VILLAGE OF FRAZEYSBURG

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

10/20/2025

REGULAR SESSION

The Village of Frazeysburg Council convened in regular session from 6:00 p.m. to 7:27 p.m. at the Township Hall with ***Mayor Fred R. Wolford, Jr.*** presiding.

*The regularly scheduled meeting on the second Monday of the month had to be moved to the third week of the month because the Township Hall was without power on the October 14th date that Council had been originally scheduled for.

The reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance was led by ***Mayor Wolford.***

PRESENT:
EMPLOYEES*:* Chief Eli Bourne, Sterling Coots, David Ludinich, Fiscal Officer Grable, and Office Assistant Evans

VISITORS: Diane Wolford, Melissa Evans, Alicia Ludnich, Eric Reed, Don Madden, Terry McKiernan, Jason Schaumleffel

Roll call was made with the following members present:

- ✓ SMITH
- ✓ REISINGER
- ✓ LAUGHTON
- ✓ HINDEL
- ✓ ROSS

Absent: NONE

- Guest speaker ***Terry McKiernan*** of Shackleford Disposal was present to answer any questions that citizens had since the October 1, 2025 trash services switch occurred.
- Citizen attendee Alicia Ludinich asked about: cost for an extra tote, McKiernan explained that the first tote is three dollars ($3) and any additional tote after that is five dollars ($5) and he explained that residents have a choice to use their own tote or one provided by Shackleford Disposal, how much their bill would be if they used their own tote and it was explained that without a tote their bill would be sixteen Dollars ($16) per month including the senior discount that they qualified for, their concerns of being told something different when they called into the office, McKiernan explained he was sure it was a miscommunication and he would take down their information and get it resolved for them to which Alicia stated she would make that phone call herself, how much extra for bulk items and McKiernan explained that they receive one (1) bulk item a week for free, he then explained that under the contract citizens may have their tote and six (6) additional bagged items for pickup day, her concerns that Shackleford's wasn't actually saving them money to which McKiernan explained that Waste Management's proposal included a $1 a year rate increase.
- Guest Speaker Eric Reed from the Muskingum County Port Authority was present as well Don Madden who is the Projects Director for Muskingum County's Water Department and was

prepared to answer questions and concerns from Village Council or any citizens concerning the Memorandum of Understanding that had been passed the month before. Reed explained that the

- purpose of the project was to serve the development area that was lacking water and sewer expansion. Reed explained that the plan was to build a sewer plant and potentially a water plant in the future. At this moment the plan is for Frazeysburg to become a sewer customer for the County, and at any time the Village may back out with a six (6) month notice. Usage of the Frazeysburg sewer plant was an important part of the expansion as the twenty-million-dollar grant would cover much of the expense of construction for lines but the plant to operate would be more costly and a separate grant and funding process.
  Councilperson Laughton inquired what would happen if the Village used their plant to accommodate the County and then the county decided they did not want the Village sewer plant usage any longer. Mr. Reed explained that this type of negotiations would be written in the contract that the Village and the County would agree upon at a later date. Laughton asked if the County had an idea of where they would be putting a new county plant to which Reed and Madden replied that at this time they do not. It is necessary to have this memorandum and plan in place in order for the County to apply for further grant funding for this expansion.
  It was asked if the county and or Port Authority knew how big of a plant they would need? The dimensions were stated in the grant they received. Don Madden noted that because of the type of construction being used, Oxidation, that the equipment can start out smaller and add coils as the project and need increased.
  Council explained that their main concern was the effect on the citizens of the Village, most notably the water and sewer bills. Ideally it would be a great thing to see lower bills because of the bulk. Reed explained that numbers could be negotiated, but that was further in the future. The Village would maintain the infrastructure within the Village and the County would maintain the line running from the meter to the sewer plant.

