

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Mt. Orab Village Council Meeting
MAY 5, 2026

Held

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Howser called the regular council meeting to order with a roll call vote the following members present: Shane Ogden, Zane Cordrey, Carl Vineyard, Eric Lang, Anna Howell and John Waits.

MINUTES

Councilman Ogden moved to approve the minutes for the April 21st council meeting as presented. Seconded by Councilman Cordrey.

A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

VISITORS

No visitors had signed up to speak at the council meeting.

VILLAGE LIABILITY/EQUIPMENT/BUILDING/VEHICLE INSURANCE

Chief Fiscal Officer Boyd provided council with the written comparison from our agent of record Jeffrey Markovic on the two insurance proposals Tokio Marine (HCC) and the Ohio Plan. It was indicated the current provider Tokio Marine (HCC) would not provide cyber coverage as required by Ohio Law.

Councilman Ogden moved to approve the Ohio Plan, provided by Hylant Administrative Services, LLC proposal at a premium quote of \$99,121 for the period of May 7, 2026 to May 7, 2027 for liability, equipment, buildings and vehicles for the Village.

Seconded by Councilman Cordrey

A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

WATER CAPACITY FEE

Ordinance # 1345 AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING ORDINANCE NO. 1330 AND ADOPTING UTILITY SYSTEM CAPACITY FEES FOR BOTH IN TOWN AND OUT OF TOWN was given its seconded reading.

FIRE TAX LEVY RENEWAL COUNTY AUDITOR CERTIFY AMOUNT

Councilman Cordrey offered Resolution # 873 RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY OF LEVYING A RENEWAL TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH A PROPOSED RENEWAL TAX LEVY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Ogden moved to suspend the rules on the reading of Resolution # 873

Seconded by Councilman Waits.

A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

Resolution # 873 was read a second and third time by title only.

Councilman Ogden moved to adopt Resolution # 873. Seconded by Councilman Waits.

A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

Mayor Howser declared Resolution # 873 duly adopted.

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POLICE SURPLUS

Councilman Ogden moved to accept the recommendation of Police Chief Hahn to declare the following item as surplus and no longer needed for public use.

2015 Jeep Patriot VIN: 1C4NJPF0FD225458

Seconded by Councilwoman Howell.

A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Ogden moved to enter executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment of a public official.

Seconded by Councilman Waits. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser.

Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

Council entered executive session at 7:14 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING

Councilman Ogden moved to reconvene the council meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser.

Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

DATA CENTER COMMITTEE

Councilman Ogden moved to appoint the following three members of council Eric Lang, Anna Howell and Shane Ogden as well as two Village residents Lynette Garrett and Aaron Carnahan to the Data Center Committee. Seconded by Councilman Cordrey.

A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

Councilman Cordrey discussed the condition of the trees surrounding the park and Mayor Howser indicated he would contact our tree contractor to evaluate their condition.

Council also discussed the issues of street department safety and the antique store corner at the East Main and High Street intersection.

VILLAGE COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER

Councilwoman Howell moved to approve the Village Council Rules of Order as presented.

Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser.

Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Councilman Waits moved to create a committee to begin the discussion on hiring of a Village Administrator.

Seconded by Councilwoman Howell. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser.

Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

Councilman Cordrey discussed the need for parking in the center of town including purchase of vacant lot or existing buildings.

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BILLS AND ADJOURN

Councilman Ogden moved to approve the bills presented to council and adjourn
Seconded by Councilwoman Howell. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser.
Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Nay, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Ronald Wallingford as
~~CHIEF~~ FISCAL OFFICER *via*
Interim
appointment of Council May, 2026

John Howser
MAYOR

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MAY 19, 2026**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Howser called the regular council meeting to order with a roll call vote of the following members: Shane Ogden, Zane Cordrey, Carl Vineyard, Eric Lang, Anna Howell and John Waits.

MINUTES

Councilman Ogden moved to approve the minutes for the May 5, 2026 council meeting as presented. Seconded by Councilman Cordrey.

A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden, Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion carried.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Howser asked for a moment of silence with the passing of Tax Commissioner, Shonda Wallace, on Saturday, May 16, who had been with the village for almost 11 years.

NAL COMPANY

Missy Schneider and Michael Chandler were present to inform the council that NAL Company has requested their driveway on East Main Street be increased to 90 feet wide rather than the current 35 feet.

Councilman Ogden moved to deny their request and keep the drive at 35 feet.

Councilman Lang seconded the motion.

A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

VISITORS

The following visitors approached council regarding a variety of subjects:

Terri Burcham – studies done for Mega Site, minutes and new rules of council

Dale Barber – concerns for his business on West Main Street being zoned residential instead of commercial.

Joe McGrath – BPA position, Apple Street extension and village administrator

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MAY 19, 2026**FIRE TAX LEVY RENEWAL**

Councilman Ogden offered Resolution #874 RESOLUTION DETERMINING TO PROCEED TO LEVY A RENEWAL TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION

Resolution #874 was given it's first reading by title only.

WATER CAPACITY FEE

Ordinance #1345 AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING ORDINANCE NO. 1330 AND ADOPTING UTILITY SYSTEM CAPACITY FEES FOR BOTH IN TOWN AND OUT OF TOWN was given it's 3rd reading.

Councilman Ogden moved to adopt Ordinance #1345. Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Howser declared Ordinance #1345 duly adopted.

SOLICITOR RESIGNATION

Councilman Ogden moved to accept the informal resignation of Mr. Richard Goettke, Village Solicitor effective June 1, 2026.

Councilman Waits seconded the motion.

