



COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE OF JACKSON CENTER
REGULAR SESSION

Held: September 22, 2025 Page 1 of 9

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Called To Order By:	Session Begin:	Session End:	Session Location:
Jesse Fark	7:00 p.m.	8:07 p.m.	Council Chambers

MEMBERS AND VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. 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
	Ed Maxwell	ZEO / EDD
	Bev Wren	Fiscal Officer
	Jim Gooding	Assistant Fiscal Officer

Visitors Present:	Megan Lewis	Sidney Daily News
	Chastity Crowder	Shelby County Animal Shelter
	Danielle Steinke	Shelby County Sheriff Deputy
	Judy DeVelvis	
	Machel Wise	
	Randy Wise	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Draft Minutes As Pre-Read From The September 8, 2025 Regular Council Meeting:

Motion To Accept The Minutes As Pre-Read:		Reese
Seconded By:		DeVine
Yea:	6	Nay: 0
Motion Carried		

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Finance Committee met just prior to this meeting to review the August monthly financial reports. For the month of August, month-to-date revenue was \$265,166 more than month-to-date expenditures. The month-to-date revenues were more than August of 2024 by \$1,050,802. Month-to-date revenue was approximately \$1,163,406 more than July 2025. Month-to-date expenditures were \$1,202,266 more than August of 2024 expenditures. Month-to-date expenditures were approximately \$292,125 more than July 2025. The ending cash balance for August was nearly 10% more than August of 2024. Income tax distributions for the month totaled \$196,668, which is \$118,719 less than August of 2024, but \$55,947 more than last month. Year-to-date income tax revenue is approximately 11% less than last year at this time. However, it is nearly 21% more than this time in 2020. The Parks and Recreation, Note Retirement and Refuse Operating Funds ended in the red for the month. Some of the large expenditures include \$59,400 to Advanced Rehabilitation Technologies for manhole lining on Robb, Cole, Leo, Hamer, Back-Forty, West and James Streets, \$15,394 to MES Life Safety to replace expiring turn out gear for the Fire Department, \$10,000 to Jason Weigandt Landscaping for dugout fencing and foul poles for the Tiger Trail ball diamonds and \$10,380 to Miami Valley Barns for a storage shed at the ball fields at Tiger Trail park.

To Accept The August 2025 Financial Reports As Presented:

Motion To Accept The Financial Reports As Presented:		Doseck
Seconded By:		Ludwig
Yea:	6	Nay: 0
Motion Carried		

PRE-SCHEDULED:

- a. Shelby County Animal Shelter, Chastity Crowder, Dog Warden and Danielle Steinke, Shelby County Sheriff Deputy



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Chastity Crowder, Shelby County Dog Warden addressed the Mayor and Council about the TNR Program (*Trap-Neuter-Return*) at the Shelby County Animal Shelter. Crowder stated that currently they provide assistance to the City of Sidney. It was a goal for the Shelby County Animal Shelter and SCARF (*Shelby County Animal Rescue Foundation*), to grow this program through the County. SCARF is a 501(c)(3) organization that supports the Shelter and raises funds to help the Shelter pets.

This program is a humane and effective approach to manage populations of community (*feral and stray*) cats by trapping them, spaying or neutering them, vaccinating them, and then returning them to their outdoor homes. This process helps stabilize cat populations by stopping the cycle of new litters, improves the cats' overall health, and reduces nuisance complaints, with friendly kittens often being socialized and placed for adoption. TNR is recognized as the most effective way to manage feral cat colonies and is widely supported by animal welfare organizations. Our purpose for being here is to let you know what it would look like if you accept our assistance with this process.

