RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY COUNCIL Meeting

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

Held October 05, 20 26

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on October 5, 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, Abby Miller and Benjamin Rife, West Ohio Community Action Partnership.

The Mayor led with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Benjamin Rife is the Mentor Coach Coordinator for West Ohio Community Action Partnership. He said they provide a variety of services, to primarily low-income families, who are struggling to make ends meet, in Mercer, Auglaize and Allen counties. There are several State programs that are administered by WOCAP. They have created a new program which focuses on responsible fatherhood. This program is grant funded and is available to all 88 counties. The program is designed to provide fathers with tool and encouragement to become more engaged in the lives of their children. The course consists of 12 sessions. At the end of coursework, they will receive 3 months of case management. The program is totally free and there are no commitments. The grant also allows them to offer incentives for fathers to participate. They get a $10 gas card each time they finish a class, at the end of the 12 sessions, they get a $200 bonus and at the end of the case work, they get $100. Free childcare is also provided during the courses. They also offer a workshop series that includes a nice lunch but does not qualify for the incentives. Benjamin handed out flyers and asked the council for help in marketing the program. Kaup asked how the turnout has been in Allen and Auglaize Counties so far. Benjamin said, in Allen County, it is court mandated program. The goal for the end of the year it is 100 fathers in Allen County, 60 in Auglaize and 30 for Mercer. They are starting a class in Celina tomorrow.

Mayor: He and Aaron had a CIC meeting in Celina discussing land sales in Chickasaw and Franklin Township. Dave said he thinks the 16' poles are almost too tall. Aaron said we will keep them on the state routes and they are required by the school for the RRFB, but we will stick to 14' poles everywhere else.

Reports to Council: VA Report, Income Tax Reports.

Minutes: Knapke made the motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for September 21, 2026, this was seconded by Schmitz. Vote, all yes.

Laux: The Police Chief report is in Sharepoint. He has seen an improvement in kids with e-bikes and scooters. He just put a MOU in Sharepoint for a county wide owned breathalyzer. The one we currently have, in the county, is on its last leg. The State used to provide them, but they no longer do that. The agencies have discussed the amount of money they are willing to contribute. Luke asked who is responsible for it and how sharing it works. Chief said it would be housed at the Sheriff's Office. Chief said we have portable breathalyzers in the police vehicles, however they are not permissible in court. This machine is what is actually permissible in court for DUI arrests. **Luke made a motion for Chief to sign the MOU, Scott seconded. Vote, all yes.** Luke asked Jared to share the MOU with council when it is finalized.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES: Nothing to report

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Schoonover: Nothing to report

Abels: Nothing to report

Rengers:

Lagoons- Wastewater System Study & Plan: Aaron had a meeting with Kleinfelder, Kelly Jutte, and OEPA on Tuesday, September 22, 2026 to discuss the Wastewater Treatment Plant. We do need to install a UV system ahead of the project to treat for E-Coli. Dave asked if we test for e-coli. Aaron said we do e-coli testing in the summer months and we have had some positive tests. Going to 100% design after we do some additional testing for EPA and Kleinfelder. Cost estimate is back to around $4 million.

Water Plant: The plans are still in EAP review. They are hoping we can get plans finalized and bid out by December. They plans have been in review for approximately 6 months.

North Wayne Pump Station: We are still working with Access Engineering, on a preliminary plan, to see what options they recommend for us to move forward.

Water Line and Sanitary Extension: The preconstruction meeting with Milestone Construction is scheduled for October 15th.

Street Improvements:

Systemic Funding: The 16 lights have been ordered for SR49.

SAFE Routes to School: We have received all of the right-of-way paperwork. The final tracings are in process. Dennis Ziccardi is planning to come this week to get the right-of-ways recorded and checks for the property owners.

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.

Pool Renovation Project: We are waiting on the pool report to see what our options are for the pool grant money. Aaron will reach out to United Leak Detection again to see what the status is on completion of the leak detection report.

Community Reinvestment Area: We can accept the Fortkamp and Gerlock annexations at the October 19th meeting and they will take affect 30 days after acceptance. We do still have the Troy Grieshop annexation we are waiting on. Shawn asked when the CRA might be completed. Aaron estimates that it will be completed next construction season. Occupancy is considered finished.

Water / Wastewater Rates:
The rough draft of the rate ordinance is still in SharePoint

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Upcoming Events:

Park Board Meeting – October 12th
Next Council Meeting – October 19th
Zoning Meeting – October 20th

Poll Council:

Al asked who is seeding the grass on the new sidewalk project. Aaron thinks it is a hydroseeder. He asked why did they not spray Brunswick's weeds and said he is worried about the slope.

Council reviewed invoices for checks 34548 through 34553 including then and now certificates, and electronic payments 773-2026 – 798-2026 and inter-departmental transfers and adjustments. Thobe made a motion to approve as presented; this was seconded by Wendel. Vote, all yes.

Knapke made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Thobe . Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Dave Kaup
Mayor Dave Kaup

Jennifer Schoonover
Jennifer Schoonover