A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion carried

SOLICITOR EMPLOYMENT

Councilman Ogden moved to hire Richard Goettke for legal services at the discretion of the Mayor.

Councilman Cordrey seconded the motion.

A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion carried.

VILLAGE SOLICITOR

Councilman Ogden offered Ordinance #1346 AN ORDINANCE EMPLOYING A SOLICITOR AND ASSISTANT SOLICITOR FOR THE VILLAGE OF MT ORAB AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilman Waits moved to suspend the rules on the reading of Ordinance #1346.

Seconded by Councilman Vineyard.

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A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser Ogden Yea, Cowdrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

Councilman Ogden read Ordinance #1346 a second and third time by title only.

Councilman Ogden moved to adopt Ordinance #1346. Seconded by Councilman Waits.

A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cowdrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried

Mayor Howser declared Ordinance #1346 duly adopted.

PARK TREES REMOVAL

Two quotes were obtained for the removal of 5 trees located in the village park:

B&B Hope \$17,740.00

Lux Tree Service \$16,875.00

Councilman Ogden moved to approve the quote from Lux Tree Service.

Seconded by Councilman Cordrey.

A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

Councilman Vineyard addressed council that the subdivision and road regulations posted on the website needs to have 2 dates in it changed from the October date to November 3, 2025.

AMEND COUNCIL RULES

Councilman Vineyard moved to amend Rule 11C (A) to reflect the council meeting dates of first and third Tuesdays of the month except for June, July and December to one per month and the November date of November 3 to 4, 2026.

Seconded by Councilwoman Howell.

A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND FUND

Discussion was held as to the Community Playground Fund needing \$155,412.32 to move forward with the project so it can be completed by December 31, 2026.

Councilman Waits moved to give the Community Playground Fund the \$155,412.32 from village funds.

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Seconded by Councilwoman Howell.

A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Since the vote resulted in a tie, Mayor Howser voted to break the tie with a Yea vote. Motion Carried.

Rebecca Meyer offered sincere thanks to council and introduced the Fund Committee members who were present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Ogden moved to enter executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(8) to consider confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance, or to negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance, provided that both of the following conditions apply: The information is directly related to a request for economic development assistance that is to be provided or administered under any provision of Chapter 715., 725., 1724., or 1728. or sections 701.07, 3735.67 to 3735.70, 5709.40 to 5709.43, 5709.61 to 5709.69, 5709.73 to 5709.75, or 5709.77 to 5709.81 of the Ohio Revised Code, or that involves public infrastructure improvements or the extension of utility services that are directly related to an economic development project. A unanimous quorum of the public body determines, by a roll call vote, that the session is necessary to protect the interests of the applicant or the possible investment or expenditure of public funds to be made in connection with the economic development project.

Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

Council entered executive session at 8:25 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING

Councilman Ogden moved to reconvene the council meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call vote was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea.

Motion Carried.

Councilman Ogden stated that the issue brought up by Dale Barber earlier in the meeting needs to be addressed and he will talk to Mr. Barber tomorrow about the next steps.

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ADJOURN

Councilman Ogden moved to approve the bills as presented to council and adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Howell Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Donna Wallingford as Joe Howser
Chief Fiscal Officer *via appointment* Mayor
Interim *of Council May, 2026*

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
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MAY 22, 2026**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Howser called the special council meeting to order with a roll call vote of the following members: Shane Ogden, Zane Cordrey, Carl Vineyard, Eric Lang and John Waits. Anna Howell was absent.

Village Solicitor, Chris Moore introduced himself. He then requested that council enter into executive session, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing.

Eric Lang stated that he had questions about the allegations against the CFO and time frame of when things were learned by the Mayor.

Discussion was held among the council members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Ogden moved to enter executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual unless the public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual requests a public hearing. Except as otherwise provided by law, no public body shall hold an executive session for the discipline of an elected official for conduct related to the performance of the elected official's official duties or for the elected official's removal from office. If a public body holds an executive session pursuant to division (G)(1) of this section, the motion and vote to hold that executive session shall state which one or more of the approved purposes listed in division (G)(1) of this section are the purposes for which the executive session is to be held, but need not include the name of any person to be considered at the meeting.

Councilman Cordrey seconded the motion. A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Waits Yea. Motion carried.

Council entered into executive session at 11:10 a.m.

RECONVENE MEETING

Councilman Ogden moved to reconvene the council meeting at 11:49 a.m.

Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

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Solicitor Moore then provided information to Council. He advised that on May 20, 2026, after receipt of information that the Fiscal Officer had been arrested in Florida, the Village had taken steps to secure the computers and electronics within the Village from access, suspended him effective immediately without pay pending an investigation, and had asked the Police to investigate the allegations. He further noted that as of the May 22, 2026 council meeting, the Fiscal Officer had not performed any of his job tasks, appeared unavailable to work, and had not reported to work or provided an excused reason for said failures for at least three days.

TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEE

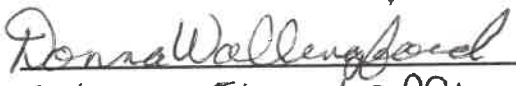
Councilman Ogden moved, based on the information received, to terminate the employment of the Village CFO, effective immediately, for cause based upon the employee's arrest, failure to appear for work, failure to perform and of his job tasks, failure to provide an excused reason for his absences.

Seconded by Councilman Waits. A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

ADJOURN

Councilman Ogden moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Cordrey. A roll call was administered by Mayor Howser. Ogden Yea, Cordrey Yea, Vineyard Yea, Lang Yea, Waits Yea. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.



Interim Fiscal Officer



Mayor