

**Village of Middlefield Council Minutes
September 12, 2024**

Council met in regular session Mayor Garlich called the meeting to order by **roll call** at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Ben Garlich, Mr. Carl Hornung, Mr. Scott Klein, Ms. Kaitlyn Arganti, Mr. Sam Morrow, Mr. Rick Seyer, and Mr. Bill Blue.

Also present: Ms. Leslie McCoy- Village Administrator, Chief Tucholski, Lt. Graley, Mr. Nick Giardina- Fiscal Officer, Mr. Luke McConville- Village Solicitor, Mr. Alex Duncan, Ms. Melissa Channel, Ms. Kim Breyley, Ms. Ann Wishart- Maple Leaf, Mr. John Boksansky- Zoning Inspector, Ms. Sabine Weizer, Ms. Jennifer Nugen- Community Care, Mr. Ben Reed- Fire Department, Ms. Joyce Porozynski, and Mr. Joseph Svete.

1. **Opening Ceremony:** Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. **Agenda:** No additions/ deletions.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** August 8, 2024. *Mr. Hornung made a motion to approve August 8, 2024 minutes, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).*

4. **Payment of Bills:** *Ms. Arganti moved to authorize payments totaling \$824,381.41, motion seconded by Mr. Klein. Roll call: Yeas (6).*

5. **FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Income Tax and Financials** – The report is included in the packet. Mr. Giardina stated income tax is still slightly down. Total receipts are up but expenses are also up. Mr. Giardina stated water and sewer revenue is up compared to the previous year. All three main categories are down 7.85% compared to the previous year. Mr. Giardina stated withholdings are indicating a slowdown but they are still to the good.

6. **AMBULANCE REPORT** – Report is included in the packet. Ms. Nugen would like to thank Middlefield Police Department for patrolling the Community Care property frequently and making them feel safe. For the month of August there was 87 calls for service in the Village. The response time in the Village was 4 minutes and 8 seconds. Ms. Nugen stated the new ambulance will be on the road tomorrow.

7. **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT** – Report is included in the packet. Mr. Reed stated he will be attending the Amish Safety Council meeting at the end of this month and scooters is a topic on the agenda for that meeting. Mr. Reed stated the department has a drill training coming up at the end of the year with First Energy. A lot of the training is done in house and a lot of departments come to Middlefield to do their training. Mr. Reed stated the Fire Department will be doing a costume contest again for Halloween and will be advertising it to get more people to show up this year.

8. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Report is included in the packet. Ms. McCoy stated there is still \$8,000 in the Storefront Renovation Program fund. Ms. McCoy stated she has been doing a lot of marketing and answering questions. Ms. McCoy would like to request that Council remove Resolution 24-13 from the agenda. This was the original contract for the senior center with Geauga Department on Aging. They have since put out a RFP which we will be answering and if the proposal is accepted it will be brought back to Council for approval of that contract. Ms. McCoy stated she was told they are going through the RFP process due to rents being above \$75,000.

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9. ZONING REPORT: Report is included in packet. Mr. Boksansky stated the month of August was successful for Planning and Zoning. All projects on the list in the month of August were able to be completed.

10. STREETS, SIDEWALKS & UTILITIES REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Chief Tucholski stated the roadway in Woodsong was put in for the final phase. Chief Tucholski stated septic's are being put in and Briar Hill and Hartville have completed their water tie ins. There has been a lot of mosquito spraying, park mowing and maintenance, street sweeping, brush chipping, and repairs at the WTP and WWTP.

11. POLICE REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Chief Tucholski stated for August there was 586 calls for service. Chief Tucholski stated the entire department just participated in CPR training that was done in house.

12. PARKS & RECREATION REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Ms. McCoy stated fall sports are kicking off and ongoing. The winter registration brochure has just been released. Ms. McCoy stated trick or treat will be on October 31st from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Ms. McCoy stated if a parent wants their child on a travel team there will be a try outs date offered. Mr. Klein mentioned possible looking into an outdoor pickle ball court. Mayor Garlich would like this topic added to the recreation agenda for next month.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. Harrington Way Day- September 14th Ribbon Cutting at 2pm. Mayor Garlich stated there will be music playing from noon- 2pm that day and a lot of businesses will be having special deals.
2. Shred Day- September 21, 2024 9am-12pm at Village Hall.
3. Employee Luncheon is Monday at noon. Mayor Garlich invited Council members to attend.
4. Jersey Mikes Grand Opening is September 18 at 9:00 am.

