RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Village of Owensville Regular Meeting

Held in the Village Hall March 2, 2026

The Mayor and Council of the Village of Owensville met in Regular Session on March 2, 2026 in the Village Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor, Rick McEvoy at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
All in attendance said the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL
Council Members Present: Joe Bailey, Mable Sheppard, Mike Perry, Leo Bradley
Jerry Kuntz, Robby Edwards

CITIZENS AND GUESTS PRESENT
Legal Counsel, Dave Frey; Fiscal Officer, Kathy Neuner, Reilly Hopkins, Carol Yeager, Dorsey Napier, Jim Jasper, John Wright, Tom Averwater, Joyce Kuntz, Greg Forsee, David Anspach, Jeff Jarvis, Rob Coleman

APPROVE VIRTUAL SIGNING OF SIGNATURE PAGE
Council Member Mr. Bailey moved and Council Member Mr. Perry seconded approving the virtual signing of the Governing Board Signature Page.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
Council Member Dr. Bradley moved and Council Member Ms. Sheppard seconded that Council adopted the agenda and addendum as presented.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

CLERK'S BUSINESS
Council Member Dr. Bradley moved and Council Member Mr. Perry seconded that Council approve the February 2, 2026 minutes as presented.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

Council Member Ms. Sheppard moved and Council Member Dr. Bradley seconded to approve the monthly financial reports.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

Council Member Mr. Bailey moved and Council Member Mr. Kuntz seconded that Council approve the paid bills as presented.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

Council Member Mr. Bailey moved and Council Member Dr. Bradley seconded that Council approve the Permanent Appropriations as presented.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

Permanent Appropriations 2026		
Fund	Name	Final Appropriation
1000	General	$303,762.36
2011	Street Construction Maint	$47,110.00
2021	State Highway	$7,000.00
2051	USDA Grant	$0.00
2081	Drug Law Enforcement	$7,000.00
2101	Permissive Motor Vehicle	$8,000.00
2271	Enforcement and Education	$0.50
2902	Police	$260,978.75
2903	Computer	$3,900.00
2904	Training - Police	$3,500.00
2905	One-Time Strat Inv. Grant	$16,672.50
2906	Beautification	$11,189.02
3101	Bond Retirement	$3,880.64

David Anspach spoke about the Clermont County Park District renewal levy that will be on the May ballot.

MAYOR/COUNCIL BUSINESS

Ms. Sheppard read the police and grant report for February as provided by Chief Freeman.

Dr. Bradley reviewed the services the Village provides as they relate to HB 331. Mr. Kuntz talked about a possible program to protect/support seniors. Mr. Kuntz requested feedback from all council members. This program would be a minimal cost to the Village, only requiring printing materials.

Mr. Hopkins presented information about a forensic accountant that would be willing to work with the Village to help identify areas for improvement, cost savings and possible additional revenue. He explained that the accountant is very well versed in village finance and Ohio law. He does not believe the cost for the services will exceed $2,500. Council had a few questions before agreeing to move forward. (vote not required due to cost of service)

Mr. Hopkins spoke about the Permissive Motor Vehicle Tax fund and explained that the Village could collect an additional $5 per renewal. The deadline to approve the increase for 2027 is July 1.

Council Member Mr. Bailey moved and Council Member Mr. Edwards seconded that Council Waive the three readings for the Permissive Motor Vehicle renewal of $5.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

Council Member Dr. Bradley moved and Council Member Mr. Bailey seconded that Council approve an ordinance to increase the Permissive Motor Vehicle renewal by $5.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0
Ordinance 03-02-2026-01

Mr. Wright gave an update from the Zoning/Planning Committee. The committee held a public session on February 23 at Village Hall. Legal council was present to review the PUD draft proposal and make adjustments as needed. The zoning map will need to be updated. There will be costs involved with rezoning and updating the maps, as well as legal expenses to review contractor documentations. The upfront costs are necessary for growth and future return. The committee voted to recommend the PUD to Council. The next step is to have a public hearing for PUD and consideration of zoning changes.

Council Member Ms. Sheppard moved and Council Member Mr. Edwards seconded that Council approve a special meeting for the purpose of a public hearing for the PUD and to consider zoning changes on April 13, 2026 at 7 pm in Village Hall.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs. Kuntz asked about grant reporting and what is required.

Mr. Jasper asked for a follow up on the zoning public records request because he did not receive information on everything he requested. He asked about the financial status of the village.

Mr. Wright asked if an income tax audit has been looked at and wants to know how much it costs to run the village.

At 8:43 pm, Council Member Mr. Bailey moved and Council Member Mr. Perry seconded that Council Adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with ORC 121.22G1 – To consider the employment, dismissal and compensation of staff.
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

At 9:14 pm, Council Member Mr. Bailey moved and Council Member Mr. Perry seconded that Council Exit Executive. No formal action taken in Executive Session
VOTE: All Ayes; Motion Carries 6-0

ADJOURNMENT
With no additional business to attend to, Mr. McEvoy adjourned the meeting at 9:15 pm.

Kathy Neuner, Fiscal Officer Richard McEvoy, Mayor