RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Orwell Village Council **REGULAR Meeting** **Date August 18, 2026**

Council President Ruks called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Clerk-Finance Director Kim McKinley performed roll call and the following council members were present: Mr. Adkins, Mr. Cottrell, Mr. Denihan, Mr. Hartz, and Mr. Ruks.

Also Present: Village Manager Dr. Sean Ratican

Absent: Solicitor Cris Newcomb

Public: Warren Dillaway, Star Beacon and Gabe McVey, Gazette

Agenda: Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adkins to accept agenda. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz – yea, Ruks – yea, Mr. Adkin – yea. Motion passed.

Minutes: Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on July 21, 2026. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yes, Hartz-yea, Ruks - yea, Adkins – yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adkins to approve the minutes on the work session held on August 11, 2026. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz-yea, Ruks - yea, Mr. Adkins – yea, Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea.

Bills: Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the payment of bills. Roll call, 5 yeas: : Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea, Cottrell – yea, Denihan-yea Hartz – yea. Motion passed.

SCAD: Councilor Hartz presented his SCAD report from meeting held on August 10, 2026. Report includes monthly financials and call numbers. Jack Scott from Midway presented SCAD with a $4,600 donation from the car show. New squad is in service Next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Village Manager Report: SCAD approved the sale of a surplus ambulance to the village; Hartz and Gregory abstained. Vehicle will be converted to a utility truck for the water department.

Dr. Ratican finalized the purchase of a John Deere front-end loader; funds made available through EPA Recycle Grant.

New ladder truck for fire department has arrived; push in will be scheduled later.

Remodel of office area is 80% complete. Area includes council chambers, utility office, fiscal office, and breakroom. The drawings for new building as been received. Engineer to review and drawings will be submitted to county, allowing six weeks to review. Building will just be a shell; interior will be bid out separately.

Parks and Recreation have chosen a new tree to purchase; cost will be less than 15k.

Replacement of water meters for GVLSD school, Meadow Lane and Kennametal have been completed. The small meters will be scheduled to be replaced by year end. Utility software will be built out in the 4th quarter. The switch to monthly billing will switch over in 2027.

Solicitors' report: None

Finance Report Ms. McKinley provided a summary of the submitted July reports. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the finance report. The motion passed with all in favor.

Zoning: Dr. Ratican spoke to individual interested in zoning position. Stuart Walker plans to resign from BZA. He plans to schedule a meeting to review library addition drawings.

Old Business:

RESOLUTION NO 26-08-01R: A RESOLUTION OF ORWELL VILLAGE COUNCIL ADOPTING THE ASHTABULA COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN. Mr. Cottrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Cottrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adkins, to pass Resolution 26-08-01R. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-08-02R: A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DAVID ROWLAND TO THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT AS A FULL-TIME OFFICER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adkins to pass as an emergency. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea, Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea, Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to pass Resolution 26-08-02R. Roll call, 5 yeas: Adkins-yea, Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-08-03R: A RESOLUTION AMENDING APPROPRIATIONS IN VARIOUS FUNDS WITHIN THE BUDGET OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan, to pass Resolution 26-08-03R. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION N0 26-08-04R: A RESOLUTION TRANSFERING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO DEBT FUND 3901 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Cottrell, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea, Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Adkins, to pass Resolution 26-08-04R. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea, Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed.

New Business: Halloween Trick or Treat scheduled for October 31, 2026; 4 p.m. – 6 p.m. and Holiday Festival and Parade scheduled for November 21, 2026. Dr. Ratican was approached about allowing senior flyers on poles. Dr. Ratican will approach American Legion about switching off.

Public: None

Media: Inquiring about date and time for push in event; Dr. Ratican will email press.

Executive Session:

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell to adjourn the meeting. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Adkins-yea. Motion passed. President Ruks adjourned the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

Approved: September 15, 2026

Joan Ratican
Village Manager

Clerk of Council

President of Council