More than likely we are going to ask the people that are feeding the cats to allow the traps to be put on their property, because you have to be feeding them to trap them. In order for the process to be successful, the feeders need to stop feeding the cats for 48 hours prior to the date of trapping. The day of trapping, the traps will be set early in the morning, preferably before the regular feeding time. Traps will be set in protected areas close to where the cats are eating and hang out and traps will be covered with a blanket. Traps are then monitored every thirty minutes to an hour, once a cat(s) is in a trap, you will replace the trap with the cat in it with another trap. The traps with cats in them will then need to be transported to the Shelter. Once the cats arrive at the Shelter, the staff will transfer the cats to a carrier so it will be ready for the clinic. Cats are trapped two days before the clinic. Clinics are on Wednesdays, so we start trapping on Monday's. Once the cats have been altered and released by the veterinarian, they may be picked up and released back onto the property they were trapped on. Each altered cat will receive an ear-tip in order to tell which cats have been altered for future clinics.

Crowder stated that as the Dog Warden, at the Shelter, I can't take in feral cats, that is not an option for us. Crowder went on to say that she has talked with SCARF and they are willing to pay 100% cost to get the cats spayed and neutered up to ten cats. They have that money set aside, but they will not refuse assistance or a donation. The Shelby County Animal Shelter only facilitates the TNR Program. NOMAD, Inc. run by Dr. Laura Miller, is the mobile unit that performs the surgeries. The Shelter relies on Dr. Miller to make the decisions that are the most humane for the cat and the community that they live in.

The TNR Program is for feral and stray cats, if anyone in the community would like to get their personal cat altered, we will refer them to our low cost clinic that we offer monthly. The cost is \$50 per male and \$60 per female. Crowder went on to say that she has an agreement with one of our community members that has a female cat that has kittens, and she is working really hard on getting those kittens friendly, healthy and adoptable. So when those cats, in ten weeks, I am taking the mother and the whole litter of kittens. So that is the mom and however many kittens she has that are coming off of your streets because you have a community member that is willing to do that and that is something else that we can offer at the Shelter. We may not be able to take the feral cats or the cats that don't want a home, but if I can take some of these friendly and adoptable cats off the streets, I will.

Crowder stated that is what we have to offer at the Shelter, I am pretty proud of our program and really proud of what we have started to do and I'm really excited to find a Village that will work with us and see if we can make a difference.

Danielle Steinke of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office explained how the cats are sorted when they arrive at the Shelter and that there are some cats that don't come back. Those are the cats that are not well. We have been talking about the fact that we want healthy colonies within your Village; we can't in good faith do surgery on a cat that is sick and then



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release it out into the community. Those cats are often times put down, humanely, but are put down. In addition, lactating moms; it is just a harsh reality that sadly we have to put them down because we can't do surgery, we can't spay that lactating mom. The whole point of the program is that we can't release an un-altered cat back out into the community. Crowder agreed and stated that if they get a pregnant cat, they will terminate pregnancies. She went on to say that they had two pregnant cats at their last clinic, we terminated those pregnancies and there were fourteen kittens. So that is fourteen kittens that will not have a chance to get picked up by a hawk or hit on the road or make more babies.

Crowder went on to say that if the Village is willing to participate in the program, she would be willing to give us ten spots in the November clinic. So what the Village would need is someone willing to set the traps on their property. The Shelter will provide the traps and the food to put in the traps. However, volunteers from the Village would need to set the traps and transport them to the Shelter, and then bring the cats back once they are released by the Vet. If we have someone willing from the community, Crowder will be trapping in October and she will be willing to have them come with her to see how she does it. Steinke stated that if anyone is interested in helping, they can just email the Shelter at shelbycountyanimalshelter@yahoo.com and if you would like more information, you can go to their website at www.co.shelby.oh.us/162/Animal-Shelter you can also go to SCARF's website at www.helpshelbycountyanimals.com to make donations.

The November Clinic is on Wednesday, November 5th so the trapping would take place on November 3rd and 4th at 7:00 am in the morning. She suggested that if we are going to participate in the program, that we would want to trap in November and December. The December Clinic is December 3rd and trapping would take place on December 1st and 2nd and they would have spots for another ten cats for us at the December clinic. For these trapping dates, the feeders would need to stop feeding on the Friday before the trapping dates. Crowder stated that it is a community effort to make the program successful.