- Motion Reisinger, Second Laughton approving the minutes from **September 8, 2025** regular council meeting. **FIVE (5) YEAS, ZERO (0) NAYS**
- Motion Hindel, Second Reisinger approving the minutes from **September 10, 2025** special council meeting. **FIVE (5) YEAS, ZERO (0) NAYS**

Motion Laughton, Second Smith approving the payment of bills for **October 14, 2025**. **FIVE (5) YEAS, ZERO (0) NAYS**

Mayor's Court report: (as per ORC 905.033)

ENTITY	AMOUNT	MONTH
Village	$ 2,168.00	September
State	$ 658.00	September
Muskingum County Court	$ 24.00	September
Total paid out	$ 2,850.00	September
Computer fund	$ 190.00	September
Computer fund YTD	$ 1160.00	September

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: (regular type from meeting**, bold from council discussion)**

Met 10-1-25 Special Meeting

Present: KC Smith, Carol Ross, Emmett Reisinger, Mayor Fred Wolford, and Office Assistant Whitney Evans, Dave Ludinich, Brian Gast
Visitors: George Preston, Alicia Ludinich, Terry Swartz, and Rich Pierce
Discussed was the following:

- Citizen attendee, Mr. Preston, asked what the plan was for the fiscal year as he had seen many posts on Facebook of projects going on. He stated he sees a lot of complaints from citizens that were not informed of water valve replacements in a timely manner and wanted to know why it was not being announced sooner. The Committee explained that since this was a special meeting, they could only talk about the topics that had been announced for the meeting, but they would bring his concerns up at the next Council meeting and would love for him to attend.

- The Committee read the Fire Department contracts that would be a first read at the October 14th Council Meeting. Fire Chief Rich Pierce present for the meeting explained that he felt they had been asked to attend this meeting because they currently store one of their firetrucks in a Village owned building. Pierce explained that the FD carries insurance on the truck that is stored in the building through Volunteer Fireman's Insurance Services (VFIS). Councilperson Smith asked if the Fire Department could get the Village a copy of the insurance policy on the truck. Pierce stated he would get that for them. Smith then asked who pays the water bill for the Fire Department, it was explained that the Fire Department pay's the water bill usage for the building, toilets, showers, cooking and cleaning. Smith asked if the Department was ok with this since the Police Department does not pay a water bill. Pierce explained they were fine with it. The bills are around $60.00 and he feels that they should pay the bill since they use showers at the department where the police do not have showers at their office. The Committee asked if they should have a contract with the Fire Department for them using a Village building for storage of a firetruck, everyone agreed, which was the other purpose for the FD attending as there was a contract initiated and some of the details needed ironed out in order to complete the contract. Pierce explained that when the Township owned the property, they had a contract where they paid the Township a dollar ($1) for a hundred (100) years.

- The Village received two (2) LOI (Letter of Interest), as advertised, for bids from engineers on the Safe Routes to School Project (SRTS). The Committee opened the bids and reviewed them. They did not pick an engineer as there were no costs included in the LOIs. The Committee felt they could not make a decision without knowing the Finances.

- The HRA was a discussed. Councilperson Smith explained that the HRA was set up wrong in the initial stages, she stated that she had inquired for a year-to-date report to see if there were any

changes that needed to be made for the 2026 year and that is when she found that two (2) employees had been overpaid and one was close to being overpaid.
The Committee asked how they needed to handle this, it was stated that the employees would have to pay the overage back. Mayor Wolford stated they needed to discuss it with the Village Solicitor and see what she suggested. Smith stated that she had talked to Acrisure and they stated they could correct the HRA for the rest of the 2025 year. The Committee would like to get legislation to correct the HRA and get it passed as soon as possible.

