

Village of Bluffton Council Meeting Agenda

January 26, 2026 at 7:00 PM



Opening Ceremonies

Call to Order, Mayor Johnson presiding
Pledge of Allegiance



Oath of Office: Ben Hill, Village Council

Minutes

Approval of the minutes from the Council Meeting held on Monday, January 12, 2026.

Bills

Public Comment: EMS Special Recognition – Meri Skilliter

Committee Reports

Boards & Commissions

LEGISLATION

RESOLUTION NO. 33-2025

3rd Reading

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RUMPKE WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES FOR THE COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO

Village Administration Report:

Mayor:

Safety Services Reports:

-EMS- -Fire Dept.- -Police Dept.-

Meeting Dates (meetings held at the Town Hall unless otherwise noted*)

- Council Meeting – Monday, January 26th at 7:00 pm
- Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting – Tuesday, Feb 3rd at 5:00 pm
- Joint Water Advisory Board Meeting – Wednesday, Feb. 4th at 6:30 pm
*Ottawa Municipal Building
- Pedestrian Pathway Board – Thursday, Feb. 5th at noon
- Council Meeting – Monday, February 9th at 7:00 pm

Public Comment

Adjournment – Motion and Second

Village of Bluffton – Regular meeting January 12, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Johnson presiding. Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia present.

Mayor Johnson administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Council members, Thomas Downey, Elizabeth Gordon-Hancock, and Phillip Talavinia.

Sehlhorst motioned, seconded by Stahl, to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on December 22, 2025. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Talavinia motioned, seconded by Downey, to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Mayor Johnson recognized former, long-time Council members Jerry Cupples, Mitch Kinglsey, and Dave Steiner for their service to the Village of Bluffton and presented each with a throw blanket with an image of the Bluffton Town Hall and their name on it.

The Fiscal Officer gave the following readings:

1st Reading:

Ordinance 1-2026 – An Ordinance approving, adopting and enacting American Legal Publishing’s Ohio Basic Code, 2026 Edition, as the Code of Ordinances for the Village of Bluffton, Ohio and declaring an emergency. Sehlhorst motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Gordon-Hancock. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved. Stahl motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Talavinia. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

2nd Reading:

Resolution 33-2025 – A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Village Administrator to enter into a contract with Rumpke Waste and Recycling Services for the collection of solid waste and recycling within the Village of Bluffton, Ohio. Talavinia motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Downey. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

1st Reading:

Resolution 1-2026 – A Resolution of the Village of Bluffton in support of the Lima-Allen County Regional Planning Commission serving as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Allen County, Ohio Study Area and declaring an emergency. Sehlhorst motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Stahl. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved. Gordon-Hancock motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Downey. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Resolution 2-2026 – A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and EMS Chief to enter into a contract with Zoll Medical Corporation from Chelmsford, MA and declaring an emergency. Stahl motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Sehlhorst. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved. Talavinia motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Downey. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Resolution 3-2026 – A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to advertise for bids for aggregate and asphalt material, asphalt application and equipment rental for the 2026 construction year and declaring an emergency. Talavinia motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Stahl. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved. Sehlhorst motioned to approve the ordinance, seconded by Gordon-Hancock. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Stahl motioned, seconded by Sehlhorst, to name Phill Talavinia as Council President for 2026. Roll Call: Yes (4) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, and Stahl. No (0), Abstain (1) Talavinia, motion approved.

Stahl motioned, seconded by Sehlhorst, to declare a HP DesignJet T790 plotter printer as surplus and to be listed for sale on GovDeals. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Sehlhorst motioned, seconded by Stahl, to approve a three-year contract at \$12,000/yr. with Resource Recycling of Lima, Ohio for grinding of the brush pile. 40% of the material will be double ground and remain on site. The remaining 60% will be hauled away. Roll Call: Yes (5) Downey, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst, Stahl, and Talavinia. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Talavinia motioned to adjourn the meeting.

The following meetings/events were included on the agenda and/or scheduled during the meeting.

Cemetery Board on Friday, January 16 at 9:00 a.m.

Special Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 20 at 6:30 p.m. (Executive Session to interview Council candidates)

Council Meeting on Monday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m.

