

Council Minutes

March 2, 2026

Council Members in attendance: Council President: Sue Schroeder, Sherry Valdez, Sue Christman, Jason Goodwin, Rick Moyer and Dave Heitmeyer. Mayor Rick Recker, Village Administrator Kevin Siferd, Fiscal Officer/Tax Administrator Renee Spangler, Janet Spihach, Paul Fletcher, Jeff Vance and KC Allen from the Putnam County Sentinel.

Mayor Rick Recker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He then led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

A motion to waive the reading of the minutes of February 17, 2026, and accept them as written was made by Rick Moyer and this motion was seconded by Sherry Valdez. Roll call on the motion, Jason Goodwin yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sherry Valdez yea and Rick Moyer yea.

RESOLUTION 3465: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF LEIPSIC TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PUTANM COUNTY YMCA TO PROVIDE FOR OPERATION OF THE LEIPSIC MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL FOR THE SUMMER OF 2026. Was read for the third time. Dave Heitmeyer made a motion to approve Resolution 3465, and this was seconded by Sue Christman. Roll call on the motion, Jason Goodwin yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Rick Moyer yea, and Sherry Valdez yea.

The Check Register and Income Tax report was reviewed and initialed by the council, Jason Goodwin made a motion to approve the reports reviewed and Dave Heitmeyer seconded the motion, Roll call on the motion, Jason Goodwin yea, Sue Christman yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Rick Moyer yea, and Sherry Valdez yea.

Janet Spahich & Paul Fletcher from Kleinfelder were present to discuss the Water plant project to be the council up to date with the options and to make sure they are going in the right direction. They explained the different options for the water plant what was needed for each option and the estimated start up time. Mr. Fletcher said the original report came up with three different ways of looking at your treatment plant one was to keep ground water and increase the plant, or switch to surface water and increase the plant and another was to connect to Ottawa. He said the ground water options were to keep the existing treatment plant and upgrade it the alternative to that would be abandon the existing treatment plant and use a new water treatment plant using ground water that would take the existing well field and divert the flow to a new site. He said there is the expansion of the well field in Belmore. He said there is a potential to put a new wellfield in. for surface water the conventional system would be like what we currently have now and the alternative to that would be a membrane system. The fifth option is regionalization with connection to Ottawa; the village of Ottawa could supply us with our base amount but if they had to supply our peak amount they would have to add additional equipment. Dave Heitmeyer asked if they are basing that off what they pull from the river, Mr. Fletcher said they also have a reservoir, Dave Heitemyer said the fifth option is out. Mr. Fletcher said we are here to see what option we like and don't like, he said it looks like option five is out. He said if you choose a conventional or membrane plant the EPA wants 12 months of surface water data before they would even entertain an idea of a pilot protocol for a membrane plant. He said then the pilot protocol would be another 6 months. For surface water you're talking 12 months, for a ground water plant it's much faster because the EPA knows the ground water conditions are much more stable. Kevin Siferd gave the council the pros and cons of a conventional plant and membrane plant that some of the guys put together. Mr. Fletcher said the last program was done in 2020/2021 and Ohio EPA is now saying its 5 years old and they want another one. Sherry Valdez said it's sounds like the Ohio EPA could drag this on forever, but she said by Mr. Fletcher's tone seems very positive for these deadlines how realistic is that, what we felt the conversation and we went down the membrane route we could be trying to do that forever and

we don't want to put a lot of money into a pilot that is going to almost inevitably be a failure no matter what from the EPA's perspective. Mr. Moyer said we would be three years out and still not started anything. Mr. Valdez asked if this is a feasible option, Mr. Fletcher says it's feasible, he said once the 12 months of sampling is done and 6-week pilot study and written the report and they except that then there is nothing else they can come back with. Rick Recker asked what happened between all of the samples we did in 2021 and 2024 there are two years that we were talking about this and nothing got done. Janet said they would have to dig into that because neither her nor Paul worked for Kleinfelder's then. The council also discussed with Kleinfelder's about getting a study to see about getting new wells to see if it's an option. Before Kleinfelder's left they said they would get with Egan about this and get back with us.

Jeff Vance was present and spoke with the council he is running for Putnam County Commissioner.

Blighted Property update from Barry Schroeder said we are still trying to get this credit to claim, and we can get it settled but if we can't we have to file a suit to get it taken care of.

Village Administrator's Report

Camera system Kevin got three quotes, with lima security coming in with the best of \$2,026.00 for a 3-camera system and 3 panic buttons and a monthly monitoring of the panic buttons of \$29.95. The other two were from Bee Safe \$3,089.00, and NWOSS \$4,988.00. Jason Goodwin made a motion to allow the purchase of security cameras and panic buttons and Sue Schroeder seconded the motion. Roll call on this motion, Sherry Valdez yea, Sue Christman yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Rick Moyer yea, Jason Goodwin yea.

Kleinfelder's want to make sure we are still wanting to proceed with the ODOT Sidewalk Project along with the project for Curbs and Gutters on Orchard and State Street, both were discussed at the last meeting but Mr. Siferd just wanted to be sure. Council was fine with proceeding.

Kevin let the council know that he had J & K Environmental come in and do a Air Sample of Village Hall he said there have been a lot of people getting sick, he also had Rush Air Duct Cleaning come in and inspect our duct work, picture were provided for the mold that was found in the air vents and they provided an estimate as well of \$24,600.00.

Dave Heitmeyer asked Mr. Siferd to get a quote to replace all the duct work as well.

Leipsic pool is getting prepped for repairs.

The new backstop is installed at the Softball field.

DT Revitalization Bid opening 10am March 11

Safety Congress is March 11 & 12 and Ben, Sam, Evan and Kevin plan on going.

Emails for information about US Congress Community Project Funding FY27, Mr. Siferd has reached out to both Congress man Bob Latta and Senator Bernie Moreno.

At 8:37P.M. Dave Heitmeyer made a motion to go into an executive session for a matter Purchase or Sale of Land and Sherry Valdez seconded the motion. Roll call on this motion, Sherry Valdez yea, Sue Christman yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Rick Moyer yea, Jason Goodwin yea.

At 8:46 P.M. Dave Heitmeyer made a motion to come out of the executive session and Jason Goodwin seconded the motion. Roll call on this motion, Sherry Valdez yea, Sue Christman yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Rick Moyer yea, Jason Goodwin yea.

With no further business to come before the council, a motion for adjournment was made by Dave Heitmeyer and seconded by Jason Goodwin. Roll call on this motion, Jason Goodwin yea, Rick Moyer yea, Sue Schroeder yea, Dave Heitmeyer yea, Sue Christman yea and Sherry Valdez yea. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 P.M. The next council meeting will be on March 16, 2026, at 7:30 P.M.

APPROVED: _____

ATTEST: _____