



May 30, 2025

WHITEHOUSE COUNCIL AGENDA

June 3, 2025

6:30 P.M.

The Whitehouse Village Council is encouraging citizens to consider accessing public meetings remotely. You may do so by phone at 1-567-318-0438. You will then be prompted to press the following Meeting ID 708107151#. You may also access the meeting online by going to the Village website at www.whitehouseoh.gov and clicking on the link from the home page. Please make sure you mute your microphone.

Notice is hereby given that the Whitehouse Village Council will meet on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held in Council Chambers, Village Hall, 6925 Providence St., Whitehouse, Ohio

Welcome and thank you for attending the Whitehouse Village Council meeting. The purpose of the Village Council meeting is to conduct the official business of the Village of Whitehouse and to hear citizens' comments pertaining to items that appear on the agenda and comments for future consideration. We welcome and encourage your participation. If you wish to make a comment, please wait to be recognized then state your name and address for the record. Please make your comments as concise as possible to allow time for others who wish to make comments. The Mayor presides over the Council meeting and has the authority to take the actions necessary to maintain order and proper decorum among those present. Thank you for your cooperation.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Prayer: Sr. Rose Moser, Lial
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance
- V. Adoption of Minutes of the May 20, 2025, Council Meeting
- VI. Adoption of Bills Dated May 30, 2025 and the Addendum bills dated June 3, 2025
- VII. Introduction of Persons to Appear Before Council
 - A. Request for Neighborhood Block Party for June 22, 2025
- VIII. Committee Reports
 - A. Report on the Fallen Timbers Union Cemetery District Meeting
 - B. Report on the May 22, 2025 Tree Commission Meeting
- IX. Report of the Mayor
- X. Report of the Clerk of Council

- XI. Report of the Municipal Administrator
 - A. Request Authorization for Legislation Approving the Plans of Operation and Governance for the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (“SOPEC”) Electric Aggregation Program, and For the Purpose of Jointly Establishing and Implementing an Electric Aggregation Program (as an emergency)
 - B. Operations Report Summary
- XII. Report of the Law Director
- XIII. Report of the Department Heads
- XIV. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items
- XV. Ordinances
 - A. **Ordinance 09-2025:** To Place On the Ballot at the Next General Election A Charter Amendment to Change Article IV, Mayor, Section 4.08(C), Executive Powers, For the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio (3rd Reading)
 - B. **Ordinance 11-2025:** Approving the Plans of Operation and Governance for the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (“SOPEC”) Electric Aggregation Program, and For the Purpose of Jointly Establishing and Implementing an Electric Aggregation Program (as an emergency)
- XVI. Resolutions
- XVII. Council Comments
 - A. Discussion on “Pulse” Survey
- XVIII. Citizen Comments
- XIX. Adjournment

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PRAYER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Mayor Rich Bingham.

Council Members Present: Louann Artiaga, Dave Riggenschach, Carrie Tuohy, Steve Fine, Steve Connelly and Larry Yunker

Council Members Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Municipal Administrator Jordan Daugherty, Deputy Administrator Joshua Hartbarger, Solicitor Kevin Heban, Director of Public Services Mike Hill, Police Chief Allan Baer, Fire Chief Jason Francis, Clerk of Council Nicole Hartbarger

Guests Present: Nan Myers, Brenda & Larry Druschel, David & Sharon Prueter, Steve Bond, Jeff Heaney, James Forwerck, Wendy Gehring, Bob Keogh, Charles Grass, Phil Leppla, Karen Gerhardinger

Council Prayer was given by Pastor Steve Bond of Community of Christ Church

Mayor Bingham reserves the right to enter into an executive session before the reading of ordinances regarding ORC 121.22(G)(3), conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.

Motion by Councilman Riggenschach, seconded by Councilman Connelly to approve the minutes of the May 6th, 2025 Council meeting. 6 ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to approve the bills totaling \$367,553.60 dated May 16th, 2025, and the Addendum bills totaling \$200,837.73 dated May 20th, 2025, and the March 2025 Financial Statements. 6 ayes

PERSONS TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL

Council President Riggenschach asked if there were any people to appear before Council. There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Bingham asked if there were any committee reports to share.

Report on the May 7th, 2025 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting

Administrator Daugherty shares that the meeting was short, around five minutes. One main action for consideration, an appeal. A developer/builder looking at a property on Oak Brook – it did not meet the Village requirements for square footage for this lot but it has been platted for a while. Motion by Bublick, second by Gehring to pass the appeal. All were in favor.

