



COUNCIL MEETING

VILLAGE OF JACKSON CENTER

REGULAR SESSION

Held: August 11, 2025

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INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Called To Order By:	Session Begin:	Session End:	Session Location:
Jesse Fark	7:00 p.m.	8:28 p.m.	Council Chambers

MEMBERS AND VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Leisha Elchert	Present	Ms. Gina Ludwig	Present
Mr. Quentin Reese	Present	Mr. James DeVine	Present
Mr. Wayne York	Present	Mr. Luke Doseck	Present

Employees Present:	Drew Sosby	Village Administrator
	Bev Wren	Fiscal Officer
	Ed Maxwell	ZEO/EDD
	Jim Gooding	Assistant Fiscal Officer
	Mike Burton	Solicitor

Visitors Present:	Megan Lewis, Sidney Daily News
	Corinne York
	Kendall Hilbun
	Jessica Hilbun
	Casey Gates
	Kameron Knight
	Kiersten Wilcox
	Cameron Bolin
	David Wood
	Bart Taberner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Draft Minutes As Pre-Read From The July 14, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:			
Motion To Accept The Minutes As Pre-Read:			DeVine
Seconded By:			York
Yea:	6	Nay:	0
Motion Carried			

PRE-SCHEDULED:

- a. Kendall Hilbun – FCCLA Project

Kendall Hilbun introduced herself as the Vice President of the Community Service of the FCCLA Chapter. Corinne York introduced herself as the President of the FCCLA Chapter. Ms. Corinne York stated that our FCCLA Chapter has held a high priority in Community Service. We do the Veteran’s Day Breakfast assembly at the school and we also host a Community Appreciation meal for Village workers, First Responders, Teachers and many more. If the Village has any ideas that we can take to our Chapter, please email Kendall or our Advisor Mrs. Vicki Kipker, as we are always looking for new ways to help our community.

Ms. Kendall Hilbun stated that for her personally, through many of my past projects, other members and myself, raised money for the two AED cases at the parks, and offered CPR training to our community members and had a mental health walk. I supplied hygiene kits to economically disadvantaged families in our community and across Ohio and organized events in which families could spend quality time together by working with the PTO to bring back the Family Fall Night and Free Movie Night at the Elder Theatre.

This year’s project is in the plans, after assessing the surveys some of you completed last year, you said that you would support a community garden. I know we have a food pantry in Jackson Center and we do a good job of getting food to those need. However, my goal this year is to get fresh fruits and vegetables into the hands of all individuals including those who are economically disadvantaged in our community and state. Living in a small community, there is no access to fresh produce without leaving town, unless you are growing it yourself. I have created a small community garden and the produce is being shared in a basket at the pharmacy, it will be given to the food pantry and added to



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student's backpacks. Anyone can visit the garden located between the school and greenhouse. I encourage you to check it out and please enjoy anything that is ready to pick. We will also be asking people for pledge cards for fresh produce for the backpack program and a snack basket in the FCS classroom for anyone that is hungry and needs a healthy snack. I would like to take my project one step further. I would like to raise money to purchase a few fresh fruit trees, such as apples or pears to be planted on Village property. I know it will take a few years for fruit trees to start producing fruit. However, I would like to raise money and get them planted with your approval so that individuals within our community can pick and enjoy them for free at any time. If you would please consider my request to purchase and plant fruit trees for the Village. I ask that you contact me after you consider my request, whether you have approved it and have a location, or if this is not approved. I greatly appreciate you having us here today and thank you for always supporting me and our Chapter.

Mayor Fark thanked the girls and Elchert stated that she appreciates what they are doing. Fark stated that he would discuss it with Administrator Sosby and the Parks Department, and let her know.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Notice of a Transfer of a Liquor Permit – From Village Variety Store Operations, LLC to JC GMart, Inc.

The Village received a Notice to Legislative Authority regarding a transfer of a liquor permit from Village Variety Store Operations, LLC to JC Gmart, Inc. at the same address of 404 West Pike Street, Jackson Center, Ohio. Fiscal Officer Wren has talked with Chief Mahan, and Chief Mahan states that there are no problems with the permit. The Mayor and Council members will need to decide if they would like to request a hearing on the advisability of issuing the permit, or if they do not want to request a hearing. The Mayor and Council members decided that they do not want to request a hearing on the transfer of this permit.

Motion To Request or Not Request A Hearing:

Motion To Not Request A Hearing:

DeVine

Seconded By:

York

Yea:

6

Nay:

0

Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

No report.

Utility Committee:

York stated under the Utility Committee, there is one thing that he would like to see happen. We made some investments in Christmas lighting in the last couple of years. This year I would like to see if we can extend them a little bit further East from the railroad track to as far as we can go and spend about \$10,000. Apparently, there is a deal where someone has canceled an order and we could pick up enough for ten more poles. York stated it seems like we should be able, and be in a position to go ahead with that.

Administrator Sosby stated that he spoke with York today about this. Sosby stated that we have enough angels, but the problem that we had last year is that the photo cells for the angel pole mounts were broken and we needed more. So that is why we did not extend to



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the East as far as we did. In talking with Mr. Shuster, he thinks that we can get to at least Hudson Drive with the pole mounts, but from there it depends on how far you want to go East, past the pool? Or all the way to the corporation sign? Also, as we discussed today, we are at the point of where do we store them all? We don't just want to throw them into some shed that does not have the proper shelter where they could be eaten by mice, etc. as these decorations are not cheap. It is just something that we need to think about as we move forward.

Wage & Benefits Committee:

No report.

