

**OTTAWA HILLS VILLAGE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

September 16, 2024 7:00 PM

Call to Order – Mayor Thompson

7:00 PM

Village Representatives in Attendance

Mayor Thompson
Councilwoman Dana Dunbar
Councilman Dan Wimmers
Councilwoman Wendy Greeley
Solicitor Kati Tharp

Councilman Edward Shimborske III
Councilwoman Heather Phillips
Councilman John Lewis
Village Administrator John Wenzlick

Citizen Attendees

Nasrin Afjeh
Yarko Kuk
Carol Nichols
Rev. Gayle Catinella

Larry Nameche
Scott Medling
Jason Medling
Chris Amato

Swearing In

Mayor Thompson introduced and swore in Officer Koch.

Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shimborske to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2024, Council meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Mrs. Afjeh stated that the resolutions and ordinances that are being presented today should not be passed, except for Resolution 2024-18. She believes the Village is spending a lot of money without the doing a survey on the need.

Jason Medling stated that he thinks a speed bump needs to be added on Brookside near the sidewalk and we should add signs reminding drivers to drive slowly.

Mayor Thompson read the entirety of Resolution 2024-18.

Resolution 2024-18

A resolution recognizing October 29th through November 4th, 2024, as Intentional Acts of Kindness Week.

Motion to waive three readings:

Motion –	Ms. Phillips
Second –	Mrs. Dunbar
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion –	Ms. Phillips
Second –	Ms. Dunbar

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Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers,
Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis,
Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley

Nays (0) –

Rev. Gayle Catinella thanked Council and stated this year is stressful with the political climate in the nation. It's nice to bring it back home and be decent to each other. Mrs. Nichols shared the neighbor-to-neighbor initiative has 40 community partners and they have raised money toward spreading the word that being a neighbor brings value. Mrs. Nichols shared the efforts made have had a difference and she has heard many anecdotal accounts whose relationships with their neighbors have improved. Mrs. Nichols stated they are hoping to extend this energy to the Village.

Finance and Future Planning – Mr. Lewis

Mr. Lewis stated they had a committee meeting on August 8th and the Committee is looking at 5-year projections. A lot of the work has been done in preparation for the Committee of the Whole meeting and long-range planning.

Human Resources – Ms. Phillips

Ms. Phillips stated with the community engagement they have put out more suggestions and encouragements on block parties. She stated she had a lot of people reaching out looking into block parties.

Safety – Mrs. Dunbar

Mrs. Dunbar stated the Committee met on August 27th to discuss dog barking, leash regulations and yard work hours. She stated after much discussion, the committee agreed to leave the ordinances in place without modification. She stated that the Deputy Chief felt that there was not much to add to the dog barking ordinance. The leash regulation will be enforced with education and signage. If needed for repeat offenders, they will then take action. She stated they looked at the yard work hours for homeowners in comparison to contractor's hours. The committee did not see a compelling reason to change the hours. She stated that private owners need the extended hours based on their own work hours. There will be another meeting on October 22nd to discuss electric bikes and scooters and how they will impact the Village. They will also discuss the parking ordinance and obstructions in the right-of-way.

Mayor Thompson stated there was mention of an education effort for the dog leash regulations and asked if there could also be an education effort for dog barking. Mrs. Dunbar stated it wouldn't be done the same way but could be done in newsletters. Mayor Thompson stated that if we are going to educate about one ordinance we should educate about the other two ordinances as well. Mrs. Dunbar stated that the education we will be doing for leashes is signage. Mr. Wenzlick stated we can educate through social media and our newsletters. Mrs. Dunbar stated that if an officer sees a dog without a leash, we will inform them about the leash law.

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Services & Environment – Mrs. Greeley

Mrs. Greeley stated the committee had a meeting on September 10th regarding the deer cull and the number of deer to cull for this year. In January of 2022, the deer count was 73 and in January 2023 it was 33 deer. She stated that a count was not done this year as it was decided, due to cost, that it would be done every other year. Last year, the cull took 20 deer with 10 of them being donated. The season runs September 28th to February 2nd and there are about 7 stands throughout the Village for hunters. She stated from 2017-2019 there were about 9 deer that were naturally deceased and now because of the cull, it is down to about 3 deer per year that were naturally deceased. Mrs. Greeley shared the committee is recommending 15 deer for this year. She stated that the cull may not get to 15 but that was the recommendation for this year. Mr. Wenzlick stated he has reached out to The Nature Conservancy, and we are right on target for the need of a floristic assessment which will take place in 2025.