Report on the May 12th, 2025 Joint Fallen Timbers Union Cemetery District Meeting

Councilman Yunker shares that there were two vacancies to fill, one for Waterville Township to be filled by Julie Theroux and another for Whitehouse to be filled by himself. The next item on the agenda was the adoption of the 2026 appropriations, all approved. The group reviewed adjusting the millage for 2026, approval by all to increase from .5 to .6. Discussed raising the rates for cremation burial, currently have the lowest rates in the area. Next the group thanked Artiaga for all her time and service on the FTUCD board.

Report on the May 13th, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Councilman Rikkenbach shares that the formal notes will be provided at next Council meeting but can give a summary today. Discussion was had with Kleinfelder Group to level set vision of economic development including pedestrian bridge, 64 corridor, walkability, etc. The focus was on projects that can be controlled now and identify those that would have the highest ability for grant funding support. They will come back in August with specific projects and grant funding ideas.

The committee discussed additional topics and projects that can be done around the Village including park improvements, etc. Including those that can be done in-house.

There was a discussion on updating the Council rules, they did agree to review the pages of Council rules and will come back with recommendations. Cleaning up some of the rules and updating to current times – mostly clerical.

Report on the May 13th, 2025 and May 20th, 2025 Electric Aggregation Public Hearings

Councilman Rikkenbach shares that the same presentation from SOPEC was provided at both public hearings. They heard about the opportunities for consolidating buying power for better rates; ability for opting out and opting in. The final take away is legislation for Council to approve, two different pieces, one will be tonight, May 20th. Looking to have up and running during the August timeframe.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Bingham shares that he and staff met with Lisa Sobecki with Lucas County Commissioners regarding the Swan Creek Ditch project. She shared that they have asked for budget updates to include \$20MM for the support of this project.

Mayor shares there was an informative TMACOG meeting on May 13th. He comments that Council does not wish to have meetings on July 8th or July 15th; Heban confirms this will need to be voted on.

Mayor Bingham shares that the Andy Eckert Memorial Bridge dedication went very well. He shares his thanks to those in administration for their help and planning. Great reviews from all who were in attendance, around 200 people. Bingham comments that Station Day at Village Hall went well – thanks Tuohy and Artiaga for their help. Kid Mayor and Council

went well at the school; they picked green banners for Christmas time, will be put up around November.

Mayor Bingham shares that Founders Day event will be on July 2nd. He shares that the Cherry Fest begins Thursday, June 12th; the parade is at 1:00pm on Saturday, June 14th. Parade trailer is reserved; kid mayor and council will be joining on the float.

Bingham reminds all that the Memorial Day service on May 26th at 10am at Veterans Memorial Park.

Bingham shares that the first summer concert series was last Thursday and was very well attended, next concert is June 19th.

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL

Mayor Bingham asked for any items to report from Clerk of Council Hartbarger. There were none.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Bingham asks Administrator Daugherty for any items to report.

Request Authorization for Legislation Authorizing the Village to Enter Into the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council ("SOPEC"), the Execution and Delivery of the Agreement Establishing SOPEC, and Approving the Bylaws of SOPEC

Daugherty shares that this is the first legislative piece for the electric aggregation plans. This will allow the Village to enter into an agreement with SOPEC. He comments that passing this as an emergency will speed the process up.

Motion by Councilman Riggerbach, seconded by Councilwoman Artiaga to approve request for authorization for Legislation Authorizing the Village to Enter Into the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council ("SOPEC"), the Execution and Delivery of the Agreement Establishing SOPEC, and Approving the Bylaws of SOPEC. 5 ayes, 1 abstain

Operations Report Summary

Hartbarger shares one update; staff is near the end of the selection process for a new utility payment processing service. He comments he will keep all informed on this decision.

REPORT OF THE LAW DIRECTOR

Mayor Bingham asks Solicitor Heban for any items to report. There were none.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT HEADS

Fire Department Chief Francis shares he has provided the monthly statistics for April. He shares that they have selected the next full-time candidate, out of three who were interviewed. Internal candidate Mark Bucher has been selected.

Police Chief Allan Baer shares he has provided April stats. Baer informs all that the South Fork duathlon is tomorrow evening, and some roads will be shut down for a short time. He comments that Officer Christine Fouty had her baby, both are doing well. Bike Hike is on May 29th, and the police will be controlling traffic.

Public Works Director Mike Hill shares he has filled the open, full-time position by hiring Landon Smith; he was seasonal help all last year. Flowers are going up and working on road crack sealing as weather holds.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Bingham asks for Citizen Comments pertaining to Agenda items. There were none.