FIRST READING –

1. **RESOLUTION 24-14 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Resolution 24-14 by title only. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to place Resolution 24-14 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a motion to PASS Resolution 24-14, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. All in favor: Yeas (6).**
2. **RESOLUTION 24-15 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING POLITICAL SUBDIVISION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE OF OHIO COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Resolution 24-15 by title only. Ms. McCoy stated this allows purchasing for the crack seal program. **Mr. Blue made a motion to place Resolution 24-15 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a motion**

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- to **PASS** Resolution 24-15, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).
3. **RESOLUTION 24-16 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Resolution 24-16 by title only. Mr. Giardina stated this is the typical transfer of funds that is done every year. **Ms. Arganti made a motion to place Resolution 24-16 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Resolution 24-16, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).**
 4. **ORDINANCE 24-141 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING THE FIRM OF STEPHEN HOVANCSEK & ASSOCIATES AS VILLAGE ENGINEER FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026, AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF SAID SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-141 by title only. Discussion held to remove emergency clause and only be for 2025. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-141 on first reading, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).**
 5. **ORDINANCE 24-142 AN ORDINANCE HIRING ADVANCED ACCOUNTING CONSULTANTS TO ASSIST THE VILLAGE'S FISCAL OFFICER WITH CERTAIN ACCOUNTING AND BOOKKEEPING FUNCTIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-142 by title only. Discussion held to remove emergency clause. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to place Ordinance 24-142 on first reading, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. All in favor: Yeas (6).**
 6. **ORDINANCE 24-143 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DENNIS M. COYNE, ESQ. TO PROVIDE CHIEF PROSECUTOR SERVICES FOR 2025 AND 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-143 by title only. Discussion held to remove emergency clause and only be for 2025. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-143 on first reading, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).**
 7. **ORDINANCE 24-144 AN ORDINANCE EMPLOYING LUKE F. MCCONVILLE AS VILLAGE SOLICITOR AND LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEFIELD FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2025 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-144 by title only. Discussion held to remove emergency clause. **Ms. Arganti made a motion to place Ordinance 24-144 on first reading, motion seconded by Mr. Klein. All in favor: Yeas (6).**
 8. **ORDINANCE 24-145 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE WOODSONG PHASE 13 OAK HILL DRIVE EXTENSION PLAT FOR DEDICATION PURPOSES PURSUANT TO SECTION 1115.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND SECTION 723.03 OF THE REVISED CODE.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-145 by title only. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to revise**

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- Ordinance 24-145 to add an emergency clause, motion seconded by Mr. Blue. All in favor: Yeas (6).** Discussion was had regarding the necessity of allowing the plat to be filed as soon as possible to facilitate construction and completion efforts, thereby resulting in an emergency, and Council agreed to add language to that effect to the ordinance. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-145 on first reading and declaring an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).** Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-145, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).
9. **ORDINANCE 24-146 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE SPIDALIERI ENTERPRISES, LLC & MIDDLEFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT LOT SPLITS AND CONSOLIDATIONS PLAT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-146 by title only. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to place Ordinance 24-146 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. All in favor: Yeas (6).** Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-146, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).
10. **ORDINANCE 24-147 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND RATIFYING A GRANT OF EASEMENT BY THE VILLAGE TO THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY OVER A PORTION OF THE MAPLE HIGHLANDS TRAIL, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-147 by title only. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-147 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).** Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-147, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).
11. **ORDINANCE 24-148 AN ORDINANCE HIRING AUSTIN ADLER AS A PARTTIME POLICE OFFICER RETROACTIVE TO AUGUST 21, 2024, AND CONFIRMING HIS APPOINTMENT AS A FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER, AT THE RESPECTIVE PAY RATES SET FORTH HEREIN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-148 by title only. Mayor Garlich swears in new full time Officer Austin Adler under oath. Officer Adler graduated the police academy and served as a United States Marine. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-148 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).** Mr. Blue made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-148, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).
12. **ORDINANCE 24-149 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH HISSONG KENWORTH OF RICHFIELD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$228,187.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW 2024 KENWORTH T480 SNOW AND ICE TRUCK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-149 by title only. **Mr. Blue made a motion to amend Ordinance 24-149 to say 2025 Kenworth instead of 2024 Kenworth, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. All in favor: Yeas (6).** Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-149 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a

