

**OTTAWA HILLS VILLAGE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
April 6, 2026 7:00 PM**

Call to Order – Mayor Thompson

7:00 PM

Village Representatives in Attendance

Mayor Thompson
Councilwoman Wendy Greeley
Councilman Mark Mockensturm
Councilman Darren Moore
Councilwoman Heather Phillips

Councilman Dan Wimmers
Village Administrator April McDonald
Solicitor Kati Tharp

Citizen Attendees

Nasrin Afjeh
George Benson
Laura Randall
Phil Runyan
Max Reddish
Tim Heckler

Yarko Kuk
Larry Nameche
Tim Cummins
Elena Stelmaszak
Ann Heckler
Marja Martin

Acting Clerk

A motion was made by Mr. Wimmers and seconded by Ms. Phillips to appoint Ms. McDonald as acting clerk for the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Wimmers to approve the minutes from March 2, 2026, Council meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

There was expressed opposition to the demolition and expansion of the building, indicating a preference for repairing the existing structure and maintaining the character of the area. Concerns were also raised regarding Council's approach to expenditures.

Mrs. Randall addressed Council and read a statement on behalf of Mrs. McCullough expressing appreciation for the continued discussion regarding Ottawa Hills and the use of Village resources in relation to federal agencies.

Mr. Cummins addressed Council regarding the Village's relationship with federal agencies. He expressed appreciation for a recent meeting with Village officials, noting it was productive. He also referred to a similar resolution adopted by the City of Toledo and indicated a desire for continued collaboration with the administration and Council.

Finance & Future Planning – Mr. Mockensturm

Mr. Mockensturm reported that March revenues totaled approximately \$656,000, representing about 11% of the anticipated annual budget, with the majority derived from real estate taxes. Expenditures to date account for approximately 14% of the operating budget.

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He noted special expenses including \$30,000 for the Ten Mile Creek assessment, \$21,000 related to Village Life, and \$67,000 for property and liability insurance. He indicated that an increase in revenue is expected as income tax filings are received.

Human Resources – Ms. Phillips

Ms. Phillips recommended continuing two HSA plans and adding an optional non-HSA PPO plan at employee request. The PPO plan would include a \$2,000 single / \$4,000 family deductible with a 90% employer-paid premium and no additional cost to the Village unless selected.

Ms. McDonald reported the PPO would be new, require employee payroll contributions, and only one enrollee is needed to maintain the plan. She confirmed employees are receptive to the option.

The Village can switch providers, resulting in an estimated annual savings of approximately \$49,000, regardless of plan selection. Employees choosing the PPO plan would not receive the \$1,500 HSA contribution, creating less village cost.

The item is scheduled for action with a May 1 renewal date and will require emergency consideration due to timing.

Safety – Mr. Moore

No report

Services & Environment – Mrs. Greeley

Mrs. Greeley inquired about recent outages and power line placement. Mayor Thompson explained that overhead lines are primarily in older areas and more prone to tree-related issues, while underground lines are used in newer developments. He noted that burying existing lines would be costly and extensive, and that prior tree trimming efforts have led to resident complaints.

Streets & Bridges – Mr. Shimborske

Mayor Thompson introduced discussion on the Edgevale Road project. Ms. McDonald reported the project is awaiting final waterline plans from Lucas County before bidding can proceed, delaying the start until after Memorial Day.

She also noted planned roadway repairs on Indian Road and Manchester ahead of the Glass City Marathon, and bridge boring work beginning April 13 requiring a three-day road closure, with local access maintained. The work is necessary for ODOT compliance and the Evergreen Bridge replacement project. The school has been notified, and student access will be maintained.

Equipment, Utilities, Building & Grounds – Mr. Wimmers

Mr. Wimmers reported on committee activities. The Service Department roof was evaluated and is a candidate for sealant repair, pending reference checks. Soil testing at White Field confirmed the presence of glass; the Village is developing a scope of work and coordinating funding with the Ottawa Hills School Foundation. Planned improvements at Hardman Field, including fencing and infield restoration, will be scoped by engineering and funded by the Foundation. The committee

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also reviewed proposed updates to the Village's cybersecurity policy to require annual departmental accountability, incorporating Nemsys guidance.