Megan Lewis asked if a resident has an altered outside cat, what should they do to keep them from being trapped before the clinics. Crowder said, this is a small community, get the word out that you will be trapping, and if you have a pet cat, then keep them inside for the trapping days. This way they are not taking up one of the ten spots that are being offered to the community.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **RESOLUTION 2025-015** – A Resolution Accepting The Amounts And Rates As Determined By The Budget Commission And Authorizing The Necessary Tax Levies And Certifying Them To The County Auditor. **Third Reading**

Each year the Shelby County Auditor presents to the Shelby County Budget Commission, the most recent assessed valuation information. The Auditor goes over the tax revenue estimates for each levy. The Budget Commission then determines the amounts and rates and authorizes the necessary tax levies certifying them to the County Auditor. The Village must send back this resolution accepting the amounts and rates by October 1st of each year. For the fiscal year 2026 the amounts required from General Property Tax approved by the Budget Commission and the County Auditor's estimated tax rates for the Inside 10 mill limitation are \$85,116 for the Village of Jackson Center. Voters passed a 2.00 mill levy on November 8, 2022 that is Outside the 10 mill limitation and the County Auditor has estimated it will generate \$49,492. This is an increase of \$832 from the fiscal year 2025 estimated amounts of the inside 10 mill limitation of \$84,284 and an increase of \$94 from the outside 10 mill limitation of \$49,398. The outside millage is adjusted by the state to make sure that it stays within a reasonable amount of the last year. This will be the third and final reading of this resolution.

Motion To Adopt Resolution 2025-015:

Second By:

York

Reese

Votes were:

Ludwig

Yea

Reese

Yea



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DeVine
Doseck

Yea
Yea

York
Elchert

Yea
Yea

NEW BUSINESS:

a. None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee:

No further report.

Utility Committee:

York stated that he will be attending the 2025 AMP Annual Conference that is being held in Columbus September 22-24, 2025. York stated that he will be attending on the 23rd and 24th. York stated that he will also be attending the OMEA General Membership meeting during this conference.

Wage & Benefits Committee:

No report.

Safety Committee:

No report.

Public Property Committee:

No report.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

ZEO / EDD's REPORT:

The Jackson Center Community Improvement Corporation along with the Honorable Mayor Jesse Fark have created an award for economic development to businesses that have invested in the Village of Jackson Center over the past year. These businesses have done much to improve the overall aesthetics and general appearance of our village, as well as, increased opportunities for services to our residents, employees, and visitors. The award will be known as the **"Mayor/C.I.C, Economic Development Award"** and will be awarded annually to deserving businesses. The award consists of a plaque and a monetary award from the C.I.C.

The winners of the award for 2025 are:

- ***Airstream Club International***
- ***Allenbaugh Insurance***
- ***Curly's Custom Meats***
- ***JC Subway***
- ***Peoples Savings and Loan***
- ***Sip & Stream Coffee***
- ***Speckman Automotive – NAPA***

The Village extends congratulations to these businesses and encourages all of our residents to check out their improvements.



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ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Streets Department

- Historical Society concrete ramp/steps complete
- Leininger Lane Update: "Belgray, Inc." will be in town working on prep work for concrete/curb (Project Completion Nov 1st)

Water Department

- Water Treatment Plant update:



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- Plan to Fire Flow this fall

Sewer Department

- SCADA at Plastipak Lift Station started today; hope to finish by end of the day tomorrow.
- Xavier Esser has applied for his Water/Wastewater Licenses and is now a Certified Operator

Electric Department

- Hudson Lake- pulled wire, set transformers, installed remaining street lights
- Eastwood- set up transformers/installed hipot wire.
- Fixing various street lights

Parks Department

- Mowing/Trimming/Spraying

Admin Report:

