

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
VILLAGE OF FORT RECOVERY COUNCIL

Minutes of

Meeting

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

Held	October 06 , 20 25
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CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Dave Kaup called to order the Regular Council Meeting on October 06, 2025 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: Cliff Wendel, Luke Knapke, Greg Schmitz, Scott Pearson and Al Post. Absent: Erik Fiely

Also Present: Randy Diller, Erin Abels, Aaron Rengers, Jared Laux, Roberta Staugler, Bailey Clfne, Bill Kincaid, Anna Post and Jennifer Schoonover.

The mayor led with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Reports to Council: VA Report, September Income Tax, Finance and Police Reports.

Minutes: Wendel made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for September 15, 2025, this was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes.

Mayor: Welcome Anna, I hope you enjoy your job, and all goes well. Anna: Day one went great. Mayor: Government will continue to run in little Fort Recovery. September tax report was in dropbox.

Chief: September stats, Lexipol agreement after some negotiations, thank you Erin. The first year's cost is \$1,837.50 with the yearly cost expecting a 5% increase. Jenn is working on a grant for body cameras and a computer server.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

RES 2025-25 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES. 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.

ORD 2025-12. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION I. OF ORDINANCE NO. 2024-09, AS AMENDED, TO INCLUDE NEW POSITIONS OF FISCAL OFFICER TRAINEE AND ASSISTANT FISCAL OFFICER/UTILITY CLERK AND PROVIDE FOR THE CLASIFICATIONS AND PAY SCHEDULE FOR THE POSITIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Pearson made the motion to suspend the rules which was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes by roll call vote. Post made the motion to pass the resolution which was seconded by Schmitz. Vote all yes by roll call vote.

Staugler: The auditor is back from vacation and said that the report should be completed in two weeks.

Erin Abels: nothing new to report.

Diller: Wastewater: nothing new on lagoon and dredging. There is the potential to take dredging cost down to \$300-400K.

Water Plant: Plant study is waiting on the well report.

Water Tower: Tower is complete. We will do a walkthrough with Aidan. Grass didn't grow great, but with no rain to be expected. They will do an overseed, it isn't awful, but it is weedy. We have a Draw Request of \$8,749.04. The final draw will be for the retainage amount of \$147,345.61 plus left to pay until final bill. **Knapke made the motion to pay Caldwell Tank \$8,749.04 which was seconded by Wendel. Vote all yes.** The final cost is slightly less than original \$2.4Mil but not enough to make a big difference.

Well site study. They drilled the 4th test site which was the same as the other 3 tests. They will do a step test with a final draw which is part of the process. We will see the final pump numbers

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on 2 wells tomorrow, then will go from there depending on the results. We will sit down with Eagan, the hydrologist, and get Kelly, Marvin and Rob to come up with a plan. Then I will call EPA which is holding our water plant design up because they say we need to drill a well we don't need. Will know by end of this week. In Eagon's defense, with our current wells getting 300gpm plus how would they think it would be different if they pick 4 spots all around that area and then only get 100 gpm? Kaup: How much did we pay them? Diller: \$12-15K which includes the test they have to do yet. Will know more by end of month. We have an invoice from Eagon for \$ 967.25. **Pearson made a motion to pay \$967.25 to Eagon which was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes.**

Street: Systemic Funding Sidewalk – finalizing the paperwork and still hoping for bidding right after the first of the year. Schmitz: Will it be right against the road? Diller: No - Don't know if uniform 3' off everywhere. There are spots where we will have to do some leveling. Working through the numbers. Safe Route to School Grant: ODOT wants some things changed. They want from Sharpsburg Road to school to be 8' instead of 6' wide as planned. Fine by us since they are paying for it. We will work on and get through this design paperwork and once they approve continue with ROW and go through RFQ process. We should get paperwork out this month. Pearson: Question about crosswalk, people are not stopping, some people stop with some cars passing, they go around the car. Laux: Just because it's flashing, they don't have to stop. Pearson: If someone is standing you would have to stop, and high school would have to stop. If they have the sign. Laux: If they are within the crosswalk. Pearson: If they are 200' down I stop, if standing there at the side they don't need to stop. Laux: I will double check. Pearson: In Gatlinburg if people are standing on side you have to stop. Diller: On the highway people go faster. I would take one step out into the crosswalk. Laux: Sometimes they cross, and it is still flashing for 10 to 15 sec and no one is there. Diller: Need to be careful, I see it up town. It's confusing for pedestrians it won't change unless you hit the button. Only register if you push the button. Since the lights don't operate a regular cycle, you must push the button to get a full 30 second cycle. People will learn. Laux: It says it on the sign. Diller: Last two times I went thru there were people stopped.