MAYOR

FISCAL OFFICER

January 20, 2026

Special Council Meeting

Start: 6:30 pm End: 9:05 pm

Purpose: Interview candidates to fill open council seat

Mayor Johnson presiding: Mr. Sehlhorst, Mr. Talavinia, Mr. Stahl, Mr. Downey, and Mrs. Gordon-Hancock present.

Sehlhorst motioned, seconded by Downey, to enter into executive session to conduct candidate interviews to fill open council seat. Roll Call: Yes (5) Sehlhorst, Downey, Stahl, Talavinia, and Gordon-Hancock. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Downey motioned, seconded by Stahl, to exit executive session and return to open session. Roll Call: Yes (5): Downey, Stahl, Talavinia, Gordon-Hancock, Sehlhorst. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Gordon-Hancock motioned, seconded by Downey, to recommend Ben Hill to fill the open council seat for the Village of Bluffton, OH. Roll Call: Yes (5): Gordon-Hancock, Downey, Stahl, Talavinia, and Sehlhorst. No (0), Abstain (0), motion approved.

Talavinia motioned to adjourn the meeting.

VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON
VOUCHER REPORT 1/26/2026

VENDOR	AMOUNT	DEPARTMENT	DESCRIPTION
ACKERMAN, IZAK	200.00	Police	BOOTS
AG-PRO	107.45	Street	LEAF MACHINE MAINTENANCE
ALLEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSN INC	30.00	Multiple	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
ALLEN COUNTY TREASURER	2,397.13	Administrative	2026 REAL ESTATE TAXES
ALLOWAY TESTING	1,775.00	Multiple	TESTING
ALLOWAY TESTING	75.00	Multiple	TESTING
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER	1,597.53	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	222.75	Multiple	LIFE INSURANCE
APPLIED SPECIALITES, INC	7,590.00	Sewer	POLYMER
AUSTIN PROBST	200.00	Police	BOOTS
BLUFFTON STONE CO.	274.16	Multiple	STONE
BOBCAT COMPANY	382.00	Multiple	BOBCAT BUCKET TEETH
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	40.00	Multiple	INTERNET
CINTAS	99.04	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CINTAS	99.04	Administrative	UNIFORMS
CINTAS	20.45	Multiple	FIRST AID SUPPLIES
CLEMANS, NELSON & ASSOCIATES, INC	1,499.47	Administrative	RETAINER & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
CLEMANS, NELSON & ASSOCIATES, INC	2,035.53	Administrative	RETAINER & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
FASTENAL COMPANY	388.88	Pool	HARDWARE FOR VALVES
FASTENAL COMPANY	94.40	Pool	HARDWARE FOR VALVES
GREAT LAKES BILLING ASSOCIATES, INC.	1,629.97	Rescue	EMS BILLING SERVICES
HACKENBERG, FEIGHNER, BISHOP & WERTH, LLC	2,000.00	Administrative	SOLICITOR FEES
HANCOCK-WOOD ELECTRIC CO-OP	172.43	Multiple	ELECTRICITY
KENT KARHOFF LLC	500.00	Cemetery	BURIALS & FOUNDATIONS
KOI ENTERPRISES, INC.	331.14	Rescue	BATTERIES - M110
KOI ENTERPRISES, INC.	371.46	Multiple	PARTS
MCMAHON'S BEST ONE TIRE AND AUTO CARE	1,111.90	Multiple	GMC SERVICE TRUCK TIRES
OHIO CRIME PREVENTION ASSN.	50.00	Police	OCPA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
OHIO UTILITIES PROTECTION SERVICE	388.58	Administrative	2026 GOVT. ASSESSMENT
OHIO UTILITIES PROTECTION SERVICE	4.00	Administrative	MANUAL CALLOUTS
PENNCARE 30	16,500.00	Rescue	VENTS
PENNCARE 30	345.33	Rescue	MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
PERRY CORPORATION	3,670.31	Administrative	IT CONTRACT
RAYLE, ERIC	200.00	Police	BOOTS
SAFEGUARD BUSINESS SYSTEMS	688.77	Multiple	TAX FORMS
SAM'S CLUB	19.21	Multiple	SUPPLIES
SHELL FLEET PLUS	709.33	Multiple	FUEL
SMARTBILL	1,307.04	Multiple	BILLING SERVICES
STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE	566.38	Multiple	SUPPLIES
SUPERIOR UNIFORM	114.99	Police	UNIFROMS
TREASURER OF STATE	113.25	Pool	POOL BOILER CERTIFICATE
USA BLUE BOOK	403.91	Pool	VALVES & GASKETS
VANCE'S OUTDOOR INC.	2,620.34	Police	AMMO & SUPPLIES
VILLAGE OF OTTAWA	53,335.45	Water	WATER
INCOME TAX REFUNDS	139.00	Administrative	INCOME TAX REFUNDS
	<u>106,420.62</u>		
DECEMBER FIRE & EMS	6,861.59		
MEDICARE	99.51		
OPERS	776.32		
FICA	76.05		
BIWEEKLY PAYROLL 1/23/26	82,259.01		
MEDICARE	1,135.99		
OPERS	7,336.88		
OP&F	5,528.22		