Motion at 6:51pm by Councilman Riggenbach, seconded by Councilwoman Artiaga to enter into an executive session pursuant to ORC 121.22(G)(3), conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action. 6 ayes

Motion at 7:09pm by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Yunker to reconvene the Council meeting. 6 ayes

ORDINANCES

Mayor Bingham asked Solicitor Kevin Heban for any ordinances to be reviewed or voted on.

A. Ordinance 05-2025: Authorizing a Zoning Change For Certain Property Located Within the Village of Whitehouse

Motion by Councilman Connelly, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to approve **Ordinance 05-2025** to be read by title only, third reading. 6 ayes

Motion by Councilman Yunker, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to adopt **Ordinance 05-2025: Authorizing a Zoning Change for Certain Property Located Within the Village of Whitehouse**. Third reading vote by name. 4 Ayes, 2 Nays

Heban confirms this is a 4-2 vote with the Ayes winning, there will be no zoning change at this time.

B. Ordinance 06-2025: To Place On The Ballot at the Next General Election A Charter Amendment to Add Article III, The Council, Section 3.13, Term Limits for the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio

Motion by Councilman Connelly, seconded by Councilwoman Artiaga to approve **Ordinance 06-2025** to be read by title only, as an emergency, third reading. 6 ayes

Yunker asks for discussion. He comments he is all in favor of this kind of measure being put on the ballot. His concern is spending money on this that could be spent elsewhere, \$1,700 for each of the three issues going on the ballot. Daugherty confirms that is still the understanding of the cost. Yunker comments that if we are going to redo the charter in five years, we need to consider the cost now. Support going before voters not sure if it is the right time. Artiaga asks about five years then going to ballot will we have to pay the \$1,700 to present these issues. Heban confirms once we become a city it is a whole new charter, and it will all go before voters at once. Fine comments that one of the benefits now is it allows the detail of these issues to be reviewed individually and not mixed in with all the other options and updates when there is 20 pages or more of info to review. He feels it is worth the \$5,100. Connelly agrees it is money well spent. Connelly says he would expect Council to continue to do these details in upcoming years allowing voters to have their opinion. Tuohy agrees it is one way of making sure residents get their voice heard on individual topics.

Motion by Councilman Connelly, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to adopt **Ordinance 06-2025: To Place On The Ballot at the Next General Election A Charter Amendment to Add Article III, The Council, Section 3.13, Term Limits for the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio.** Third reading vote by name. 5 Ayes, 1 Nay

- C. **Ordinance 07-2025:** To Place on the Ballot at the Next General Election A Charter Amendment to Add Article IV, Mayor, Section 4.11, Term Limits, for the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio

Motion by Councilwoman Tuohy, seconded by Councilman Fine to approve **Ordinance 07-2025** to be read by title only, as an emergency, third reading. 6 ayes

Motion by Councilman Riggensbach, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to adopt **Ordinance 07-2025: To Place on the Ballot at the Next General Election A Charter Amendment to Add Article IV, Mayor, Section 4.11, Term Limits, for the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio.** Third reading vote by name. 5 Ayes, 1 Nay

- D. **Ordinance 09-2025:** To Place On the Ballot at the Next General Election A Charter Amendment to Change Article IV, Mayor, Section 4.08(C), Executive Powers, For the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio

Motion by Councilman Yunker, seconded by Councilman Riggensbach to approve **Ordinance 09-2025** to be read by title only, as an emergency, second reading. 6 ayes

Artiaga asks a question, she received a call from a resident who asks if Council can consider the very last line in the executive power, concerned with potential for someone to lose their job; asking if it could be a super majority to vote, not just majority. Fine explains there is another charter section that explains the specific positions, for Administrative, police and fire, it states there needs to be five votes which would be the super majority.

- E. **Ordinance 10-2025:** Authorizing the Village to Enter Into the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (“SOPEC”), the Execution and Delivery of the Agreement Establishing SOPEC, and Approving the Bylaws of SOPEC

Motion by Councilman Connelly, seconded by Councilman Riggenbach to approve **Ordinance 10-2025** to be read by title only, as an emergency. 5 ayes, 1 abstain

Motion by Councilman Riggenbach, seconded by Councilwoman Artiaga to approve to suspend the rules and have the second and third reading of **Ordinance 10-2025** by title only. 6 Ayes

Motion by Councilman Riggenbach, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to approve **Ordinance 10-2025** by title only, declaring an emergency. 5 Ayes, 1 abstain

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Riggenbach to adopt **Ordinance 10-2025: Authorizing the Village to Enter Into the Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (“SOPEC”), the Execution and Delivery of the Agreement Establishing SOPEC, and Approving the Bylaws of SOPEC.** Third reading vote by name. 5 Ayes, 1 abstain

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Bingham asked Solicitor Kevin Heban for any resolutions to be reviewed or voted on. There were none.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Riggenbach comments on the Swan Creek Ditch project and meeting with Commissioner Sobecki – was a positive conversation and any ability to get any funding for this whole project is 100% due to Mayor Bingham and all his advocating that is being done. If any money gets approved and saves all these other Lucas County areas any amount, it is all because of Mayor Bingham.

