

**Village of Russells Point
July 20, 2026
Council Meeting**

Mayor John Huffman called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Council members Liz Gibson, Joan Hinterschied, Greg Iiams and Rebekah Smith were present. Anne Elleman and Steve Reaid were absent. **Motion** was made by Councilor Smith and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to excuse the absence of Councilor Elleman and Councilor Reid. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed. Village Administrator Deanna Roe was absent. Fiscal Officer Marc McGuire was present.

Guests: AshLee Hullinger, Dianne Gauder, David Wallace, Sharon DeVault, Mary Jo Forgione, William Forgione, Robin Michaels, Chief of Police Joe Freyhof, Officer Patrick Stolzenburg

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Gibson to approve the council meeting minutes dated July 6, 2026. Fiscal Officer McGuire noted a correction in Old Business noting that the raffle held during the grand opening of the splash pad raised \$75, not \$25 as written in the minutes. Councilor Iiams and Councilor Gibson rescinded their original motion to approve the council meeting minutes. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to approve the council meeting minutes dated July 6, 2026, as amended. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

Reports:

Administrator:

- Village Administrator Deanna Roe submitted the administrator report to council.

Fiscal:

- The presentation of the June water account adjustments was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to approve the June water account adjustments as presented. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed. The presentation of the June 30, 2026 bank reconciliation and financials was reviewed. The ending bank balance as of June 30, 2026 totaled \$5,571,735.70. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Gibson to approve the bank reconciliation and financials as presented. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

Police/Code Enforcement:

- Chief of Police Joe Freyhof submitted the police department report to council. In June, there were 791 calls for service.
- Chief Freyhof noted that the summer has gone exceptionally well and 5 officers (including Chief Freyhof) on staff helps the department be more efficient. Councilor Hinterschied expressed gratitude to Officer Stolzenburg for attending the Kids Craft Day and stated that the parents gave positive feedback regarding Officer Stolzenburg interacting with the kids.
- Chief Freyhof stated that the property of Matthew Kern needs to be addressed regarding code enforcement. Chief Freyhof noted that he and Village Administrator Deanna Roe have spoken with Village Solicitor Daniel Bey regarding the property, and that Solicitor Bey will address the issue.

Zoning:

- Dianne Gauder, Zoning Officer/Floodplain Administrator, submitted the zoning report to council.

Logan-Union-Champaign (LUC) Regional Planning Commission:

- Councilor Iiams submitted the LUC Executive Committee report to council.

Indian Joint Fire District:

- Councilor Gibson submitted the Indian Joint Fire District report to council. Councilor Gibson reported that the fire district has received the new fire truck and it is operational.

Indian Lake EMS Joint Ambulance District:

- Councilor Reid submitted the Indian Lake EMS Joint Ambulance District to council.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

- Ordinance 26-1277 – Amending the Village of Russells Point Codified Ordinances Section 377.01 Definitions. Mayor Huffman conducted the 2nd reading of Ordinance 26-1277 by title. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Smith to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance 26-1277 by title. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 3-1, with Councilor Iiams voting against. Motion passed.
- Resolution 26-1075 – Authorizing Supplemental Appropriations for the Village during the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2026 and Declaring an Emergency. The resolution increases appropriations in the General Fund for transfers out and to the Parks and Recreation Fund to provide and maintain parks. Mayor Huffman read Resolution 26-1075 by title. **Motion** was

made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to waive the 3-reading rule on Resolution 26-1075 and declare it an emergency. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to adopt Resolution 26-1075 by title. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

- Resolution 26-1076 – Authorizing Supplemental Appropriations for the Village during the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2026 and Declaring an Emergency. The resolution increases appropriations in the Storm Water Improvement for payment to utility distribution systems. Mayor Huffman read Resolution 26-1076 by title. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Gibson to waive the 3-reading rule on Resolution 26-1076 and declare it an emergency. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to adopt Resolution 26-1076 by title. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed.

Citizen Comments:

- Sharon DeVault commented that Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River is scheduled for July 25, 2026 beginning at 8:30 AM. Volunteers are to meet at the Indian Lake spillway.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- Council was given an email from the Ohio Attorney General notifying the village that the application for the Drug Abuse Response Team (DART) Grant was approved for \$77,000. Chief of Police Joe Freyhof stated that he applied for the grant and received approval from the Ohio Attorney General to receive the grant money. Chief Freyhof stated that the DART program and Officer Stolzenburg has been a success since beginning earlier this year. Officer Stolzenburg spoke and expressed his gratitude to council for allowing him to be a part of the DART program and to work for the village police department. Officer Stolzenburg noted that he has worked with several outreach programs and community partners helping with drug overdoses and substance abuse.
- Council reviewed the Traffic Logix quotes for police radar signs. A quote for 3 of the Evolution 12 FM English Yellow **Large** Solar radar signs totaled \$9,804.00 and a quote for 3 of the Evolution 12 English Yellow Solar radar signs totaled \$9,015.00. Chief Freyhof noted that the radar signs would provide valuable information, but the purchase is not in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Councilor Iiams stated that the radar signs are a necessary purchase item for 2026. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to purchase the radar signs and be appropriated to as how council agrees to split the expense. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 4-0. Motion passed. Council agreed that the purchase of the radar signs could be split evenly between the Street Fund and the Police Fund.
- Chief Freyhof and council discussed the hump located on US Hwy 33 that is within the village corporation limits. The matter has been brought to the attention of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) but was told that grinding the hump down was the village's responsibility. Mayor Huffman stated he would discuss this matter with the village administrator.
- Mayor Huffman noted that the Outreach Kids are judging cars at the cruise in on July 23, 2026 and asked that all attend to support the kids.
- A softball tournament is being held at Leppich Field on August 1, 2026. Anyone is welcome to enter a team.

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Smith to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Motion passed.

John Huffman, Mayor

Marc McGuire, Fiscal Officer

Date Passed