

Regular Session of Village Council

July 21, 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 - A
Jim Frederick
Martin Hamlin

Richard Hardin
Stacey Hubbard
Samantha Pitzer - A

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to adopt the June 16, 2026 Regular Session made by Frederick; second by Hamlin. All yea. Motion to adopt the special meeting minutes for June 16, 2026 made by Hamlin; second by Hardin. 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.

ChoiceOne – Alley Vacancy Project

Mayor Fisher presented council with a map (in the packet) showing a group of alleys that were vacated years ago but unsure if these properties were ever recorded at the county level and turned over to the owners. The zoning inspector is searching for ordinances to show this information. Council discussed and would like to wait until the zoning inspector is sure of how these vacancies were handled. If they were not done correctly, the notifications to the residents will need to be made. This will be discussed pending more information.

Rumpke Contract

Mayor Fisher informed council of the contract renewal with Rumpke. Discussion to increase the rates following the Rumpke rate increase yearly per the contract. Due to the charge of 4% by Warren County Water and Sewer, the Village will need to increase the trash rate to 7% for personal accounts and 9% for business/dumpster accounts. Motion to suspend the rules that will go into effect in 30 days made by Frederick; second by Hardin. All yea. Motion to adopt Resolution #14-26 increasing the trash rates was made by Frederick; second by Hardin. All yea.

Renewal of CDBG Grant Program

The Village Administrator discussed the need to renew the contract between the Village and Warren County in order to continue to be part of the CDBG Entitlement Program. This grant has helped fund projects such as the Railroad Bridge lighting, Phegley Park playground equipment and the Depot infrastructure improvement. The original Resolution was in 2008. Amendment #2, presented in the packet, replaces page 11 in the original agreement. Motion to suspend the rules made by Frederick; second made by Hardin. All yea. Motion to adopt Resolution #15-26 that will go into effect in 30 days, made by Hamlin; second made by Frederick. All yea.

Part time/Co-op position for Tax Department

The mayor asked council to consider adding a part time position or a co-op position in the tax department that would be in the spring, possibly from January to April or as the Tax Administrator needs assistance. This position will need to be created. The mayor asked council to consider and come back to this at a later time.

Village Officials

The mayor had a few updates for council:

1. Grants: Welch Road project is going great, the water lines are finished and paving is to take place the week of August 3rd. Booster station in Roachester is at a good spot, electric, internals, and generator are complete. Currently waiting on the SCADA system to be completed.

2. The 2006 Dump Truck has been sold. This was advertised and sold for \$3,876.00. The replacement truck has been chosen and a purchase order was sent to the dealer this week. There will be a salt liner purchased for this truck. This was on the budget for this year.
3. The Village had two big events this past month, Railroad Days and July 4th parade. Both events were well attended and a great success.

Councilmember Hamlin asked if there was a backup plan and date for Welch Road if the project is not complete. There is a contingency plan in place using Morrow Rossburg Road. Hamlin also brought to council's attention that there is an area within the Village limits that has rare plants growing. The maintenance department will be informed of where this is so these plants are not disturbed.

Administrator Whitacre updated council on a few items:

Shakespeare in the Park will present Much Ado About Nothing at Phegley Park on August 7th at 7 pm. 43 performances in the Tristate including Mason, Lebanon and Morrow in the Warren County area. Bring a chair and come enjoy. The 315 will be used in the chance of inclement weather.

Whitacre asked council to consider expanding the DORA for event specific days. These would be one day events and the Chief of Police will work with anyone wanting to do this.

Fiscal Officer asked for a thumbs up from council to grant a leak adjustment for 5218 Salem Road in the amount of \$202.80. All requirements are met. Thumbs up was given.

Zoning Inspector Schraffenberger stated that progress is being made on the zoning code and should have it ready to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Officer Hawk informed council that all is well in the Police Department.

Open to the Floor

The mayor opened the floor.

Ryan Doan gave a statement on some of the financials of the Village and had a few complaints on how the Village needs to help local businesses and not shut Main Street down for events.

Penny Hahn stated that she is impressed with the clean up of the Village and that she thinks things are looking better and going well.

The mayor closed the floor.

Adjournment

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

Tina Powell, Clerk of Council

Mitchell Fisher, Mayor