

Regular Council September 1, 2026

Meeting came to order with Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was answered by Cou. K. Broker, Brace, Grieger, S. Broker, & Fresch. Cou. Drossman was absent. Cou. K. Broker made motion to accept & dispense with reading minutes; 2nd by Cou. Grieger. Accepted by all. Cou. K. Broker made motion to accept reports; 2nd by Cou. Grieger. Accepted by all. Cou. K. Broker made motion to pay bills; 2nd by Cou. Grieger. Accepted by all.

VISITOR TO MEETING:

Judy Johnson spoke on behalf of some of the residents of the village, regarding the re classifying of streets to alleys in order to lower speed limit. She said we need better communication between residents and council. She wants residents to ask questions, express concerns, and look for alternatives before decisions are made by council. She said residents were not properly informed. She said an ODOT survey should have been done. She expressed concerns regarding long term consequences. She said that according to a police study significant speeding in the village is not a factor. She suggested calling the sheriff if residents witness speeding when our officers are not on duty. A referendum petition has been completed on Ord. 2026-09. The residents that signed it would like it put on the ballot for a vote. 185 people signed the petition. She wants people to be respectful of each other, whether they agree or not. She handed referendum petition to clerk.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor spoke and gave brief history of how we came to this point regarding the speed limits. The re-classification of the roads was a lawful way to lower the speed limits. Mayor stated he felt 15 mph was too slow and liked 20 mph better. The streets are narrow and short so the state sets the limit at 15 mph if they are labeled alleys. That is why council decided to go in that direction. He said council has had numerous complaints regarding speeding. Since we do not have sidewalks, the health and safety of residents and children was a priority. Council wanted to be proactive before a tragedy occurs. The police did a two-week study and did not find significant speeding. Mayor Gwinner recommends council rescind Ord. 2026-09 until we do more research and gather more information and get all questions answered. He also suggests trying other measures such as stronger

enforcement and ODOT flashing signs. He stated that he has no control over council. He only votes in the case of a tie. He said he has never seen so much bashing on social media as the past weeks. Mayor stated that from now on we will do three readings on ordinances to make sure residents know what is going on.

Cou. K. Broker made motion to set aside rules on Res. 2026-07 (rescinding Ord. 2026-09 which lowered speed limits and classified streets as alleys); 2nd by Cou. Brace. Accepted by all. Cou. K. Broker made motion to adopt Res. 2026-07; 2nd by Cou. Brace. Accepted by all.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cou. K. Broker made motion to set aside rules on Res. 2026-06 (accepting tax rates and levies from the budget commission); 2nd by Cou. Grieger. Accepted by all. Cou. K. Broker made motion to adopt Res. 2026-06; 2nd by Cou. Grieger. Accepted by all.

Cou. K. Broker made motion to set aside rules on Res. 2026-08 (adopting the Emergency Management Agency mitigation plan); 2nd by Cou. Grieger. Accepted by all. Cou. K. Broker made motion to adopt Res. 2026-08. Accepted by all.

Cou. Brace met with ODNR forestry department employee. They checked the trees in Bay View and said we have a problem. He will come back in the fall and tag trees (red need to come down as soon as possible) and yellow (need to be kept an eye on). There is an option for those that can't afford to have a tree trimmed or removed. It can be assessed to the property owner's taxes over some years. If a neighbor's tree borders a property line, branches can be trimmed back to property line to keep branches off the others' property. The representative from ODNR is willing to come to the village and speak and explain the programs. There is no grant money available for this year, but may possibly be next year. If all the trees that need to come down in the village were taken down, it would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Cou. Fresch asked for update on the street dept. building. Cou. S. Broker said we are waiting on concrete and will put bids out for electrical work. Cou. S. Broker stated that years ago the village bought a lot of equipment that sat outside and ultimately was junked for scrap due to being out in the weather for years, thus

the need for a garage for keeping our current equipment in good condition. The life expectancy of the building is fifty years to life. The cost of paving E. Bay View Drive is around \$250,000 with life expectancy of 10-15 years. Cou. S. Broker said he was in charge of getting bids for the project and only three responded with acceptable bids. He brought information to council who went with the lowest and best bid. Resident said the matter should have been put on the ballot. Mayor said talk of putting up a building has been going on for years. He reiterated that going forward we will do three readings on ordinances so all are aware.

Regarding the bidding process, solicitor stated that he reviewed past solicitor Kaufman's records. He said we used the RFP process (request for proposals). The purpose of bidding is to get the lowest and best bid. Cou. S. Broker solicited eight places with specs and requirements and only three were acceptable. The spirit and intent were put out for the lowest and best contractor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Resident said he comes to meetings and said being on council is a thankless job and people should run for office if they are unhappy. He stated council has talked about putting up a building for years which people would know if they came to meetings. As far as the speed limits, the people spoke and council listened and rescinded the ordinance. - He said we shouldn't call names.

Judy Johnson said she will let it be known which company responded to her request for senior rates for tree removal.

Resident thanked council for their decision tonight. She questioned equipment not being used, suggested we sell it. She questioned bidding out work.

Resident with autistic son asked council for speed bumps for his street and said he was told yes in the past. Wants to know when he can get them. Mayor said they are still looking into it.

Fire Chief said speed bumps are not a problem for the fire dept. vehicles.

Resident suggested recording meetings, maybe Facebook live.

Jeanne Congdon thanked all who came out for the 75th anniversary celebration. She said she often sees cars speeding by her home on W. Bay View Drive. She

stated she walked out of the meeting last Sunday because there was so much bashing of the mayor and council. She suggests we all come together to get along.

Deena Brace said she loves this village and suggests people come to meetings and ask questions. Also, talk to your council people outside of meetings too with concerns.

Police Chief said the department gave out 20 warnings this past month.

Someone suggested putting up a camera for speeding.

Cou. Brace made motion to adjourn; 2nd by Cou. K. Broker.

ATTEST:

Respectfully submitted,

Larry D. Gwinner, Mayor

Marsha K. Schenk, Clerk