

Regular Session of Village Council

June 16, 2026; 6:30 pm

Call to Order

The Regular Session of Council was called to order by Mayor Mitchell Fisher. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Roll Call was completed by Solicitor, John Kaspar. The following members were present.

Emmalee Cartwright
Jim Frederick
Martin Hamlin - A

Richard Hardin
Stacey Hubbard
Samantha Pitzer

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to adopt the May 19, 2026 Regular Session made by Frederick; second by Cartwright. All yea.

Reports / Legislation from Village Officials

Monthly Village Fiscal Revenue Status by Fund Summary, Bank Reconciliation and Disbursements, Mayor's Court Report and Bank Reconciliation were provided for Council.

Tree Board

Mayor Fisher informed council that amendments need to be made to the Tree Board Ordinance. Council will decide if the Tree Board needs restructured? What the function of the Tree Board is? What is the goal of the Tree Board? Discussion followed. It was determined by council to have Solicitor Kaspar draft a new ordinance making the membership of the Tree Board consist of the Village Administrator, Fiscal Officer and Maintenance Supervisor and one community member appointed by council. This will be presented at the next council meeting.

The mayor brought a matter regarding trees at the curbs in the Woodlands of Morrow. The question is who is responsible for the trees. Is it the Village, the homeowner or home owners' association? Solicitor Kaspar is looking into the matter.

The mayor updated council on the 2 potentially dangerous trees in Phegley Park. Both trees will be removed on July 9th at a cost of \$2,400. Caution tape will be placed around them until they are removed.

Emergency Siren Update

The Village of Morrow's emergency siren is located in the tower of the administrative building. This siren currently has an amp that is not working and therefore causes the battery to drain along with other issues. Chief Moenster along with the mayor and Chief Kilburn are presenting a plan to place a new siren in a central location for the Village and Salem Township. This plan was presented to the Salem Township trustees as a 50/50 split of cost between the Village and Salem Township. The trustees have agreed to split the \$38,000. Chief Moenster is taking the lead on this project and is also seeking any available grants to help with the cost.

Road Paving Quotes

The mayor presented quotes for paving from Pinnacle and JK Muerer Paving will be done on Kibbey and Main Streets, and crack repair on Houston and Highland. Quotes were also received for work to be done on Park and Main pending approval from Warren County to use CVT funds. Resolution #13-26 approving the mayor to enter into an agreement with Pinnacle for paving and crack repairs was presented. Motion to suspend the rules made by Frederick; second by Hardin. All yea. Motion to adopt made by Frederick; second by Pitzer. All yea.

DORA Discussion

The mayor informed council that a couple of business owners would like to expand the area that is covered by DORA. This area would include all of Phegley Park and extend to the canoe rental on the other end of town. Discussion followed. Council agreed that the area that the DORA covers is going well and no expansion is needed.

Solicitor Kaspar – Discussion of Payout from Progressive

Solicitor Kaspar informed council of an accident that occurred in 2025 that did approximately \$19,000 in damage. The accident involved a vehicle hitting a street light box along with other damage. The Village was contacted by the Progressive insurance company to agree to a lower payout. Kaspar contacted the Village's insurance company (PEP) and the Village will make a claim for payment and they will contact Progressive.

Village Officials

The mayor had a few updates for council:

1. Railroad Days will be June 20th from noon – 10 pm. Blessed Union of Souls will be the headliner.
2. July 4th parade – will start at the plaza due to work being done on Welch Road
3. Welch Road project is going great and looks to be on schedule to be complete before school starts.
4. The Booster station in Roachester is making progress.

Administrator Whitacre updated council on a few items:

Whitacre informed council that the Community Develop Block Grant was awarded and the mini pitch soccer field has been approved. This will be placed behind Depot Brewing. A match of \$20,000 was offered from FC Cincinnati and the Village as well as the grant of \$140,000 from Warren County. FC Cincinnati has held soccer clinics in the Village over the last couple of years and has seen their largest turnout here in Morrow. This job still must go out for bid and will hopefully see construction in the fall.

Whitacre also updated council on cybersecurity. The CART team for the Village has been set up and is going well.

Chief Kilburn was pleased that the slow vehicle resolution was approved and will have signs up as soon as possible.

Zoning Inspector Schraffenberger was asked by Frederick if there were updates on Ordinance 5-19 and if the zoning updates have been sent to ChoiceOne. Schraffenberger informed council that he will send the zoning updates to ChoiceOne and updates to Ordinance 5-19 will be presented by Kaspar at the next council meeting.

Open to the Floor

The mayor opened the floor.

Teresa Paynter asked if anything could be done about the constant parking in Bishop's Park. This is a public parking area being used as a parking lot by a few people every day. The mayor stated that the Village will look into placing signs to limit parking times.

The mayor closed the floor.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Frederick; second by Hardin. All ye.

Tina Powell, Clerk of Council

Mitchell Fisher, Mayor