

Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on July 11, 2026 at 10:00 am

1.0 Mayor Ehrbar calls council to order –

RC: S. Stevenson __Y__, J. Divoll __Y__, M. Gaither __Y__, J. Wolfe __Y__, G. Finger __Y__,
C. Kipfer, __Y__

2.0 All rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

3.0 Amended Minutes – Regular Council Meeting May 9, 2026

4.0 Discussion and/or amendments to the June 13, 2026 Regular Council Minutes.
Motion to accept/amend the Minutes as presented,

RC: S. Stevenson __Y__, J. Divoll __Y__, M. Gaither __Y__, J. Wolfe __2__, G. Finger __1__,
C. Kipfer, __Y__

5.0 Discussion of Pay Ordinance No. 1258: Motion to accept the Pay Ordinance as written,

RC: S. Stevenson __Y__, J. Divoll __Y__, M. Gaither __1__, J. Wolfe __Y__, G. Finger __Y__,
C. Kipfer, __2__

7.0 Committee Reports

7.A. Police – James E. Bartus II: Activity Report – June 2026

Mayor Ehrbar reports:

The police chief is down at the cemetery where they're cleaning the cemetery stones.

Report(s) = 5	Total Citations Issued = 4
Department Phone Call(s) = 205	House / Business Check(s) = 1
Arrest(s) / Citations = 20	Vehicle Lock-out(s) = 6
Warning(s) = 5	Assist w/other agencies = 25
Accident(s) = 2	
Closed Court Cases YTD = 32	
Current Open Court Cases YTD = 3 (Erie County Court) 6 / Mayors Court	
Department Budget YTD = 42%	

7.B. Safety Committee – G. Finger, S. Stevenson: G. Finger reports -

There's not enough words to thank everybody for all the hard work and devotion.
And you know, what times were talking, there was stuff in their own homes, their own lives.
But, everybody was unselfish, just taking care of each other.
So very proud of the safety committee as well.

7.C. EMS – Russ Maust reports: June EMS Activity Report - EMS runs: 25 Clinic calls: 20

This month's scheduled EMS training was canceled due to significant flooding on the island. Next month's training session is planned to focus on the Incident Command System.
The EMS training room and EMS storage room sustained severe flooding during the heavy rains earlier this week. As a result, a significant portion of our training equipment and inventory was damaged or destroyed. With the assistance of our EMS team and family members, all items were removed from both rooms, a damage inventory was completed, and all feasible remediation efforts were performed. I would like to sincerely thank everyone who assisted with this difficult task. Despite the hot and dirty conditions, and despite many individuals dealing with flooding issues of their own, they stepped forward to support the department. Their dedication and commitment to Kelleys Island EMS are truly commendable.
The EMS budget remains within normal operating limits at this time.
The first drone pilot training session was completed on June 30th. The training provided valuable insight into the potential capabilities and benefits of this program. Unfortunately, I was notified that the company originally selected

to provide our drone system will be unable to fulfill its contractual obligations. The ODOT official overseeing this grant program has been informed, and with his assistance, another company has been identified to provide the equipment. This equipment will still be fully covered by the grant and will provide the same capabilities as the originally selected system. However, a new contract will need to be reviewed, approved, and signed. Because the new contract includes different terms, I recommend that the Finance Committee meet to review and approve the new agreement.

I would like to recognize and thank the volunteers of Kelleys Island EMS for their continued dedication, professionalism, and service to our community.

7.D. Fire Dept.- Chief Skeans Reports: Runs June 2026 – 4

Some minor repairs have been done to engine one. Waiting on parts to complete all repairs. Engine one is still in service.

Engine two is currently out of service due to a radiator leak. Parts have been ordered.

The Annual Steak Fry will be on August 1. Tickets available on Tuesday.

The Fire Department is on track for the 2026 budget.

7.E. Water Department – T. Lange: A. Federle reports:

Hydrant works in progress. Several have been done. There's several more that need to be completed by the end of the year.

We did have some damage through the storm. Some sensors needed to be ordered and some electric work needs to be completed.

Our monthly bills, our quarterly billing that went out this week.

Our consumer confidence report is out and verified and we're down to the last lead and copper samples for the season.