- The wage ordinance was an important topic in the eyes of the committee, Mayor Wolford explained that he does not like "percent wage increases". He explained he prefers a "tier system"; raises such as is already in place for the laborers and the pool lifeguards. Smith stated she had an issue with the raise for the Chief of Police; she stated it was a huge jump compared to surrounding entities. Mr. Ludinich explained that he was concerned that if the Committee did not give raises that employees would leave and that Chief Bourne is the best Chief the town has had in years. The Committee stated they understood and asked if he had any ideas of where they could get the funds from for the pay increase. Mayor Wolford explained that the payroll comes out of the general fund and the funds are not there for it and the only way to increase the funds is to get businesses in town or increase the citizens taxes and none of the committee would want to do that. It was stated that at some point an employee should cap out according to their knowledge for the job. Mayor Wolford explained that Chief Bourne had applied to two different jobs since he has been Mayor and the only reason he has stayed is because of the benefits that come with this job. Mayor Wolford also explained that is how he got Brian Gast to come to work for the Village, the benefits that come with it. Smith explained that if you look at the income and then add the benefits, the benefits make up for the pay and that if an employee was to go somewhere else their benefits would not be as good; as with the medical insurance and Village paid Vision and Dental, they would likely be paying double what they are currently paying. The Committee asked if raises could be done on a merit base system since the mayor knows more about how the employees do day to day. Gast brought up that when looking at raises the committee needed to look into the mayors pay as he jumps in and helps with projects that the laborers have when they need an extra hand. Council person Ross agreed that the mayor's pay needed adjusted.

The meeting ended at 7:40 P.M.

- **Council member Smith explained that the HRA was set up wrong and needed to be fixed**
- **The committee would like to do merit-based raises, as they do not want to do a flat rate raise across the board.**
- **Mayor Wolford explained the Village cannot afford to pay the employees what they are worth**
- **Mayor Wolford stated he would be doing evaluations starting in November**
- **Concerning the LOIs-It was noted that with an LOI there are no financials included in the RFP. Mayor Wolford had disclosed this to them at the special meeting but FO Grable was unable to attend so there were unanswered questions. The committee did then review the LOIs once again and used the scoring pages provided by Ben Boyer with ODOT, to choose**

an engineer for the project. Questions that arose were concerning using ADR and Associates again as we had been working with them on other projects, was this a conflict of interest. FO Grable will send an email explaining the processes in greater detail for all to be on the same page.

Board of Public Affairs:

Met 9/30/2025

The Board of Public Affairs met at the Village Office at 3:00 P.M. with the following in attendance. Dave Ludininch, Kenny Jenkins, James Wriston, Mayor Wolford, and Office Assistant Whitney Evans.

The Board went over the minutes from the meeting in August.
Motion to approve: Jim Wriston
2nd: Kenny Jenkins

The Board went over the adjustment report and monthly water reports for August.

Mayor Wolford explained to the Board that the Village had been replacing water valves around the village. It was explained that the money for the water valves has to be used by the end of October.

There was no other new or old business to be discussed.

Motion to adjourn:
Dave Ludininch
2nd: Jim Wriston

The next Board of Public Affairs meeting will be held Tuesday October 28, 2025 at 3:00 P.M. at the Village Office.

INCOME TAX:

Paperwork was included in the packets with updated information for RITA

PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT: (the following info in regular type is the committees' notes, **the bold letters are what was discussed during the council meeting**)

Did not meet

- **Mayor Wolford brought to Councils attention items concerning the Village Pool: that the pool liner installation was complete and that the laborers were working on winterizing the**

pool, that the pool would need replaced in the future as it's condition was failing, Mayor Wolford explained that they will have to fill the pool through the filtering system to avoid having water leak behind the new liner; but he stated that is the way they have been filling the pool recently anyhow, Council member Resinger asked if a footer drain could be put in to avoid the water accumulation behind the liner? would this issue stop operation of the pool?, it was stated that the pool could still operate. There were several repairs made to the concrete around the pool during the liner installation process.

- **Fiscal Officer Grable stated that with the grant received from ODNR for a partial amount of the liner funding, the Village is required to file a form with the Muskingum County Recorder stating that the usage of the funds would have a fifteen (15) year life.**
- **Mayor Wolford noted that Solicitor Bennington was working with the school on the property of the pickleball courts and the bulk water but all the school wanted was to rewrite the previous contract that was in place**

SAFETY COMMITTEE:
Did not meet

ZONING REPORT: (the following info in regular type is the committees' notes, **the bold letters are what was discussed during the council meeting)**

September 2025 Zoning Meeting

Attending Mayor Wolford, Jeff Robinson, Emmett Reisinger, and Anita Brock

Mayor Wolford brought a question to the committee from Shalimar wanting to know if they could put in tiny homes. After discussion it was decided no, modulars would be ok.

