

**OTTAWA HILLS VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 4, 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 Edward Shimborske III  
Councilwoman Heather Phillips

Councilman Dan Wimmers  
Village Administrator April McDonald  
Solicitor Kati Tharp

Citizen Attendees

Nasrin Afjeh  
Tim Cummins  
George Benson  
Brian Davis  
Girl Scout Troop 1189

Yarko Kuk  
Jen McCullough  
Max Reddish  
Barb Goodman  
Lori Tomblin

Acting Clerk

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

Swearing In

Chief Reuther introduced Officer Schnoor and Mayor Thompson swore in Officer Schnoor.

Music Series – Max Reddish & Brian Davis

Mr. Reddish thanked Council for the opportunity to present and explained that he and Brian Davis are proposing a summer music series titled “Village Vibes,” consisting of four free events held once per month from June through September on Sunday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The events are intended to provide a relaxed, community-focused atmosphere where residents can enjoy live music, food trucks, and a small marketplace for local goods and crafts. Each event would feature one band and one to two food trucks, with vendors supplying their own tents. Portable restrooms and collapsible cardboard trash receptacles from Keep Lucas County Beautiful would be provided, and Mr. Reddish and Mr. Davis would manage all setup and cleanup. They emphasized that the series would not involve fundraising, raffles, or extensive marketing efforts, relying instead on word of mouth, limited social media, and small yard signs noting the event and its presenters, including Mr. Davis’s State Farm affiliation and Mr. Reddish’s association with Danberry Realtors. The concept is modeled after similar casual community gatherings, such as those in Highland Park, Illinois and Toledo’s Old West End, where residents gather informally to enjoy music and food outdoors.

Ms. McDonald noted that Mrs. Hauck had previously hosted a similar event, “Music at the Point,” and indicated that Mrs. Hauck would defer to Village Vibes if Council chose to proceed. Mr. Reddish clarified that they were not aware of the prior event and would use Mrs. Hauck as a resource for their event. When asked about costs, Mr. Reddish stated that they are not requesting

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funding, only logistical support from the Village, including access to power at Arrowhead Point, temporary road closures, and barricades. Council members expressed general support, with Ms. Phillips highlighting the value of a free, community-led event. Ms. McDonald raised concerns about the impact of road closures on nearby residents, while Mrs. Greeley suggested including two food trucks to provide greater variety and potentially increase attendance. Mayor Thompson concluded that, pending Council's support, further details could be coordinated with admin staff.

A motion was made by Ms. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Mockensturm to approve the Village Vibes 2026 music series, presented by Max Reddish and Brian Davis.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Wimmers and seconded by Ms. Phillips to approve the minutes from April 6, 2026, Council meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Mrs. McCullough addressed Council and thanked Mayor Thompson, Ms. McDonald, Mrs. Tharp, and Chief Reuther for meeting with community members regarding a proposed ordinance and resolution related to federal immigration enforcement policies. She stated that the collaborative discussions are intended to support ongoing public safety efforts and emphasized the importance of continued dialogue, trust-building, and working toward common ground. She noted that the meetings have been productive and may lead to potential legislation for consideration by Council, and encouraged continued progress consistent with the Mayor's five-point vision and the community's shared values.

Mrs. Ashton, along with Mrs. Petersen, appeared on behalf of Girl Scout Troop 1189 to present a proposal for a community service project. The troop requested permission to install a picnic table, benches, and trash and recycling receptacles at the sled hill on Brookside Road, using recycled materials collected from the community. The project would include fundraising efforts by the troop, estimated at \$639, and participation in a recycling initiative involving bottle caps processed through Plastics LLC. The troop indicated support from community members through signatures and requested approval to proceed with assistance with publicizing collection efforts through the village newsletter. Mayor Thompson expressed support for the proposed location and indicated the Village would coordinate on logistics and communication. The troop confirmed no funding was requested from the Village and anticipated completion by next winter.

A motion was made by Mr. Mockensturm, seconded by Mr. Shimborske, to approve the Girl Scout Troop 1189 project to install a picnic table at the sled hill on Brookside Road. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance & Future Planning – Mr. Mockensturm

Mr. Mockensturm reported that tax receipts are beginning to increase, noting April collections of \$321,000 and year-to-date revenues of \$1,262,000. He stated the Village is expected to receive approximately \$700,000 in May, with continued growth anticipated throughout the year. He noted upcoming expenditures will vary due to the major capital project on Egdevale Rd..

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Human Resources – Ms. Phillips

No Report

Safety – Mr. Moore

No report

Services & Environment – Mrs. Greeley

No report

Streets & Bridges – Mr. Shimborske

Mr. Shimborske had no report but inquired about the status of Indian Road and the removal of cones. Ms. McDonald stated the issue was handled by the county prior to the Glass City Marathon and noted a backup contractor had been prepared, if needed. She also reported that the Edgevale Rd project legal advertisement is now active and will run in the newspaper for three weeks, with bid opening scheduled for May 21 at 11:00 a.m. at an open public meeting with the Village engineer, where all bids will remain sealed until that time. She further reported that boring on the Evergreen Road bridge has been completed following earlier mechanical delays, and that affected residents were notified in advance by letter delivered by officers. Ms. McDonald added that she will be meeting with the engineer to review the Village's 10-year capital plan and determine project pacing following recent major projects.