7.F. Finance – C. Kipfer, M. Gaither: C. Kipfer reports

Agenda: 1). Water dept pay rates 2). Water dept maintenance equipment purchase 3). EMS building roof (from Lands & Buildings meeting) 4). Cybersecurity recommendations

1. Water Department Compensation Review The committee discussed a proposed Water Department pay structure intended to improve employee retention, recruitment, and succession planning. Members generally agreed that the proposed pay ranges appeared reasonable and acknowledged the importance of maintaining a qualified workforce. Concerns were raised regarding the long-term sustainability of the proposal, budget impacts, overtime costs, and how benefits such as health insurance compare with other communities. Discussion also included: • Obtaining compensation information from Put-in-Bay for comparison. • Doing a total compensation comparison including benefits like insurance and paid time off • Reviewing the effect of proposed wage increases on future budgets. • Evaluating whether a pay-range system would be preferable to a step-based system. • Requesting a five-year Water Department financial outlook to assess sustainability. • Considering the interaction of step increases and future cost-of-living adjustments. No action was taken. Additional information will be gathered and reviewed before further consideration.

2. Roadside Vegetation Equipment Proposal The committee reviewed a proposal to purchase a new loader and roadside vegetation cutting attachment, estimated at approximately \$80,000. The equipment would be used for road trimming, trail maintenance, and other Village maintenance activities. Village administration indicated that current equipment has been unreliable and that contracting this work has become increasingly expensive. Discussion included: • Potential return on investment compared to contractor costs. • Storage and maintenance considerations. • Alternatives including renting equipment or contracting the work. The committee requested additional information, including contractor quotes, rental costs, and purchase details, before making a recommendation.

3. EMS Building Roof The committee briefly referenced the EMS building roof project and reaffirmed the importance of maintaining Village facilities. No additional discussion or action occurred.

4. Cybersecurity Compliance The committee reviewed a cybersecurity compliance proposal from First Tracks for approximately \$1,200. The proposal would assist the Village with required email security, multifactor authentication, and other compliance measures. Members discussed the use of Village email accounts for official business and broader concerns regarding the use of personal devices for Village-related work. Committee members expressed support for moving forward with the compliance measures and discussed the possibility of future technology improvements, including Village-issued devices or tablets.

7.G. Lands & Buildings – M. Gaither, G. Finger: M. Gaither reports -

Lands and Buildings had a meeting on June 27th.

Everybody should have a copy of the meeting support.

It was basically to tie up a bunch of loose ends and finish a bunch of different projects that we're working on.

Copies of that are on file at the village office.

Or if you contact me, I'll be happy to get you a copy.

7.H. Airport – J. Wolfe, J. Divoll: J. Wolfe reports –

As we've been talking over the last couple of months, there's been a lot going on at the airport and you've seen activity with clearing the lots, the lot that was donated to us a number of years ago.

We're currently looking for some, some funds and may have some funds and then we can decide what we want to do with it.

There's also been some erosion issues on the east part of the runway that we need to address.

We're going to have a committee meeting over the next few months to update everyone and all the different projects that are going on.

It requires providing and receiving a lot of information both for us providing as well as FAA and Department of Natural Resources and our consultants RS&H.

So, as we gather all this information, we'll put it together and have it at our scheduled airport review meeting, committee meeting, and we can go over it in some detail as we get the information.

7.I. Planning Commission – J. Wolfe: No applications

7.J. Design Review Board – R. Maust reports: 2 applications / 2 approved

7.K. Board of Zoning Appeals – Gary Finger reports: No hearings scheduled

7.L. Transfer Station – J. Divoll, J. Wolfe: No Report

7.M. Village Administrator – Andy Federle reports:

We did complete the crack sealing and striping on the roads last month.

We also submitted our OWDA loan application for the meter project.

We started the process of switching our water department billing system again due to the severe lacking capabilities that the current one has.

With the flood, Ron and I have spent all week meeting with county engineers, Erie County Director of EMA.

There are several problem spots that we're looking to address. We also had a meeting with Contractors Design

Engineering that's going to help us navigate OPWC emergency funds for those areas. This is going to be ongoing for the next couple weeks.

7.N. Streets & Sidewalks- S. Stevenson, C. Kipfer: S. Stevenson reports –

We haven't had a meeting, but a couple things that are in process are the side of road trimming.

We were waiting on a hard copy quote and hopefully we can get started on that next week.

There was a washout down on W Lakeshore, we got that taken care of after Monday's event.

7.O. Park Board – Marvin Robinson: S. Stevenson reports –

Some new bleachers have been delivered that will be paid for by Tina's Trust. Those were delivered on Thursday.

We talked about the renovation the pavilion in the parking lot.