Safety Committee:

Elchert reported that the Fire Department has had 45 runs so far this year. They have actually only had three runs this past month and two of them were from the smoke testing performed by the Village on the sewer lines in July and residents called. Those two calls were false alarms from smoke entering the home because of dried up drains within the homes.

The Fire Department was able to go out to the National Night Out and set up the aerial ladder to spray water from that truck which the kids enjoyed. Tyler Yarkosky will begin his training this Fall for the Fire Department. The department did receive four sets of turnout gear for this year and will be purchasing more next year to try to keep from purchasing all turnout gear at the same time.

Elchert reported that they are still working on finalizing the grant that they would like to use to purchase new fire hose and self contained breathing apparatus. They plan on getting that submitted soon.

September 19th is the Fire Departments Pork Tenderloin Dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. or until they run out. This dinner will be held at the Fire Department (Safety Building).

On the Police side, Chief Mahan is in training today and tomorrow. For National Night Out they served 200 hamburgers and 100 hotdogs, it was estimated that there were 170 children there. The new part time officer, Dawn Brandyberry was also able to be at that event to meet the community. She has started her training as well.

Public Property Committee:

No report.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

ZEO / EDD's REPORT:

No report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Streets Department

- Extended public sidewalk past Wilson Office along W. Pike St to Curly's drive approach
- Cold patch various locations within Village
- Responded to water leaks on Jackson & James/Island Street

Water Department

- Water Plant Update- new softener filters arrived and filled w/media, started laying the external brick on outside of building



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- Assisted in water breaks on Jackson & James/Island Street

Sewer Department

- Smoke Test Recap- downspouts/ missing c/o lids
- Late August- SCADA installation at Plastipak Lift Station
- Xavier Esser passed his Wastewater 1 Exam

Electric Department

- Replaced “purple” street lights in town
- Assisted Water/Street Crew at water breaks
- Installed new street base for Leininger Lane Project

Parks Department

- Weigandt's planted “America 250” tree in Tiger Trail Park
- Soccer Painting season has started/Port-a-Jon's moved from diamonds to soccer fields
- Weigandt's installed dugout fence and foul poles at Tiger Trail Park

Admin Report:

- Made contact w/RCAP to start another Cost-of-Service Study for W/WW (7/14)
- Meghan and I met w/Tantalus to discuss current software and additions (7/16)
- Attended monthly Growth Mtg (7/16)
- Attended Leininger Lane Pre-Construction Mtg. (7/17)
- Called/Discuss Water Tower Generator w/Building Dept (7/18)
- Met w/OMAP to discuss the substation BAN (7/18)
- Submitted Letter of Support for “Friends of Elder Theatre” T-Mobile Revitalization Grant
- Attended CIC Mtg (7/22)
- Attended EMA mtg (8/6)
- Mtg w/Craig Knapke (Access Engineering) to discuss water plant drive expansion
- Scheduled Budget mtg's w/Superintendents
- Still working on Business Directory/map
- Still working through Bench/Tree Memorial Program
- Continuing to work on great projects for THE Village of JC!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Ms. Gates spoke on behalf of several citizens that live on James Street and within the James Street area. Gates stated that she wanted to bring to the attention of the Mayor and Council members the cat situation that we have in town. Gates reported that there are a couple of individuals in the neighborhood that have been feeding the feral stray cats.

Gates stated that the situation has gotten out of hand as there are fifteen to twenty cats in the neighborhood now. Gates stated that she is aware of the ordinances regarding animals and how they should be regulated, but they have decided to come to the council meeting as they need some assistance.

Gates stated that the properties in the area are now infested with fleas, the cats are defecating in the neighborhood properties flower beds, streets and sidewalks, they are tearing up lawn furniture. One neighbor put up a fence to keep the cats out of their yard and now the cats are digging under the fence. Several of the cats are pregnant, so there will be more cats in the near future. Gates stated that the cats are not nice and have been hissing at the children as they plays outside. They can't plant gardens in the neighborhood as the cats get into them and destroy them.

Gates stated that they have been told about the TNR program (trap-neuter-return), but that program is not going to help with the feces or the fleas. Gates stated that she is not



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sure what they can do on their end, that is why they are coming to the Village. She stated that she knows ordinances are in place and this is not the first time something like this has happened, she is just not sure why it is not being enforced. Gates stated that they don't want to cause problems, but they have their own pets that they are now having to treat for fleas, they have to worry about their children get scratched or bitten and they are having to try to keep the cats out of their houses and garages.

Mayor Fark thanked her for coming, because this is the first step now and supports our efforts in dealing with the issue. Fark said we will look at some options. Sosby stated that we can do some social media outreach and try to educate residents. Fark stated that he has spoke to the Mayor's of Anna and Botkins and they are having the same issue too. We are looking at ways to deal with the situation. Solicitor Burton asked if the Health Department has been involved and if the Humane Society has been involved?

Fark stated that we will be more aggressive in looking at some options to see what we can do about it because it is a nuisance. Fark asked for the residents contact information so that he can get back with them on the status and progress made regarding the situation. Mayor Fark thanked them for coming in and informing Council of what is going on.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion To Enter Into Executive Session For The Purpose Of Discussing:				Elchert
Second By:				Doseck
Time Executive Session Entered Into:				7:34 p.m.
Votes were:	Ludwig	Yea	Reese	Yea
	DeVine	Yea	York	Yea
	Doseck	Yea	Elchert	Yea
Executive Session Concluded:				8:28 p.m.

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS:


None


ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to come before Council.

Motion To Adjourn:				York
Seconded By:				Ludwig
Yea:	6	Nay:	0	Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned until August 25, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.


Beverly A. Wren, Fiscal Officer


Jesse Fark, Mayor

All formal actions of the Council of Village of Jackson Center concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.