Declare an Emergency.

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Walti, seconded by Davidson, to adopt Resolution 26-1-1. A Resolution Appointing Matthew Mitchell to Serve as Magistrate of the Village of Waynesfield Mayor's Court.

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

Resolution 26-1-2 (Sale of Personal Property---emergency)

Motion made by Humes, seconded by Davidson, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Resolution 26-1-2. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property including but not Limited to the 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 to Declare an Emergency.

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Walti, seconded by Nickles, to adopt Resolution 26-1-1. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property including but not Limited to the 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: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

Ordinance 26-1-1 (Ohio Basic Code ---emergency)

Motion made by Ridenour, seconded by Davidson, to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance 26-1-1, An Ordinance Approving, Adopting, and Enacting American Legal Publishing Ohio Basic Code 2026 Edition and to Declare an Emergency.

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Walti, seconded by Davidson, to adopt Resolution 26-1-1. Ordinance 26-1-1, An Ordinance Approving, Adopting, and Enacting American Legal Publishing Ohio Basic Code 2026 Edition

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.

Council Member Ridenour inquired about the "launching ramp" on the roadway in front of Dollar General. Administrator Bender stated that Craig from Access Engineering indicated the roadway falls within specifications. Administrator Bender noted that milling the area down to better match the roadway has been discussed; however, there are concerns with doing so. Council Member Ridenour commented that the hump in the road is disruptive when driving over it. Administrator Bender stated that this issue will be looked into further.

12. SOLICITOR REPORT: NONE

A motion to adjourn was made by Walti, seconded by Humes, at 6:52 pm.

VOTE: Davidson, Yes; Miller, Absent; Humes, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Ridenour, Yes; Walti, Yes.



Mayor



Fiscal Officer