They're going to put together everything with along with pictures and a description for to introduce to everybody on what the plan

7.P. Mayor's Financial Report- Mayor Ehrbar:

Mayor's Court report submitted by Rosalyn Ahner July 10, 2026:

For the month of June 2026, the court collected a total of \$3990.00: \$140.00 Computer Fund, \$140.00 Court Improvement Fund, \$42.00 Library Fund, \$742.00 Other Costs. \$3484.00 General Fund.

All funds collected were from payment plans and fines. State was paid \$ 0.00: \$126.00 Victims of Crime, \$315.00 HB1 (state indigent support fund), \$0.00 State Bond Surcharge, \$24.50 Drug Law Enforcement/Justice Program Services.

Erie County Municipal was paid \$10.50 for Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment Fund.

Bank / Online payment expenses totaled: \$0.00 (Credit Card & US Bank service fee). Court has paid a total of \$4288.00 to the Village General Fund in 2026. Court has paid a total of \$16256.00 to the Village General Fund in 2025. Court has paid a total of \$20148.00to the Village General Fund in 2024. Court has paid a total of \$16158.00 to the Village General Fund in 2023.

Court has paid a total of \$7805.00 to the Village General Fund in 2022

Court has paid a total of \$23133.00 to the Village General Fund in 2021

Court has paid a total of \$14352.46 to the Village General Fund in 2020.

Court has paid a total of \$33837.90 to the Village General Fund in 2019.

Court has paid a total of \$31425.03 to the Village General Fund in 2018.

2026 – 36 tickets issued

2025 – 105 tickets issued

2024– 70 tickets issued

2023 - 60 tickets issued

2022 – 49 tickets issued

2021 – 98 tickets issued

2020 – 37 tickets issued

7.Q. Legal- D. Lambros: No Report

7.R. Treasurer - L. Klonaris: Financials included in Council packets.

Council meeting agendas are being posted on website, should be available on Friday afternoon.

We are in the process of getting meeting recordings posted on the website.

Myself and several Village Officials will be meeting with Erie County Commissioners Office on August 4th. This is now mandatory for all entities.
Anyone is welcome to visit the Village Office, during office hours, to ask questions, request reports, etc.....
Tax Budget will be submitted to Erie County and is available for viewing at Village Office.

7.S. Telecommunications Oversight and Development Committee- J.Wolfe reports:

No meeting, but I've been getting reports of people that have Verizon service, that it's much improved on the island, and it probably will only get better.
It's completed and it's up and running.

(next legislation numbers O – 17 and R - 3)

9.0 First Readings:

9.1 ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – O - _____: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER TO INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS TO THE LANDS AND BUILDINGS FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

(INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR RONALD E EHRBAR)

Motion to suspend the three reading rule,

RC: S. Stevenson___Y___, J. Divoll___Y___, M. Gaither___Y___, J.Wolfe___Y___, G. Finger ___1___,
C. Kipfer, ___2___

Motion to pass:

RC: S. Stevenson___2___, J. Divoll___Y___, M. Gaither___1___, J.Wolfe___Y___, G. Finger ___Y___,
C. Kipfer, ___Y___

10.0 Second Readings:

10.1 2027 TAX BUDGET

(INTRODUCED BY: Mayor Ronald E. Ehrbar)

Motion to suspend the three reading rule,

RC: S. Stevenson___Y___, J. Divoll___Y___, M. Gaither___Y___, J.Wolfe___2___, G. Finger ___1___,
C. Kipfer, ___Y___

Motion to pass:

RC: S. Stevenson___1___, J. Divoll___2___, M. Gaither___Y___, J.Wolfe___Y___, G. Finger ___Y___,
C. Kipfer, ___Y___

11.0 Third Readings & Emergencies:

12. Items from the Mayor:

I apologize for the temperature of the town hall, but, due to the flooding and we lost both our furnaces and air conditioning and we're working on that.
I don't really have anything else other than it's been a busy week and I continue to be busy until we get things straightened out.

13. Items from Council:

C. Kipfer: Last Saturday I took him up on his offer to do a ride along.

So, after the fireworks were over, I spent 4 hours plus riding along with Jamie and Carmen and it was very enlightening in a good way to see how our three full time officers deal with the public after a big party weekend to understand their parts of the island that they have to patrol, that I didn't even think about.

I sit downtown and see people walking with their beers, beer cans and stuff like that and realize that's pretty minor compared to what they're trying to tackle just the three of them. And they do an amazing job.