Riggenbach comments asking for a vote to cancel the currently scheduled July 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting and the second July Council meeting.

Motion by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to cancel the July 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting. 6 ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to cancel the second Council meeting in July, scheduled for July 15th, 2025. 6 ayes

Riggenbach comments the bridge dedication was phenomenal. The speeches were amazing, walking across at the end was great. Kudos to all who were involved. Fine comments that it turned out so well because of so many different peoples efforts down to the details.

Yunker comments on Cherry Fest request for waiving the fees. Riegenbach said email received from all funds that could help is a little over \$6,500. Riegenbach shares he would be willing to go up to \$6k for fees being waived, as long as it's not more than what is in the budget. He suggests putting a line item in the budget going forward so it is decided ahead of time. Tuohy asks about sponsors that Cherry Fest gets, asks if some of these sponsors could directly offset this fee. Yunker asks Fire and Police Chief, is extra staff brought in or people working overtime for this event – Baer comments that every officer walking at the Cherry Fest is overtime. Daugherty comments there is minimal in-kind donations, Council has asked to track these costs – but the majority is actual hard dollars for Cherry Fest is due to salary, overtime, etc. but it is built into Police and Fire budget because it is spent every year. Connelly suggests waiving full fee as it is understood most costs are already in the approved budget. Can review again with budget discussion for next year.

Motion by Councilwoman Tuohy, seconded by Councilman Connelly to waive the Cherry Fest fee for the AW Chamber of Commerce. 6 ayes

Wendy Gehring comments that the chamber also in turn donates money back, last year was electrical, year before was shelter house help, it is being discussed this year on where they can help.

Fine thanks Phil Leppla for coming up and sharing his expertise on the SOPEC topic. He thanks him for his help and patience through the whole process. Tuohy thanks Councilman Fine as well for his dedication to getting this pushed through.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mayor Bingham asks if there are any citizen comments to share. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Yunker, seconded by Councilman Fine to adjourn the meeting at 7:37pm. 6 ayes

Duly Appointed Clerk of Council

Mayor

COUNCIL BILLS

5/30/2025

VENDOR	DEPARTMENT	AMOUNT	TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
Ace Diversified Services	Parks	\$175.00	\$175.00	Porta Potty
Amazon	Parks	\$89.59		Supplies
Amazon	Fire	\$107.88		Supplies
Amazon	Police	\$99.44	\$296.91	Supplies
Amercian Public Works Association	Sewer	\$330.00		Training
Amercian Public Works Association	Streets	\$330.00		Training
Amercian Public Works Association	Water	\$335.00	\$995.00	Training
AT&T First Net	Fire	\$430.54		Cell Phones
AT&T First Net	Administration	\$92.25		Cell Phones
AT&T First Net	Parks	\$45.99		Cell Phones & Tablet
AT&T First Net	Maintenance	\$45.99		Cell Phones
AT&T First Net	Streets	\$45.99		Cell Phones & Tablet
AT&T First Net	Water	\$95.88		Cell Phones & Tablet
AT&T First Net	Sewer	\$95.87	\$852.51	Cell Phones & Tablet
Benjamin Delong	Community	\$700.00	\$700.00	Summer Concert
Cintas Corp	Parks	\$11.17		Uniform Service
Cintas Corp	Maintenance	\$11.17		Uniform Service
Cintas Corp	Streets	\$11.17		Uniform Service
Cintas Corp	Sewer	\$11.17		Uniform Service
Cintas Corp	Water	\$22.34	\$67.02	Uniform Service
Forrest Auto	Fire	\$124.90	\$124.90	Supplies
Kleinfelder	Community	\$1,530.96	\$1,530.96	Economic Development
MASI	Water	\$1,138.15	\$1,138.15	Water Sample Analysis
Ohio Gas Company	Police	\$61.03		Natural Gas Charges
Ohio Gas Company	Fire	\$29.92		Natural Gas Charges
Ohio Gas Company	Maintenance	\$183.12		Natural Gas Charges
Ohio Gas Company	Parks	\$105.32		Natural Gas Charges
Ohio Gas Company	Lucas County ALS	\$29.92	\$409.31	Natural Gas Charges
Service Organization	Administration	\$21.25	\$21.25	FSA Administrative Fee
Toledo Edison	Administration	\$5,078.77	\$5,078.77	Install Street Lights
Traffic Stop Uniform Supply	Police	\$70.00	\$70.00	Uniform
Whitehouse Motors	Police	\$261.36	\$261.36	Office 365 & AntiVirus
		\$11,721.14	\$11,721.14	



