

**Council for the Village of Yellow Springs
Regular Session Minutes**

In Council Chambers @6:00 P.M.

Monday, July 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President of Council Gavin DeVore Leonard called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Present were Vice President DeVore Leonard and Council members Brian Housh and Carmen Brown. Sarah Sparks was present filling in for Blankenship; Elyse Giardullo was present as Acting Village Manager, filling in for Manager Burns. President Stokes was out of town. Gustafson joined the meeting at 6:07.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Housh announced that there is traditionally no first meeting in August. He noted the following July events: Art on the Lawn; Beloved Community meal, and ribbon cutting for Cascades affordable housing complex.

Brown reported that she is employed on a working farm for adults with disabilities. She reached out to the Village to request a tour of the wastewater treatment plant for their celebration of "Water Week". Brown shared that Brad Ault and the WWTP team had provided a great tour and information session for a group of their farmers.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of July 7, 2025 Regular Meeting
2. Credit Card Statement for June

Brown MOVED and Housh SECONDED a MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES of July 7, 2025. The MOTION PASSED 4-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

Brown MOVED and Gustafson SECONDED a MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE CREDIT CARD STATEMENT. The MOTION PASSED 4-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

There were no changes made.

PETITIONS/COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk will receive and file:

Mayor's Clerk re: Monthly Reports (2)
Mayor's Clerk re: Quarterly Report
Alex Scott re: Home, Inc. Flier

DeVore Leonard reviewed communications.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/LEGISLATION

Reading of Resolution 2025-40 Authorizing the Village Manager to Renew Health Insurance for Village Employees. Housh MOVED and Brown SECONDED a MOTION TO APPROVE.

Robinson noted that when Council approved the Village to join the Ohio Benefits Collaborative for the purpose of attaining lowered insurance rates, she informed Council that the renewal month for OBC is September,

meaning that the Village would need to approve premiums twice in 2025 to get on the correct schedule. The resolution at hand achieves that purpose, she said, and the amount of increase is 3%.

DeVore Leonard CALLED THE VOTE, and the MOTION PASSED 4-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

Reading of Resolution 2025-41 Approving a Lease Agreement with the Yellow Springs Chamber of Commerce for the Train Station. Brown MOVED and Gustafson SECONDED a MOTION TO APPROVE.

Giardullo explained that the Chamber has occupied the Train Station for over 20 years under a lease agreement with the Village. In April 2020, the Village extended a 12-month rent and internet fee grace period in response to the economic challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. That grace period ended on April 1, 2021.

During a recent review of Village leases, staff discovered that due to staff transitions within the Chamber, lease payments did not resume as expected after the grace period ended.

Giardullo noted that the current Chamber Director has been working with Village staff and the Solicitor to arrange a payment schedule, and that all parties are satisfied with the arrangement, which is noted as a part of the resolution for the current lease.

Housh suggested two minor corrections—one to the resolution and one to the lease agreement.

DeVore Leonard CALLED THE VOTE, and the MOTION PASSED 4-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

CITIZEN CONCERNS

Steve Green asked Council to intercede with Tecumseh Land Trust concerning his desire to replace walnut trees growing next to his property next to the Glass Farm, which is conserved, and has a restriction preventing removal of any native species.

John Blakelock expressed concern regarding what he characterized as storm sewer backups due to the Union Schoolhouse rebuild affecting his property.

SPECIAL REPORTS

There were no Special Reports.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Giardullo thanked Council for their support of the Village Electric Crew's second trip to the Navajo Nation to assist in "Light Up Navajo Nation". She reported that the crew is on the ground and working to connect homes to the power grid.

Village Grapevine hits mailboxes this week.

Giardullo noted the success of July 4th events and thanked those involved.

Safety Village concluded last week, and thanks were offered to those making it happen.

Barricades on Short Street are due for a facelift as Meter Reader and artist Travis Hotaling will be painting the barricades with a mural.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Brown noted a good flow of candidates for open Commission positions.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Aug. 4: NO MEETING
- Aug. 18: Executive Session re: To Consider the Compensation of a Public Employee
Greene County Department of Health Levy (Announcements)
Quarterly Financials
Treasurer Report
Review of Council Rules and Procedures
Resolution 2025-xx Certifying Delinquent Water, Sewer, Trash, and Electric Bills to the Auditor of Greene County, State of Ohio, for Placement on the Greene County Tax Duplicate
Resolution 2025-xx Authorizing the Removal of Defunct and Uncollectible Utility Account Balances from the Utility Billing System of the Village of Yellow Springs for the Years 2023 and 2024
- Sept. 2: Council Special Events Budget Requests Due
- Sept. 15: **First Reading of Ordinance 2025-XX** Accepting Annexation from Miami Township to the Village of Yellow Springs of 28.211 Acres of Property Located East of East Enon Road and North of Dayton Street
- Oct. 1: Council Work Session: Budget-1
- Oct. 6: **Second Reading and Public Hearing of Ordinance 2025-XX** Accepting Annexation from Miami Township to the Village of Yellow Springs of 28.211 Acres of Property Located East of East Enon Road and North of Dayton Street
- Oct. 15: Council Work Session: Budget-2
- Oct. 20:
- Oct. 22: Council Work Session: Budget-3
- Nov. 3: 2026 Budget Ordinance and Council Motions for Amendment
- Nov. 17: Second Reading of 2026 Budget Ordinance

*Future Agenda items are noted for planning purposes only and are subject to change.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:27pm, Brown MOVED TO ADJOURN. Gustafson SECONDED, and the MOTION PASSED 4-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

Signed: _____
Gavin DeVore Leonard, Council Vice President

Attest: _____
Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council