So, if you guys ever had the opportunity, I suggest to take him up on it. It's a very good experience.

M. Gaither: To add to that, EMS would always welcome that as well. If you'd like to do a ride along and see. I think it'd be a great learning experience as well.

D. Lambros: We have a Public Hearing notice that was posted for the R1 and R2 lot size changes. There will be a Public Hearing on August 8 at 9:45 before the council meeting.

14. Old Business:

15. Public Comment:

Jim Coleman: This is minor, but it's major. I've got 28 years of experience on village council and Planning Commission. If there's anything that you all need help with through this emergency, feel free to reach out. I don't know what it could be, but I'll help anyway. I can't physically help. But if there's ideas or, or anything else or something you need help with researching, let me know. You guys are very much appreciated.

Leslie Korenko: At the last meeting you changed the names of some streets. I was wondering if you were going to notify all the property owners of their new addresses. And in talking with the recorder's office, I believe you also need to add something to the plat map saying that the name was officially changed. I know we had to do that to add the home-owners association dues so that it turns up in the title searches with the correct information.

D Lambros: That's correct.

Bobby Joe Kennedy: Everyone's been talking about all the flooding on the island and you can't really see it when you drive around, but it has impacted a lot of people. And it's been very, very expensive. We lost a furnace and two water heaters, not to mention just all the little things that you have to throw out. And to get a dumpster is over \$1000. So I think, I mean, we're going to be fine, but I know there's a lot of other people who are not in the same financial situation that we are in that could really use some help. And I know the village keeps saying, well, we're all going to come together. But it would be really nice if the village would try and get some funds from the government or grants from, I don't know, Red Cross, somebody to at the very least bring in some trash removal options for people or cleaning options for people. Just anything that the council could do to help people financially would, I think, go a long way.

Mayor Ehrbar: If I if I can update on that a little bit. We have reached out and we have talked to the EMA director who was here last week. And one of the qualifications for that for money from Ohio EMA, the water has to be, the floodwaters have to be in the living space, not in the basement. It has to have reached above outlets.

It has to be 15 inches in your living room a/o kitchen of a permanent residence.

Also, there has to be at least 25 residences to be recognized with that problem These are just 2 of the requirements.

Another thing that shoots us down, and this is a problem that we've talked about in the past; there's a government flood plan and Village of Kelleys Island does not belong to it; a federal flood plan.

We've researched this a few years ago when Bill Mitchell was still alive and that was towards the end of his tenure, if I can put it that way, respectfully. And we chose not to. We will be looking at that again.

And there's still a couple other feelers.

I've been in contact with Senator Gavarone. I've been in contact with Representative DJ Schweragen. Our county commissioners have all reached out.

But right now, I hate to say this, but we're kind of like handcuffed because of the restrictions to all these funds.

That's where we're at right now.

We're still looking into things. Andy and I are meeting with these guys on Monday morning. We're going to tour the island and that's for possible public emergency funds. Again, it's been a lot of phone calls and we have tried.

M. Gaither: Ron, do we have like a list of names of people who have called in the village and said that they have needs? Are we keeping a list of them?

Me personally, I have only received 2 phone calls from people. If you guys want to collect those names, that's fine and then we can go from there.

But OK, personally, I, I haven't received any and even maybe some letters from people.

G. Finger: I don't know what help that we can try to give the give to people.

M. Gaither: I think we can't help if we don't know what they can help with.

G. Finger: And I think there's a lot of people that need help and they'll still be discovering them.

I mean, I'm sure we don't know everything yet.

M. Gaither: Yeah, I get your list for sure.

C. Kipfer: Is there a way to put something like on our Facebook page to tell people to call the village to put their name on a list?

M. Gaither: I'm actually going to be putting something up today because of the help that we received at the church and indicating that people can contact me and or the church and let us know that they have needs and what those are. And then we can see what we can do to address them or help them.

16. New Business:

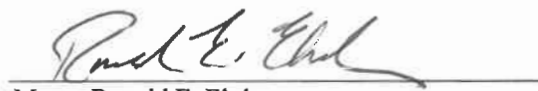
17. Correspondence:

18. Motion to adjourn,

RC: S. Stevenson ___2___, J. Divoll ___Y___, M. Gaither ___Y___, J. Wolfe ___Y___, G. Finger ___1___,
C. Kipfer, ___Y___

Meeting Adjourned At: 10:27


Lisa M Klonaris, Clerk-Treasurer


Mayor Ronald E. Ehrbar