

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY COUNCIL

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held August 03, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on August 3, 2026, at 7:30 pm in the Village of Fort Recovery Council Chambers to conduct regular business.

Roll call was conducted with the following Council members present: Shawn Thobe, Amy Wendel, Luke Knapke, Greg Schmitz, Scott Pearson and Al Post.

Also Present: Aaron Rengers, Jennifer Schoonover, Erin Abels, Jared Laux, Bailey Call, Bill Kinkaid, Neal Spencer and Kathryn Brautigam.

The Mayor led with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Kathryn Brautigam – Mercer County Urban Regional Forestry, gave some brief information about the Tree City USA Award Program – The Division started in 1979 to assist communities in enhancing their trees. In 1997 Ohio became first state to become Tree City. She acknowledged Fort Recovery for being a Tree City for 17 years. She presented us with an Ohio Stream Guide and suggested putting it in the Public Library.

Mayor: Congratulated Amy and the committee on the 250 festival. He said he had a really good time and has heard a lot of good comments. He also congratulated the Arts Council on the Summer Concerts series and said the Ambassador Tractor Pull was packed Friday night.

Reports to Council: VA Report, Income Tax Reports.

Minutes: Knapke made the motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for July 20, 2026, this was seconded by Thobe. Vote, all yes.

Laux: There is information about the message board speed trailer in Sharepoint. He would like to do the three-year renewal because it allows more reports, GPS tracker and remote login. The three-year cost would be \$3825. That is \$675 off the original price. Shawn recommended doing a shorter term renewal because he has found out that things change or he finds out he doesn't use it as much as he thought he would. A one-year renewal would be \$1500. Schmitz asked if we would get the same reports. Jared said we would have to get closer to the sign to get reports, make changes, etc. With the one year, subscription you would still get the same benefit, however it would be \$1500 for one year. If you don't renew it, you get limited reports and access. We would have to pay the full amount upfront and it would be good until Fall of 2029. The updates are included in the three-year renewal. There is a SIM card in the unit so we have direct access. Don is overseeing it and running the reports. They have used it a lot and will continue to use it. After the discussion, the Mayor canvassed council and it was decided to do the three year renewal.

E-bikes and Scooters – Don made up an AI ad as to the laws with E-bikes and scooters; but parents need to talk with their kids and educate them on the traffic laws also. The Police Dept. is trying to do their part in talking to kids, but parents need to do their part as well. Jared said they may look at doing a talk in the schools this fall.

IT – Jared told council there is an app to download on their tablets, so we are better protected on cybersecurity.

Luke asked Jared about parking on the side of the roads. Can we add no parking signs? Aaron said it is up to council and Aaron will support their decision. Aaron said he has spoken with Gage and will have a conversation with Dean also.

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RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

RES 2026-22: A RESOLUTION TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS: Pearson made the motion to suspend the rules which was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes. Post made the motion to pass the resolution which was seconded by Pearson. Vote all yes.

Schoonover: The July Bank Reconciliation and financial reports are available for review. There are some updated pool reports in Sharepoint.

I have also reviewed our tax receipts as of the end of July and we are still a little over where we would have been last year at 1.5%

Rengers:

Water Plant: Aaron talked to Marvin. OEPA responses are almost finished, but some adjustments will need to be made to the plans and specs and resubmitted.

North Wayne Pump Station: Aaron received a call from Bryce at Access. They did have someone out today to review the pump station. They are working on pricing for some different options and hopefully we will have their report back sometime this month.

Lagoons- Wastewater System Study & Plan: There have been ongoing talks with Kleinfelder about the needs of Fort Recovery and what makes sense. They are going to be onsite this Friday at 2 pm. Dave talked with Doug and we will give them their checks then. Doug, with Kleinfelder, said our flow meter is crooked. Dave suggested we straighten it out and review the data again before making any other decisions.

Water Line and Sanitary Extension: EPA has approved the plans for the water line extension on 1st Street / SR 119. The bid opening will be August 21, 2026 at 10:00 a.m

Street Improvements:

Systemic Funding: The concrete and sidewalks should be finished this week. The seeding is scheduled to be done in September.

SAFE Routes to School: The right-of-way work has been finished and submitted to ODOT for approval.

Paving Overlay Project – Wagner Paving was awarded the contract for \$90,472.75. We are still waiting for a start date from Wagner Paving.