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- motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-149, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).
13. Ordinance 24-150 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PARKING EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE OWNER OF PROPERTY AT 15163 BURTON WINDSOR ROAD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-150 by title only. Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-150 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-150, motion seconded by Mr. Klein. All in favor: Yeas (6).
14. ORDINANCE 24-151 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEFIELD, OHIO. Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-151 by title only. Mr. Blue made a motion to place Ordinance 24-151 on first reading, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).
15. ORDINANCE 24-152 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE LOT SPLIT AND CONSOLIDATION PLAT SUBMITTED BY SCANNELL PROPERTIES, LLC FOR CONSOLIDATION OF PPN 19-080933, 19-081107 AND 19-072864, AND WAIVING ANY DEED RESTRICTION ON PPN 19-072864 RELATING TO ITS CONVEYANCE, AND DELCARING AN EMERGENCY. (To Follow) Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-152 by title only. Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 24-152 on first reading and declare an emergency, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-152, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. All in favor: Yeas (6).

SECOND READING

1. RESOLUTION 24-13 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES WITH THE GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE GEAUGA DEPARTMENT ON AGING, FOR USE OF THE MIDDLEFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER – **Needs to be removed.**

Mr. Klein made a motion to remove Resolution 24-13 from second reading, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. All in favor: Yeas (6).

THIRD READING

1. ORDINANCE 24-134 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1157.04 ENTITLED “NUMBER OF OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES TO BE PROVIDED.” Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-134 by title only. Mr. Hornung made a motion to **PASS** Ordinance 24-134, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).

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2. **ORDINANCE 24-136 AN ORDINANCE MAKING CHANGES TO LOT COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS BY AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1155.01 TO MODIFY THE PERCENTAGE REQUIRED, AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1131.05 TO INCLUDE A DEFINITION OF “LOT COVERAGE,” AND FURTHER AMENDING SECTION 1131.05 TO MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF “STRUCTURE.”** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 24-136 by title only. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to *PASS* Ordinance 24-136, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Web Site Report – Kim Breyley: Included in the packet.** Ms. Breyley stated activity on social medias and the website are consistent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

Planning & Zoning (Mayor Garlich/Mr. Klein/Mr. Linberg/Mr. Dietrich/Ms. Shaffer) – August meeting minutes included in the packet.

Streets, Sidewalks, & Utilities (Mr. Morrow/ Mr. Seyer / Ben Garlich) – August meeting minutes included in the packet.

Economic Development Committee (Ms. McCoy, Mr. Klein, Ms. Arganti, Mr. Michalakes, Mr. Dietrich, Ms. Breyley, Ms. Martin) – No meeting in August.

Parks & Recreation (Mr. Blue/ Ms. Arganti/ Mayor Garlich/ Ms. Naples/ Mr. Soltis) – August meeting minutes included in the packet.

Finance & Ordinance (Ms. Arganti/ Mr. Klein/Mr. Blue) – August meeting minutes included in the packet.

Public Safety (Mr. Morrow/ Mr. Hornung/Mr. Seyer) – August meeting minutes included in the packet.

VILLAGE CALENDAR: (ALL MEETING DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

SEPTEMBER- (*Subject to change*)

September 10, 2024 5:30PM STREETS, SIDEWALKS & UTILITIES

September 10, 2024 6:00PM PLANNING COMMISSION

September 12, 2024 5:30PM RECREATION COMMITTEE

September 12, 2024 6:00PM FINANCE & ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

September 12, 2024 6:30PM SAFETY COMMITTEE

September 12, 2024 7:00PM COUNCIL

September 21, 2024 *SHRED DAY 9am-12p at Village Hall*

September 21, 2024 *5k Race sponsored by The Sanctuary in Middlefield & Mary Yoder's Amish Kitchen*

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OCTOBER- *(Subject to change)*

October 8, 2024 5:30PM STREETS, SIDEWALKS & UTILITIES

October 8, 2024 6:00PM PLANNING COMMISSION

October 10, 2024 5:30PM RECREATION COMMITTEE

October 10, 2024 6:00PM FINANCE & ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

October 10, 2024 6:30PM SAFETY COMMITTEE

October 10, 2024 7:00PM COUNCIL

October 14, 2024 *Columbus Day – Village Offices Closed*

October 19, 2024 *Trot with a Cop*

October 31, 2024 *Trick or Treat Village Wide & Halloween Party at Fire House*

General Discussion:

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hornung motioned to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:09 pm, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. All in favor: Yeas. (6)

PENDING

Tabled: Resolution 21-08

Approved: _____
MAYOR

Attest: _____
FISCAL OFFICER