- Mtg. w/Sawvel and Associates, Inc. discuss Power Purchase Agreement (9/8)
- Phone call w/Julie Sullivan "Dayton Development Coalition" discussing Vibrant Communities Grant (9/9)
- Dwaine and I met w/Wapak Monuments to discuss potential cemetery additions (9/9)
- Meghan and I met w/CMI to discuss Level Billing and True-Up (9/10)
- Ed and I had a project meeting with Choice One Engineering (9/10)
- Attended monthly EMA Board Mtg. (9/11)
- Filed CRA "Wallace Residence" with the County Auditor (9/11)
- Jesse, Ed, and I presented Mayor's Economic Development Awards (9/11 & 9/18)
- Met w/Dave Helm to discuss Reclamite "Rejuvenation" (9/12)
- AFEC (*AMP Fremont Energy Center*), Hydro Phase II, Solar II annual mtg. (9/15)
- Hydro Phase I, AMPGS (*American Municipal Power Generating Station*), Prairie State mtg. (9/16)
- JC Childcare Mtg. (9/16)
- Colonial Life Annual Review (9/17)
- Tantalus Mtg. (9/19)
- Working on getting contact hours to renew Wastewater II license
- Working on the 2026 Budget Appropriations
- Continuing to work on great projects for THE Village of JC!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

CITIZEN COMMENT:

The Mayor opened the floor for citizen comment.

Machel Wise was present to talk about the cat issue in the Village. She stated good evening and thank you for taking the time to listen. She started off by saying that she supports the cats of Jackson Center. I know that this town has a feral cat issue. I want to state that we need more people to become a part of the solution to the problem.

Many of the towns individuals like to take online with complaints, but offer no real solutions. They instead harrass those of us that are trying to help, and they threaten violence towards animals.

There are a handful of us that are taking the time and our own funds to catch these cats and fix them. Many of us are also open to working with the TNR Program like myself. I know many of the residents are not thrilled with the TNR Program because their solution is to eradicate the cats. First off this is impossible, secondly research has shown that if a fixed cat is put back in the area where it is found, other cats won't move in.



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I have also read online complaints of fleas. Fleas are a naturally occurring in grass and yards and cats are not the only animals that carry fleas, squirrels also carry them. I feel like this all started about two years ago with dogs constantly being on the run, and that has trickled down to the cats. I also feel like it is getting to the point that micro managing is getting close to an HOA. I understand that we have to have ordinances, but we can't pick and choose which ones we follow.

This is a small rural town, where we are all neighborly. Many of us enjoy our country lifestyles, yet we have people who have moved into JC only to complain about anything they can with no real solutions or even offered help. Instead they result to internet bullying and harrasing an eighty-plus year old woman attempting to do her best on a fixed income. I myself have been very disappointed with my community, this is not the Jackson Center I grew up in. I moved back to my hometown because I missed the small town feel of country life and a caring community. Yet we are getting harrassed online for caring about animals.

Judy DeVelvis introduced herself to the Mayor and Council members. I've been here about two and a half years and I just love this town. I love this town and the people and I'm glad I moved here.

There is a cat problem, but I am here to help with the problem. I heard through the grapevine that a neighbor came before this Council and said that I was feeding all these stray cats, drawing them to the neighborhood and that I didn't care anything about my neighbors. She has harassed me on Facebook, called me a liar on Facebook and has called the Police on me. I had a nice chat with the Chief on Friday and told him exactly what I am doing. I also told Village Administrator, Drew Sosby a couple of weeks ago the same.

Yes, I am feeding strays, but only pregnant and nursing moms only, and this is the reason I do this. I get them to trust me, and when they have their kittens, I want them to bring the kittens to me so that I can get them off the streets.

I love cats, they are my passion. I have helped them for years, where I used to live, I would trap them and get them neutered with my money. I am on Social Security, that is the only income I have, that is what I live on. But these cats are important to me.