Council Signature : _____

Date: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 33–2025

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RUMPKE WASTE AND RECYCLING
SERVICES FOR THE COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING WITHIN
THE VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON, OHIO**

WHEREAS, the Village of Bluffton, Ohio is responsible for ensuring the safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible collection of residential solid waste and recyclable materials within the Village limits; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council Utilities Committee along Village Administration and Mayor have evaluated the proposals received for refuse and recycling collection and have determined that contracting with Rumpke Waste and Recycling Services is in the best interest of the Village and its residents; and

WHEREAS, Rumpke Waste and Recycling Services is a licensed and experienced solid waste and recycling service provider that is capable of meeting the Village’s collection, disposal, and recycling needs; and have provided the pricing for these services as shown in Exhibit A for a three year period beginning May 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the proposed contract establishes the terms and conditions under which solid waste and recycling services shall be provided, including, but not limited to: collection costs, service levels, collection schedules and performance standards; and

WHEREAS, Village Council desires to authorize the Mayor and Village Administrator to execute said contract on behalf of the Village of Bluffton.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF
BLUFFTON, OHIO:**

SECTION 1. The Mayor and Village Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to enter into a contract with Rumpke Waste and Recycling Services for the collection of solid waste and recyclable materials within the Village of Bluffton, Ohio.

SECTION 2. The Mayor and Village Administrator are further authorized to execute any related documents and take all actions necessary to implement and administer the contract approved herein.

SECTION 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were conducted in meetings open to the public, in compliance with Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026, by the Council of the Village of Bluffton, Ohio.

AYES: _____ NAYES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ATTEST:

Fiscal Officer

Mayor

Approved as to Form:

Village Solicitor

EXHIBIT A

RUMPKE PRICING

- Item #1:**
- Unlimited weekly same-day curbside recycling and garbage and refuse pick up service with Company-supplied carts.
 - Approved bulk items will be collected as part of the normal route. Residents will need to pre-schedule bulk collection using the approved policy, e.g. scheduling on the Company's website at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. No charge for bulk items and no limitations.

Pricing: \$22.73 Per Unit, Per Month *Village adds \$0.50 per month to each bill

Temporary Services

Item #3: Unit price for Company to supply, upon request of resident, large roll-off dumpsters, or equivalent unit, to be **delivered to Bluffton residence for residential projects and disposal**

Pricing: \$80.00 Each 4 yd container

 \$100.00 Each 6 yd container

 \$120.00 Each 8 yd container

 \$160.00/LOAD 20 yd Roll Off

 \$40.00/TON

Item #4: 30-40 yd Roll-off fee & per ton disposal for annual Community Clean-up event and as needed.

Pricing: \$160.00/LOAD per delivery of 30-40 yd dumpster and

 \$40.00/TON per ton for disposal

Village of Bluffton

Administration Report

To: Mayor Johnson & Council Members



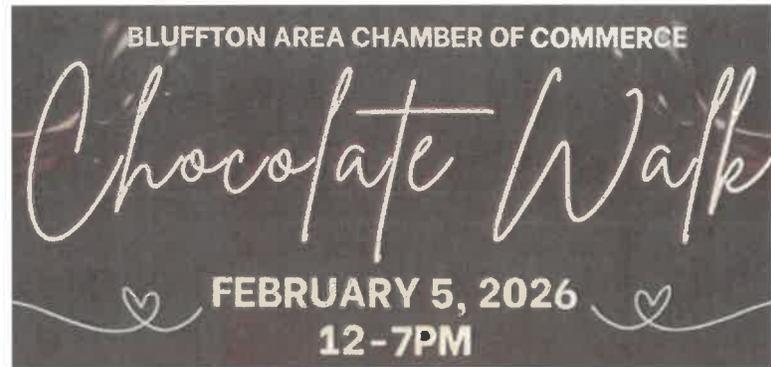
01-26-26

America 250 - Elementary Art Expo



Enjoy America250 artwork created by Bluffton Elementary students at each Chocolate Walk stop!