Mayor Thompson stated the Edgevale project is slightly behind schedule but remains expected to be completed within the construction season, noting it is a joint project with the Village and the Lucas County Sanitary Engineer. He advised that final bid amounts are still unknown and may reflect increased costs due to fuel and material pricing. He also clarified that orange barrels in the Village are the responsibility of the County Sanitary Engineer and noted ongoing concerns about responsiveness.

Equipment, Utilities, Building & Grounds – Mr. Wimmers

No Report

Solicitors Report – Mrs. Tharp

No report

Administrator's Report

Ms. McDonald stated she had no additional report but noted that the two groups that presented today may be able to collaborate.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thompson reported that he met with Ms. McDonald and Mrs. Hoffman the previous week to review upcoming financial and capital planning matters and suggested it may be appropriate for the Finance Committee to meet to ensure all members are working from the same financial information going forward.

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He also reported that he visited the high school to present proclamations recognizing the state championship-winning debate team, the state championship quiz bowl team, and Thomas Lathrop for winning the state championship in the 500-meter freestyle swim event. He noted the high school was also recognized as a Blue Ribbon School and commented positively on the event, the student body, and the diversity of approximately 400–500 students in attendance, stating it reflected well on the community.

Mayor Thompson reported on a recent meeting with Village officials and residents regarding immigration enforcement and introduced a preliminary five-point framework to guide a potential resolution outlining the Village's position. He noted the concepts largely reflect existing practices but would provide public clarity. Council discussion indicated general agreement with the framework, while raising questions about the need for formal legislation versus a public statement. Clarification was provided that local law enforcement handles criminal matters only, with immigration issues addressed at the federal level. It was also noted that the proposal aims to address a gap between Village practices and public understanding, and that no additional liability would result from the stated commitment to public safety. Mr. Wimmers suggested tabling the matter for further review, and Mayor Thompson confirmed no action was expected at this time and that the draft would be distributed to Council for consideration.

Old Business

No Report

New Business

A motion was made by Mr. Mockensturm and seconded by Mr. Shimborske to approve the payments to Kati Tharp in the amount of \$1,892 for the period of March 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Phillips reported that the high school will be hosting an invitational track meet on Friday. While the number of participating teams is currently unknown, she noted that increased traffic should be expected in the surrounding area.

Citizen Comments

Mr. Runyan introduced himself and raised several concerns, including questions about access to and use of Flock camera data at the school. He requested an update on the completion of the Indian Road project, noting remaining gaps and concerns about deterioration. He also expressed confusion regarding the tree trimming budget and increased funding, requesting clarification on expenditures and equipment purchases. Additionally, he inquired about the status of a replacement vehicle for the maintenance department, citing delays since the issue was first raised.

Mr. Cummins stated that community comfort levels remain a concern, driven not by Village actions, but by broader national issues, and noted that several residents have actively expressed these concerns through emails and public comment. He emphasized that adopting a resolution outlining the Village's current practices could help reassure residents and improve the Village's reputation regionally. Mrs. McCullough referenced similar actions taken by the City of Toledo and suggested that additional clarity such as addressing the role of federal agents and related

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procedures could be beneficial. She further noted that some residents, including community members and contractors, feel uneasy, and emphasized the importance of publicly communicating existing policies to address this gap in understanding. She also acknowledged the Police Department's proactive approach to policy training and encouraged continued clarification of procedures to ensure transparency and community awareness.

Mrs. Stelmaszak introduced herself and expressed concerns regarding the proposed purchase of a bucket truck, questioning the financial justification and suggesting that rental options may be more cost-effective. She raised concerns about long-term costs, including maintenance, training, safety requirements, and potential liability, as well as staffing capacity to properly utilize the equipment. She also questioned current overtime practices and whether additional personnel would be required. Mrs. Stelmaszak further addressed the Village's shade tree budget, noting that available funds appear to exceed annual expenditures, and encouraged Council to reconsider future tax increases related to that fund. Additionally, she referenced previously proposed ordinances related to capital spending due diligence and rescission of the bucket truck purchase, stating that she has not received a response on further review and feedback from Council.

Mr. Benson introduced himself and noted that he attended the recent meeting with Village officials. He clarified that the five-point framework was developed by Mayor Thompson and expressed appreciation for his leadership on the issue. Mr. Benson stated that he, along with other residents, had contributed to reviewing and editing related draft resolutions and ordinances, and emphasized that while some believe the Village is already following these practices, he supports further action. He encouraged Council members to engage in open dialogue with residents holding differing viewpoints and expressed confidence in continued progress on the matter.

Executive Session

At 8:18pm Mr. Shimborske 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 9:19pm Council returned to regular session.

Next Meeting Date

June 1, 2026

Adjournment

9:21 pm



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Mayor Thompson