Legislative Updates: - Nothing new to report, still pending.

HB 503 – This bill was passed by the Ohio House and is now waiting for the Ohio Senate. If passed, it would require voter approval on any changes to municipal tax reciprocity credits.

HB 92 – Unpaid utility bills by tenants – This is currently in Senate Committee. It has had many hearings and some substitute language included. The latest update would not allow the village to disallow the service to be on for the owner or future tenants if a previous tenant was delinquent. We will probably need to increase the security deposit and update our Water Ordinance with more strict procedures for water shutoffs.

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Pool Renovation Project: Aaron and Greg met with Tim Patterson from Patterson Pools. He recommended not doing a rehab on our current pool, due to the age of the pool, as we will be making continuous repairs. He recommended we save for a new pool and possibly install a splash pad in the meantime. Tim thought that our original splash pad quote was high. The Mayor talked with Dave Taybre and he said he thinks splash pads are a waste of money. Aaron reported the pool is leaking 500,000 gallons a month now, for a total of 1 million gallons so far this year. The pool is our 3rd highest user of water even though it is only operating three months out of the year.

Dave mentioned – PSS Contractor in Cincinnati - Dave Taybre. He does pools all over. He would like to do a phone meeting prior to coming out. Aaron has talked to someone from PSS before and they wanted about \$8,000 just to come look at our pool. The other company is Weigant Construction out of Fort Wayne – Adam Westgerdes. He text Dave today and asked if we had any studies completed on the pool we could share with him. Aaron said we do not have any official documented reports as all of our information, has been through conversations.

Community Reinvestment Area: A couple people have reached out to Aaron to see why it is not moving forward, and he said it is important that we get these annexations finished before we move forward with the CRA. Dave talked to someone who is thinking of annexing and asked if it is too late. Aaron said he is still waiting on one survey. Dave will talk to the person this week. Still waiting on Cory Gerlock and Troy Grieshop annexations to finalize the CRA. Hopefully we can enact the CRA by August. Any houses started now and not finished by the time the CRA is enacted will be eligible. Commercial and industrial properties will not be eligible. Aaron would really like to get the CRA submitted this year.

Water / Wastewater Rates:

There is a rough draft of the rate ordinance in Sharepoint. In 2027, the proposed increase would be \$11 per month on the base rate. This increase is higher, than what has been done in the past, but we have some expensive projects coming up with new water and wastewater treatment plants. These rates also pay for all the repairs and maintenance of the infrastructure, including underground; as well as routine operating costs like electric, chemicals and wages. As of right now, we have no way to fund the pump station without taking a loan and we already have several water / wastewater loans. Shawn asked when we need to approve the utility rates. This needs to be done by the end of the year and will be effective in January. We will probably start in late October or beginning of November as there will be three readings.

Building Hours: Aaron suggested we change our building hours to 8:00 - 4:30. We get minimal traffic in the office between 4 - 5. Anna will start tracking the number of people coming in.

Upcoming Events:

Park Board Meeting – August 10th
WOW will be held August 28th & 29th
Next Council Meeting – August 17th

Poll Council:

Pearson asked if the street sweeper is broken. Aaron said it is fixed now. Originally we thought it was going to be around \$17,000 to repair, but Brandon was able to find a part and fit it in-house for around \$50.

Council reviewed invoices for checks 34457 through 34461 including then and now certificates, and electronic payment 580-2026 – 596-2026 and inter-departmental transfers and adjustments. Luke made a motion to approve as presented; this was seconded by Thobe. Vote, all yes.

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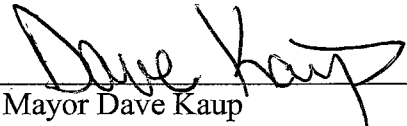
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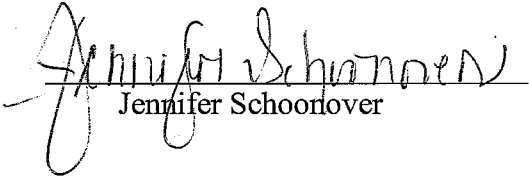
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Mayor: Do I have a motion to enter executive session to discuss the purchase of land in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code 122.22(g)(2). **Thobe made the motion to enter executive session which was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes by roll call vote.**

Knapke made a motion to exit executive session, which was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes.

Knapke made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Pearson. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.


Mayor Dave Kaup


Jennifer Schoorlover