The very first cat that I did that with, she had two different pregnancies, she had two kittens each time. I was able to take one from each litter, but was not able to catch the other two that out in the neighborhood somewhere. I made an appointment with the Animal Shelter clinic, paid \$80 upfront, non-refundable. I couldn't catch the momma cat by August 6th, and I quit feeding her. The second mom I was feeding, never did bring any kittens, so I stopped feeding her at 8 weeks. The second mom was pregnant to times, but I never saw any kittens from her. This third mother that I got, did the same thing with hers, she was terrified and scared, but I got her to trust me and two weeks ago, she brought me her four kittens. She is tame, in fact I might be who Ms. Crowder was referring to. The four kittens I am socializing them now. They are in a catio that I have, they are not on the loose, I'm feeding them and socializing them and the mother is there all of the time and I am socializing her also. That is the appointment that is coming on October 2nd, I'm supposed to take them to the Shelter and they will find homes for them.

DeVelvis said an old male cat showed up about a month ago, skinny with no teeth. I feed him because he isn't going to make it without help. I have had him combo tested, blood work done, neutered and treated for fleas. He stays in my garage at night and on my patio during the day. He is on meds now for loose stool and when that clears up, I will bring him in as a house cat, inside only.

Ms. DeVelvis said that I'm helping, I have spent my own money. Yet a neighbor can come and spread all over the neighborhood and on Facebook lies about what I am doing. I'm helping the community and like Machel said, the people that want to complain the most,



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they don't want to help, they don't give any money, all they want to do is stop those of us that are trying to help the community.

Ms. Wise stated that she knows there are complaints on Robb Street, James Street and at the Trailer Court. Wise went on to say that the cat that she TNR'd at a vet, we had to end up taking her to a farm because she kept coming up to the gas station area where I found her. Everyone was posting on Facebook asking whose cat this was, I kept answering that her ear is tipped, she is just a very friendly cat. So we had to relocate her completely out of town because it was just a dangerous environment for her because there were so many people commenting that they we're going to kill them, we're going to use them as fishing bait, cats are useless, etc.

When they are harrassing an elderly woman! We grew up in this town, you respect your elders. Wise stated that Ms. DeVelvis had a brush pile put out at the curb for pickup, and these people intentionally moved all of the brush behind her car so that she couldn't get out with her car. That's wrong!

Wise stated that we are not in denial, we understand that there is a problem. But we are also realistic, and we know logically that people will get kittens as pets because they think they are cute. But as soon as they come into heat or as soon as they start spraying in a house, they will throw them outside and then it becomes someone else's problem. Then the rest of us are all trying to play catch up and clean up because of someone else's problem that they threw out into the community. Is it fair to the town? No. Is it fair to those of us that try to help, taking money out of our own pocket? No. But here we are! DeVelvis said that she has taken eight cats (2 adults and 6 kittens) off of the streets in the last four months with my money. DeVelvis went on to say that is why she came to the meeting tonight and she was hoping that more members of the community would be here, because I want them to know what I am doing, and not the lie. Nobody knows the truth, they just believe what somebody tells them.

Elchert asked if they would be willing to have traps set on their property if the Village moved forward with the TNR program, and both said yes.

Fark thanked the ladies for coming and stated that it is much better to talk about this in person, than on social media.

Ms. DeVelvis gave the Mayor a letter she had written along with a friend of hers that wrote a letter as well for the record.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

<i>Motion To Enter Into Executive Session For The Purpose Of Discussing Pending Litigation:</i>				DeVine
<i>Second By:</i>				Elchert
<i>Time Executive Session Entered Into:</i>				8:02 p.m.
<i>Votes were:</i>	Reese	Yea	DeVine	Yea
	York	Yea	Doseck	Yea
	Elchert	Yea	Ludwig	Yea
<i>Executive Session Concluded:</i>				8:06 p.m.

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS:

Reese stated that he will not be able to attend the regular meetings in October.



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ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business to come before Council.

Motion To Adjourn: Reese

Seconded By: DeVine

Yea: 6 Nay: 0 Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned until October 13, 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.