Butler St: All work completed with exception of Main Street striping.

Pearson: Ted is not happy with the approach. He got his trailer stuck. Diller: Was he backing in with a minivan? It is the same as the alley approach, all the same grade. I stopped but missed him. I don't have a low enough car. Pearson: It was a corvette. Diller: It wasn't as big as the curb that was there. Pearson: I would appreciate you stopping to talk to him if he had something that was better before. Kaup: Where is it? Pearson: Going into the garage. Should we go through and take pictures before projects? Diller: Sometimes they don't want it put back in the same. Haven't heard from anyone else. I will check it out. We have final pay from Toms Construction for \$235,204.93. If you can approve, I will not hand them the check until the crosswalk is painted. **Knapke made the motion to pay Tom's Construction \$235,204.93 which was seconded by Schmitz second. Vote all yes.**

Real Estate: We were going to pass legislation, but today is the 60th day and we must wait until after today to pass. Erin checked into it. I haven't got a hold of Nathan; we may need to have a special meeting or wait until the next meeting. The Ruhenkamp annexation was passed by commissioners. We will wait 60 days and pass legislation on December 1st.

Legislation: They are in session, already passed one bill to override the governor's veto and eliminate emergency/replacement levies. Which is the least of our worries. The governor's property tax group is looking at ways to reduce real estate tax rates. Lot of things being talked about, hard to say what will come out of this. Some of ones looking at putting more power into county budget commission. Not on inside millage, can't cut at this point. If we pass our income tax levy our RE levies will zero out anyway. There is no guarantee the budget commission will only give you this much, don't think it will. They may limit carryover to 100%. (from proposed 40%) to allow a carryover of one-year operating budget in the general fund, which would likely have communities moving money to capital project funds. They may expand the Homestead exemption and provide schools with more authority on CRA exemptions.

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~~Parks: We are still working with the Pool Company.~~

Tax: Nothing to report – we are on the ballot for November 4th. We would like to schedule a meeting prior to next council meeting, just an open house. I think it would be a good idea if council was here. Good way to get information out. Aaron will attend the next school board meeting to discuss CRA. Diller: We are not pushing them

Park Board: We are getting started on 2nd batting cage. Repairs were made to the pony league fence.

Zoning Board: We held a zoning board meeting for Cary and Renee Gleason. They plan to build two different residential structures. No plan to do it this year.

Finance: I would like to get together prior to the next meeting to discuss 2026. It was decided to meet at 6:00pm prior to the next council meeting.

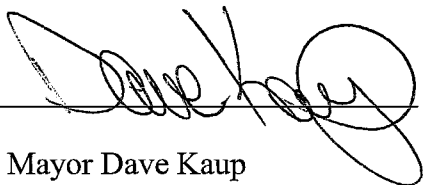
Important Dates: Cruise-In this Saturday October 11th. The Halloween parade will be on October 26th at 3pm, no need to close road. Next Council meeting is Oct 20th with a Tax meeting prior to next council meeting.

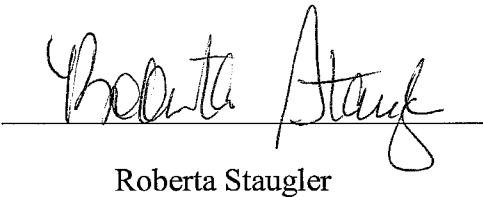
Aaron and I will begin working on Budgeting and Appropriations. Begin working on ideas of what to plan for next year.

Poll Council: Knapke: Street lights, if doing more, on Butler Street there are some dark spots there yet by Wolf's house. Schmitz: What are the holes with barrels. Diller those will be streetlights. Kaup: What about the poles with fence around? Diller: They are AES poles to be replaced not sure how long it will take. They showed up on a Sunday morning at 9am to replace one on Main Street with no warning, they just turned off the electric.

Council reviewed invoices for checks 33799 through 33824 including then and now certificates, and electronic payments 747-2025 to 774-2025 inter-departmental transfers and adjustments. **Wendel made a motion to approve as presented; this was seconded by Knapke. Vote all yes.**

Wendel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Knapke. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.


Mayor Dave Kaup


Roberta Staugler