Solicitors Report – Mrs. Tharp

No report

Administrator's Report

Ms. McDonald reported that the yard waste program has commenced and will run through October 26, with strong participation. Spring leaf pickup is scheduled for April 6–10, and yard waste dumpsters remain available through April 13, with high usage prompting consideration of an additional shred day.

She also reported preparations for the Glass City Marathon on April 25–26, noting full deployment of Police and Service Department personnel, along with advance street sweeping and patching.

Ms. McDonald stated she will be on vacation beginning tomorrow but will remain available through Friday.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thompson reported on demographic data, noting the percentage of foreign-born residents residing in the Village compared to national and state averages. He summarized a recent meeting with staff, Police Chief Reuther, and community members regarding immigration-related concerns, emphasizing that the Village's role is to provide public safety to all residents, while immigration enforcement remains a federal responsibility. He also summarized a call made from Chief Reuther to ICE to discuss communication protocols.

Mayor Thompson also reported on the annual installation of flower baskets and the need for a bucket truck. Council previously authorized the purchase; a cost analysis supports proceeding, though delivery would not occur until late July, requiring interim outsourcing. Safety concerns with existing equipment were noted. In the absence of objection, the Village will proceed with the purchase. Additional clarification was provided regarding the cost and reuse of hanging baskets.

Old Business

No Report

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Mockensturm and seconded by Ms. Phillips to approve the payments to Kati Tharp in the amount of \$1,505 for the period of February 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Mockensturm and seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the December Cardinal Staffing Invoice. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolutions

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2026-9:

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Resolution 2026-9: Authorizing an agreement with Medical Mutual to provide health insurance benefits for village employees, establishing the amount of employee premium share, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to waive three readings:

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

Motion to declare an emergency:

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

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion – Ms. Phillips
Second – Mrs. Greeley

Yeas (5) – Mrs. Greeley, Mr. Mockensturm
Mr. Moore, Ms. Phillips,
Mr. Wimmers

Nays (0) –

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2026-10:

Resolution 2026-10: Authorizing a contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation for Salt for the 2026/2027 Winter, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to waive three readings:

Motion – Mr. Wimmers
Second – Mr. Moore
Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:

Motion – Mr. Wimmers
Second – Mr. Moore
Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion – Mr. Wimmers
Second – Mr. Moore

Yeas (5) – Mrs. Greeley, Mr. Mockensturm

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Mr. Moore, Ms. Phillips,
Mr. Wimmers

Nays (0) –

Mayor Thompson read Resolution 2026-11:

Resolution 2026-11:	A resolution amending the minutes of the January 13, 2026 regular meeting of council.
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Motion to waive three readings:

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

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion –	Ms. Phillips
Second –	Mr. Mockensturm

Yeas (5) –	Mrs. Greeley, Mr. Mockensturm Mr. Moore, Ms. Phillips, Mr. Wimmers
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Nays (0) –

Unanimous Approval

Citizen Comments

Mr. Nameche reported that recent electrical outages were caused by issues beyond the Village, including a transformer outage at the University of Toledo. Mayor Thompson noted the potential impact of a substation located on the University's campus.

Mr. Cummins stated that additional research had been conducted regarding a previously submitted letter, acknowledging that some assumptions were incomplete. He indicated general agreement on the direction moving forward. Mrs. Tharp noted the issue is new and lacks precedent for communities.

Mr. Runyan expressed concerns regarding the proposed bucket van, stating it represents an upgrade rather than a replacement, and raised issues related to safety, training, liability, and cost.

Mrs. Stelmaszak supported these concerns and emphasized evaluating total costs, including maintenance and training, and raised concerns about transparency and projected healthcare savings.

Mrs. Afjeh stated that the Finance Director position has been filled but has not yet been publicly announced.

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Executive Session

At 7:58pm, Mr. Wimmers made a motion to move into an executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee and for the purpose of conferring with the Village Solicitor in regard to pending or imminent court action and for the purpose of discussing the potential purchase and/or sale of real property Mr. Mockensturm seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:45pm, Council returned to regular session.

Next Meeting Date

May 4, 2026

Adjournment

8:46 pm



Mayor Thompson