Mr. Lewis stated the previous deer cull was 40 and the committee dropped it way down last year to 20. Mr. Wenzlick stated in 2022 they were counted by a drone and in 2023 they used a plane again. He stated that the drone sounds good, but you can only do so much because the person using the drone must charge the batteries, meaning the count was not all done on the same day. Mayor Thompson stated that counting anything on different days can change the count the next day. Mrs. Dunbar asked if the Village really needs to do counts if they are not reliable. Mr. Lewis asked what the cost of a count is, and Mr. Wenzlick responded that it costs \$6,000. Mrs. Dunbar stated she liked the recommendation of 15 and to see what happens each year with the casualties and the naturally deceased. Also, we need to know if the floral is getting ruined or if there are more deer sightings. Ms. Phillips asked if something prompts the Village to do another count and Mrs. Greeley stated we can visually tell if deer are around or not.

A motion was made by Mrs. Greeley to renew the deer cull with a limit of 15 deer, and Ms. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Wimmers to discontinue the deer count until further notice, and Mrs. Greeley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Streets & Bridges – Mr. Shimborske

Mr. Shimborske stated there was not a committee meeting but there are several resolutions tonight regarding the streets. He stated the mill and fills for 2025 were already decided due to the budget decisions last year. The original OPWC application was for Hardale, Miner, Stableside and Talmadge Road bridge approaches. He stated pipeline funding has been discontinued and we now must resubmit a new grant application for 2025. This application will compete with our 2026 Edgevale application, along with other applications throughout the county. The project has also been scaled down by removing Hardale and Stableside and adding Indian since that portion is in worse shape.

Mr. Wenzlick stated he apologizes for the short notice and once the Village found out pipeline funding was discontinued, he reached out to the Mayor immediately to discuss the Villages options. When pipeline funding was in place, the Village was not able to modify the application

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but since it was discontinued it opened the opportunity to modify the project. Mr. Wenzlick stated it made sense to modify the application as it would benefit more people.

Mr. Shimborske stated we will be working with Lucas County for the 2026 Edgevale Rd construction and water main replacement. The Village must apply for OPWC funds for this project, and we will be the lead agency. There is a resolution for it tonight, along with a resolution for an MOU with Lucas County for the water main replacement. He stated there is also a resolution for the 2026 topographic survey for Edgevale Rd. Mr. Wenzlick stated this is only the survey portion and due to collaborating with Lucas County, and the scope, Fishbeck requested to start the survey this year. They want to get the survey to Lucas County soon. Mr. Shimborske stated that since we are the lead on the project, the Village will pay for the costs and then be reimbursed for the water portion by Lucas County.

Mr. Shimborske stated there is a resolution supporting Lucas County's OPWC efforts for Indian Road water main replacement.

Utilities, Equipment, Buildings & Grounds – Mr. Wimmers

Mr. Wimmers stated there is a committee meeting this Wednesday for a game court request.

Solicitor's Report

No Report

Administrator's Report

No Report

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thompson stated that he spoke with a resident that had positive comments about the service we provided her family for a wedding they held at their residence. The resident stated this quality of service makes it nice to live in Ottawa Hills.

He stated the Ottawa Hills school district received 5 stars, and in terms of ranking, this is very positive for the community.

He stated that as we enter contracts with engineering firms, to some extent, we want to make sure the liability falls on the professional for whom we are contracting with. Mrs. Tharp stated some of it is limited by statute, potentially by the price of the contract.

Mr. Wenzlick stated that the presentation to the State of Ohio is September 24th in relation to the Evergreen Road bridge. He stated hopefully in the next few months we will know what, if any, kind of funding the Village will receive. The bridge replacement is planned to be a 2027 project.

Old Business

Ms. Phillips asked if the Village is still doing the bike rodeo and Mr. Wenzlick responded that it's being done every other year. Ms. Phillips stated in the meeting minutes last time, we were going to put sign regulations in the newsletter and remind people how to register to vote. Mrs. Greeley

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stated the sign ordinances were in a newsletter and asked how it is handled if the residents are breaking the rules. Mr. Wenzlick stated it depends on what it is, if it's a sign in the right of way the Village confiscates it. Mrs. Greeley stated she has seen a lot of signs that are at intersections and asked how those signs are handled. Mr. Wenzlick stated officers pull them if they are seen.