Thank you to Nicole Anderson, Bluffton Elementary School Art Teacher, for engaging her students to create and provide 24 original works of art (one from each of the classes she teaches) to be displayed amongst the 21 participating businesses.



ONU Capstone Team - Traffic & Streetscape Improvements

Request a Streets, Alleys, Lights & Sidewalk Committee meeting to review work done to this point and provide feedback to design final project.

S.R. 103 Roundabout: Construction Update

29" x 45" elliptical storm line was installed across S.R. 103 last week using the Pocono – Navajo “loop” to detour traffic



Pipe Size Rise x Span (Inch)	Approximate Equivalent Round Diameter (Inch)
29 x 45	36

Village Investment Account Update

Recommendation to transfer locally invested funds to STAR Ohio account.

The State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio) is an investment pool that allows government subdivisions—from municipalities to school districts—to invest in high-grade, short-term securities, while offering safety, penalty-free liquidity and comparatively higher yields.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Feb 3rd at 5:00 pm – Parks & Recreation Committee w/ Bluffton Soccer Club & Lions Club representatives to provide Legacy Park updates
- Feb 5th at noon – Pedestrian Pathway Board Meeting
- Feb 10th – Streets & Alleys Committee: ONU Capstone Team meeting -

Mayor Johnson – Special Events Permit

College Avenue Closure from Main St. to Jackson St on May 11th for Bluffton H.S. Senior Class street painting

* Rain date 5/11/26



VILLAGE OF BLUFFTON

100 E. ELM STREET, P.O. BOX 63 BLUFFTON, OHIO 45817-0063

APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

EVENT NAME: Senior Street Painting DATE(S) OF EVENT: 5/11/26
 APPLICANT: Bluffton High School CONTACT PERSON: Megan Morris
 APPLICANT'S ADDRESS: 106 W College Ave CONTACT'S PHONE: 419-358-7941
 E-MAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL): morrisism@blufftonschools.org
 LOCATION OF EVENT: College Ave outside BHS
 TIME(S) FOR EVENT: 6 pm - 8 pm
 DESCRIPTION OF EVENT: Senior street painting

SERVICES REQUESTED FROM VILLAGE: Must provide map of plans and any other information required as necessary.

TRAFFIC CONTROL: _____ **NUMBER OF OFFICERS REQUESTED:** _____
 Number of officers required to cover security will be determined on a case by case basis upon consultation with the Chief of Police

ROAD CLOSURE: Main St to Jackson St

SECURITY: _____ **NUMBER OF OFFICERS REQUESTED:** _____
 Number of officers required to cover security will be determined on a case by case basis upon consultation with the Chief of Police

EMS SERVICES: _____ **FIRE DEPT. SERVICES:** _____

WATER SERVICE: _____ **OTHER SERVICES:** _____

ALCOHOL SERVED: YES _____ NO _____ * Applicant is responsible for obtaining the proper alcohol permit from the Division of Liquor Control prior to the event.

EVENT'S INSURER: _____ * Village must be listed as Additional Insured

ATTACH CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE TO APPLICATION

PLEASE LIST VENDORS, SERVICES, CONTRACTORS, ETC. INVOLVED WITH EVENT:

NAME OF VENDOR	TYPE OF SERVICE PROVIDED

* FOOD VENDORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING ANY NECESSARY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PERMITS

I understand that the granting of this permit for the special event creates no agreement or guarantee, express or implied, to any person or entity for any liability whatsoever connected with this special event. Any liability is the sole responsibility of the person or organization responsible for the special event. By signing this application, I acknowledge that all statements made herein are true and correct and that I have the authority to bind the organization that I represent.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: Megan Morris DATE: 1/21/26

APPROVED
 MAYOR'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____