

Village of Van Buren

Record of Proceedings
Held: march 16, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Council met in regular session with Mayor Ed May presiding. Roll call was answered by:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ashley Little | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boston Beitzel |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Wills | <input type="checkbox"/> Natalie Walters |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Heitkamp | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Coleman |

Minutes of the February meeting were presented and reviewed by council. Motion made by Don Wills, second by Eric Heitkamp to dispense with reading of minutes and pass as written. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer report, credit card statement and Bank reconciliation were presented to council.

The following bills were reviewed by Council:

Date	Account	Description	Amount
3/11/2026	ED MAY ZONING	PAYROLL	\$ 266.67
3/11/2026	ED MAY MAYOR	PAYROLL	\$ 200.00
3/11/2026	GREG AYERS	PAYROLL	\$ 350.00
3/11/2026	ASHLEY LITTLE	PAYROLL	\$ 50.00
3/11/2026	BOSTON BEITZEL	PAYROLL	\$ 50.00
3/11/2026	DON WILLS	PAYROLL	\$ 50.00
3/11/2026	ERIC HEITKAMP	PAYROLL	\$ 66.67
3/11/2026	NATALIE WALTERS	PAYROLL	\$ 50.00
3/11/2026	ERIC COLEMAN	PAYROLL	\$ 50.00
3/11/2026	AEP	STREET LIGHTS	\$ 1,865.18
3/11/2026	AEP	ELECTRICITY	\$ 36.65
3/11/2026	HANCOCK COUNTY SHERIFF	PATROL	\$ 715.00
3/11/2026	GREG AYERS	INTERNET	\$ 44.85
3/11/2026	UNITED STAES POST OFFICE	PO BOX	\$ 106.00
3/11/2026	ALL TREE	STORM CLEAN UP	\$ 800.00
3/11/2026	HF&W	LEGAL SERVICES	\$ 1,000.00

Motion made by Ashley Little to pay bills, second by Boston Beitzel. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS – Joe Fenimore was present to discuss the Findlay Slugger baseball team and organization.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS/OLD BUSINESS

ROB – LAW AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE: Provides legal advice to the Village Council, the Mayor, and Village’s various committees. Additionally, discuss revisions to correct out-of-date ordinances, address requests for changes from the public and Village Administration, and create new ordinances to address new issues as needed:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- Working on an open burn ordinance.

ERIC C. – RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Provides the mayor if any issues communicated from the Village Residents or issues that needs to be address by Council such as abandoned vehicles, tall grass, trash, nuisances, dilapidated structures, and junk on premises:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- No report.

GREG – FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE: Provides recommendations and reviews the Village’s Revenue and Expenditure reports against the annual budget estimates and reports this information to the Council, seek grants, responsible for the compliance of the Village’s records policy, and issues Solicitation Permits:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- A third reading for ordinance 2026-2, AN ORDINANCE IN THE VILLAGE OF VAN BUREN, OHIO, REGULATING DANGEROUS DOGS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was heard. Don Wills moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-2, with a second from Ashley Little. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0.
- A third reading for ordinance 2026-3, AN ORDINANCE IN THE VILLAGE OF VAN BUREN, OHIO, DESIGNATING A DUTY TO KEEP SIDEWALKS IN REPAIR AND CLEAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was heard. Eric Heitkamp moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-3, with a second from Boston Beitzel. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0.
- A second reading for Ordinance 2026-4, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOROF THE VILLAGE OF VAN BUREN TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND TRUE GREEN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was heard. Don Wills moved to suspend all rules and pass as an emergency, with a second from Eric Heitkamp. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0. Don Will moved to adopt ordinance 2026-4, with a second from Ashley Little. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0.
- A second reading for Ordinance 2026-5, AN ORDINANCE AUTORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF VAN BUREN TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND OHIO CONCRETE SOLUTIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was heard.

ASHLEY and BOSTON - BEAUTIFICATIONS AND COMMUNITY EVENT COMMITTEE: Provides opportunities to build relationships between neighbors through engagements in beautification projects and entertainment/festival events that showcases the Village as well as making our Village the best it can be:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- Ashley and Boston have started their planning for the Village Jamboree.

ERIC –PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Provides and maintains public relations for the Village Council through advocacy, transparency and improvement of communications, media, and policies:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- Updates to Village website continue.

DON – INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE: Provides the mayor recommendations or concerns with any trees, streets including striping and signage, sidewalks, curbs deteriorations, water, sanitary, storm water collection systems including manhole/catch basins, street lights and weather siren are malfunctioning, and lane/street vacation:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- 2026 OPWC grant to pave South Main Street- bid was \$97,995 and the Villages share will be \$48,997.50.
- Currently working on the 2027 OPWC grant for North Main in 2027.

NATALIE – ASSET COMMITTEE: Provides the mayor with improvements or reports of any damages to Hoadley Park, Village Square, Post Office, and Acquisitions:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- Ed May commented that he met with Natalie, the flag pole at the park is near completion.
- Working on a grant with Nature Works that could combine with Park District grant for the paving of Hoadley Park parking lot.

ED – PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: Provides recommendations to the Village Council on all issues related to the Village's zoning code and subdivision regs including changes to the code and requests to rezone lots:

▪ **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

- No report.

NEW BUSINESS

A first reading for Ordinance 2026-6, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF AN AMMENDED APPROPRIATION OF NEW MONEY NOT PREVIOUSLY BUDGETED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was heard. Eric Heitkamp moved to suspend all rules and pass as an emergency, with a second from Don Wills. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0. Don Wills moved to adopt Ordinance 2026-6, with a second from Boston Beitzel. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0.

A first reading for Ordinance 2026-7, AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was heard.

A first reading for Ordinance 2026-8, AN ORDINANCE IN THE VILLAGE OF VAN BUREN, OHIO, REGULATING THROUGH TRUCKSON VILLAGE ROADS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was heard.

Amended rates were presented to Council. Eric Heitkamp moved to adopt Resolution 2026-2, AMENDED RATES FOR 2026, with a second from Ashley Little. Roll call taken; motion passed 5-0.

With no further items on the agenda, Eric Heitkamp moved to adjourn, a second from Ashley Little. All votes yea, meeting adjourned.

Ed May, Mayor

Greg Ayers, Village Clerk