Have contacted the Muskingum County mapping department requested an upgraded map and larger size. There is need of updates in zoning sections which the zoning committee is addressing.

There have been several improvements on properties in Village, and hopefully more to come.

- **Mayor Wolford explained that there were a lot of improvements with zoning in the Village since he has taken the position of Mayor.**
- **Wolford also explained that a citizen had built a garage before it was approved by the zoning committee.**
- **The Committee is going to rezone some of 2nd Street as most of it is zoned commercial**
- **Mayor Wolford explained that Shalimar is zoned as a trailer park so all the committee can do is tell them they don't want tiny homes in Frazeysburg.**

POLICE REPORT:

October 2025 Report to Council and Jackson Township

Statistics for September 2025 [vs previous month]:

Total Incidents: 70 [70]

Calls for Service: 49 [40]

Traffic Stops: 21 [30]

Citations/Criminal Summons Issued: [15]:

Arrests made: 2 [0]

Notes for the Month:

We remained steady for the month, with approximately the same number of incidents. Calls were slightly up, and traffic stops were normal. With everything going on in the world I would like everyone to really make an effort to pay attention to places of worship and learning and be mindful of any suspicious activity and take any threats seriously. As always, please call the Muskingum County Sheriff's Office dispatch to report any such issues. 740-452-3637

Jackson Township:

Of the 49 calls for service, 12 [11] were in Jackson Township. They were as follows:

09/03 ID theft, Scout Rd., Took report for complainant

09/04 Trespassing, Cannon Rd, Caller wanted it documented

09/04 Rolling Domestic, SR 16 WB, UTL,

09/08 Reckless Driver, SR 16 WB, Located cars but no reckless driving observed

09/11 Unknown 911 (cell phone), Baker Rd, UTL anything in the area

09/12 Inj. Crash, SR16 MP4, Assisted OSP

09/13 Road Hazard, Poss drunk on MC, Raiders Rd., Located in Village, Made arrest for warrant out of GCSO

09/15 Inj. Crash, Shannon Rd, Assisted OSP

09/16 Assist MCSO Det., West Carlisle Rd,

09/24 Road Rage, SR 16/586, Assisted SO with investigation

09/29 Dog at Large, Hamby Hill, UTL

09/30 Crash, West Carlisle, Driver GOA, Made contact with owner in CC for OSP and assisted in investigation.

(Calls in other Jurisdictions to follow...)

Calls in other Jurisdictions:

Dresden:

09/01 Fight, Main St, assisted Dresden officer

09/19 Threats, Main St, Assisted deputy with follow up in Jackson Twp related to their case in Dresden, Report given

09/19 Officer needs Assistance, E. Muskingum Ave., Assisted deputies in securing combative subject, UOF report

Cass Township:

09/12 Reckless Driver WB SR 16 from Stillwell, UTL

09/17 Reckless Driver WB SR 16 from CC line, Located vehicle and stopped in Jackson Twp. to hold for deputies, Drugs found, driver removed from roadway, report given

09/29 Assist CCSO with DV, Located on SR 16, One assist.

Licking Township:

09/29 Check Welfare, Newark Rd, Assisted deputies in making contact with relative of woman found walking in road barefoot and confused.

As always please be sure to keep an eye out for any suspicious activity and report it to the Muskingum County Sheriff's Dispatch center at 740-452-3637 or call 911 in case of an emergency.

FIRE REPORT: NONE RECEIVED Admin had forgot to tell FD that the meeting was moved because of the lack of electricity to the building on October 14, 2025

EMS	Fire	Misc	Total
#	#	#	#
Village	**Jackson**	**Pike**	**Hanover**
#	#	#	#
Falls Twp. Mut Aid #	**Licking Twp. Mut Aid** #	**Mary Ann Mut Aid** #	**Tri-Valley Mut Aid** #

Walhonding-

LEGISLATION:

FIRST READING:

- **RESOLUTION 44-25** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF FRAZEYSBURG TO ENTER INTO A FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL

SERVICES PROTECTION CONTRACT WITH THE FRAZEYSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

- **RESOLUTION 45-25** A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRE PREVENTION OFFICER FOR 2026
- **RESOLUTION 46-25** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REHIRING OF ELIASHA BOURNE AS POLICE CHIEF FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026
- **RESOLUTION 47-25** A RESOLUTION TO HIRE ATTORNEY TAYLOR BENNINGTON AS SOLICITOR FOR THE VILLAGE OF FRAZEYSBURG FOR THE YEAR 2026
- **RESOLUTION 49-25** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH JACKSON TOWNSHIP, TO PROVIDE POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 2026
- **ORDINANCE 20-25** AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS, DEFINING DUTIES AND PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION THEREOF **TABLED**

SECOND READING: NONE

THIRD READING: NONE

NEW AND EMERGENCY:

Council member Smith made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel, Second Reisinger FIVE (5) YEAS, ZERO (0) NAYS

Council member Laughton made a motion to return from executive session, Second Smith FIVE (5) YEAS, ZERO (0) NAYS

Council member Laughton stated the Council had decided to table this Resolution till the next meeting citing the need for an opinion from the Solicitor:

- **RESOLUTION 43-25** A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE HEALTH REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT (HRA) WITH THE VILLAGE OF FRAZEYSBURG THAT BEGAN OCTOBER 1, 2024 TO CLARIFY INFORMATION THAT WAS OUTLINED IN ERROR IN THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- **RESOLUTION 48-25**
  Motion Laughton, Second Smith suspending the rules on A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND APPROVING THE THIRD QUARTER QUARTERLY WATER AND SEWER ADJUSTMENTS PROCESSED BY THE VILLAGE WATER CLERK; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion Laughton, Second Reisinger adopting A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND APPROVING THE THIRD QUARTER QUARTERLY WATER AND SEWER ADJUSTMENTS PROCESSED BY THE VILLAGE WATER CLERK; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- **ORDINANCE 21-25**
  Motion Laughton, Second Reisinger suspending the rules on AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE LETTER OF INTENT (LOI) FROM ADR AND ASSOCIATES, LLC. FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT RECEIVED FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

  Motion Laughton, Second Hindel adopting AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE LETTER OF INTENT (LOI) FROM ADR AND ASSOCIATES, LLC. FOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT RECEIVED FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT); AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
  - ❖ Note also the discussion on LOIs stated in the Finance Committee portion of the minutes which apply to this Ordinance.

- **DISCUSSION/COMMENTS and MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**:

- Council member Ross explained that she would be co hosting a live stream with Darrell Bragg from RD Energy about Aggregation for the Village of Frazeysburg
- Mayor Wolford advised that as his concerns about the safety of the students walking on Third Street to either the school or the one bus stop for older students at the old grade school are an important issue with him, he contacted Rodney Ashcraft, the Transportation director for Tri- Valley Schools, about having a bus stop at Shalimar to help with student safety along Third Street. Mr. Ashcraft stated he would like to have a stop there, but it's an Ohio rule that it had to be a mile away from the school for the bus to stop. The Fire Department is now assisting with student crossings at the Traffic Light on Third Street to ensure the safety of the Village children.

- **VISITOR COMMENT:**

- Attendee Melissa Evans explained that she feels Chief Bourne deserves a raise as he does so much for the town. She explained that he is always out patrolling when the school kids are walking to school and that he helps the mail ladies out when they need anything.

Motion Hindel, Second Laughton to adjourn at 7:27 p.m., until November 10th, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the Township Hall, located at the corner of Second Street and State Street in Frazeysburg, Ohio. **FIVE (5) YEAS, ZERO (0) NAYS**

_____
Mrs. KC Smith

_____
Ms. Carol Ross

_____
Mr. Kurt Laughton

_____
Mr. Emmett Reisinger

_____
Mr. Paul Hindel

_____
Vacant seat

_____
Mayor Fred R. Wolford, Jr.

_____
Fiscal Officer Natalie Stillion Grable

All formal actions of the Village of Frazeysburg concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised