

**Council for the Village of Yellow Springs
Special Meeting Minutes: Retreat**

In Council Chambers @ 9-4pm

Friday, January 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

President of Council Gavin DeVore Leonard called the meeting to order at 9am.

ROLL CALL

Present were Council President DeVore Leonard, Vice President Angie Hsu and Council members Carmen Brown, Senay Semere and Stephanie Pearce. Solicitor Amy Blankenship, AVM/Project Lead Elyse Giardullo and Village Manager Johnnie Burns were also present.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

DeVore Leonard chaired the retreat. Facilitated discussion was held on a variety of topics, primarily as reflected below, with all topics returning to regular Council meetings for further discussion or final determinations.

Council/Staff/Community interactions: Who directs whom; How best to communicate ideas, decisions and concerns within this framework.

Stop/Start Continue List: General discussion related to extent of Village's responsibilities and need to prioritize any projects outside of provision of essential services.

- list of current projects
- list of proposed projects

Process for introducing new projects or initiatives.

Work Sessions: How frequent; hold regularly or as needed.

Commissions/Boards: Overview, scope, history, and conversation regarding level of interest in continuing a particular commission, adding a commission and/or serving as liaison. Final determinations set for 2/2.

Council Rules: Overview and timeline as to when/how these come to Council

- discussion of meeting protocol and use of Robert's Rules

Village Values/Village Goals: Overview and timeline as to when/how these come to Council /how to effectively use strategy screen as a vetting tool.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:09pm DeVore Leonard MOVED and Brown SECONDED a MOTION TO ADJOURN. The MOTION PASSED 5-0 ON A VOICE VOTE.

Signed: _____

Gavin DeVore Leonard, Council President

Attest: _____

Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council