New Business

Ms. Phillips asked if we wanted to make residents aware that The Nature Conservancy offers the service of homeowner land registry. The Nature Conservancy will come out and do an assessment of their land and make recommendations regarding what type of native plants would work for their land. Mr. Wenzlick stated when people call in, he often refers the residents to the Nature Conservancy, and they have been very good at giving recommendations. Mrs. Dunbar stated that we would want to give them a heads-up prior to sending something out to the residents. Mr. Lewis stated The Nature Conservancy mentioned this years ago, but it is good to have the reminder. Mayor Thompson stated that our relationship with them is very positive.

Mrs. Dunbar asked about the cars parked on the lawn by the railroad tracks on Bancroft by Stratford. Mr. Wenzlick stated he is unaware of anything going on that would cause cars to be parked on the lawn.

A motion was made by Mr. Shimborske and seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the payment to Kati Tharp in the amount of \$567.00 for the period of August 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances & Resolutions

Mayor Thompson read Ordinance 2024-7:

Ordinance 2024-7

Making appropriations and deductions from previous amending ordinances 2023-12, 2024-2, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to waive three readings:

Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Ms. Phillips
Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:

Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Ms. Phillips
Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Ms. Phillips

Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers,
Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis,
Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley

Nays (0) –

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Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-16:

Resolution 2024-16	Authorizing the Mayor to submit one or more applications for funding through the Ohio Public Works Commission, and authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements as they may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining such financial assistance, and declaring an emergency.
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Motion to waive three readings:

Motion –	Mr. Shimborske
Second –	Mrs. Greeley
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:

Motion –	Mr. Shimborske
Second –	Mrs. Greeley
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion –	Mr. Shimborske
Second –	Mrs. Greeley

Yeas (6) –	Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers, Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley
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Nays (0) –

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-17:

Resolution 2024-17	Authorizing the Mayor to submit one or more applications for funding through the Ohio Public Works Commission, and authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements as they may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining such financial assistance, and declaring an emergency.
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Motion to waive three readings:

Motion –	Mr. Shimborske
Second –	Mrs. Greeley
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:

Motion –	Mr. Shimborske
Second –	Mrs. Greeley
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion –	Mr. Shimborske
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Second – Mrs. Greeley

Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers,
Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis,
Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley

Nays (0) –

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-19:

Resolution 2024-19	Authorizing a joint Cooperation agreement between the Village of Ottawa Hills and the Board of Lucas County Commissioners for the replacement of the watermain, valves, hydrants and appurtenances on Edgevale Rd., and declaring an emergency
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Motion to waive three readings:

Motion – Mr. Shimborske
Second – Mrs. Greeley
Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:

Motion – Mr. Shimborske
Second – Mrs. Greeley
Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion – Mr. Shimborske
Second – Mrs. Greeley

Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers,
Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis,
Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley

Nays (0) –

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-20:

Resolution 2024-20	Authorizing a contract with Fishbeck for Engineering services related to the 2026 topographic survey for Edgevale Rd., and declaring an emergency.
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Motion to waive three readings:

Motion – Mr. Shimborske
Second – Mrs. Greeley
Unanimous Approval

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Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-21:

Motion to waive three readings:

Motion to adopt legislation:

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-22:

Motion to waive three readings:

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	Second –	Mr. Shimborske Unanimous Approval
Motion to declare an emergency:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mr. Shimborske Unanimous Approval
Motion to adopt legislation:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mr. Shimborske
	Yeas (6) –	Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers, Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley
	Nays (0) –	

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-23:

Resolution 2024-23	Authorizing the Clerk Treasurer to draw on the County Treasury for advances against tax settlement, and declaring an emergency.
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Motion to waive three readings:

	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. Dunbar Unanimous Approval
Motion to declare an emergency:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. Dunbar Unanimous Approval
Motion to adopt legislation:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. Dunbar
	Yeas (6) –	Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers, Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley
	Nays (0) –	

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2024-24:

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Resolution 2024-24

Authorizing the adoption of the Lucas County 2024 multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to waive three readings:

Motion – Mr. Shimborske
Second – Mrs. Greeley
Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:

Motion – Mr. Shimborske
Second – Mrs. Greeley
Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion – Mr. Shimborske
Second – Mrs. Greeley

Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Wimmers,
Ms. Phillips, Mr. Lewis,
Mr. Shimborske, Mrs. Greeley

Nays (0) –

Next Meeting Date
November 11, 2024

Adjournment
8:05pm



Mayor Thompson