Special Events

TZ6-770

Balance

\$0.00

Applicant	Application #	Submitted	Issued	Starts	Expires	Identifier
Dennis Kennedy	TZ6-770	May 16, 2025	--	--	--	--

Applicant Information

APPLICANT

Dennis Kennedy

✉ dennis_kennedy@hotmail.com

☎ (513) 252-6718

📍 9761 Preakness Ln, Whitehouse, OH 43571

📍 Same as mailing address

Coordinator/Contact Person

COORDINATOR/CONTACT PERSON

Dennis Kennedy

✉ dennis_kennedy@hotmail.com

☎ (513) 252-6718

📍 9761 Preakness Ln, Whitehouse, OH 43571

📍 Same as mailing address

Event Information

Event Name

Neighborhood Block Party

Event Date (s)

Sunday June 22, 2025

Event Hours

3pm-8pm

Estimated Attendance

50 people

Describe Event

Annual party for the residents of the Steeplechase neighborhood.

Event Details

Non-Profit Organization

Yes

Will the Event Use Signage/Attraction Devices

Yes

Amplified Voice/Music

Yes

Will police security be needed?

No

Food/Beverage Sales ?

Yes

Alcoholic Beverage Sales?

No

F2 Permit & Approval Needed?

No

Will you be using tents?

Yes

Food Trucks on site?

Yes

Inflatable structures used?

Yes

Any Product Sales?

No

Temporary Fencing Used?

No

Traffic Barricades Needed?

Yes

Traffic Signage Needed?

Yes

Traffic Control and Direction Needed?

No

Other

N/A

Requested Services

the drop off & pick up of street barricades with appropriate, "road closed" signs would be helpful.

Map Upload

Payment for Services

Administration

N/A

Fire

N/A

Police

N/A

Public Service

N/A

Tent

N/A

Food Truck

N/A

Additional Information

Digital Signature

Dennis Kennedy

Proof of Insurance

Fees

TOTAL

\$0.00

PAID	\$0.00
BALANCE DUE	\$0.00

Communication

Mike H May 22, 4:09 PM

Approval Comment:

Ok we will drop off barricades at Stallion Circle and Barbaro and also Rockingham and Barbaro on Friday June 20th in the afternoon and pick up on Monday

Brad B May 22, 4:12 PM

Approval Comment:

No issues. Minimal traffic impact.

Jason F May 22, 4:54 PM

Approval Comment:

No issues.

Josh H May 23, 12:16 PM

No issues.

Josh H May 23, 12:17 PM

Approval Comment:

Tentatively scheduled for the 6/3/2025 Council Meeting

Workflow

1. In Person or Virtual Meeting Completed - COMPLETED

Assignee: Jennifer Herman

2. Police Chief Review - COMPLETED

Assignee: Brad Baker

3. Fire Chief Review - COMPLETED

Assignee: Jason Francis

4. Public Service Director Review - COMPLETED

Assignee: Mike Hill

5. Deputy Administrator / COO Review - COMPLETED

Assignee: Josh Hartbarger

6. Administrator Approval - COMPLETED

Assignee: Jordan Daugherty

7. Scheduled for Council - COMPLETED

Assignee: Jennifer Herman

8. Council Approval - ACTIVE

Assignee: Josh Hartbarger

9. Issue Special Event Approval - INACTIVE

Assignee: Jennifer Herman

10. Payment for Services - INACTIVE

Assignee: Jennifer Herman

Whitehouse Tree Commission Minutes
May 22, 2025

Present: Diane Deyonker, Laurie Mauro, Christine Manzey, Amy Schultz, Elliot Tramer, James Forrest, Steve Connelly

May 22nd Tree Commission Meeting Called to Order: 7:30 PM

I. The April 24, 2025 meeting minutes were approved.

II. Old Business

- **Brief reviews of April 30th presentation and May 5th Arbor Day**
 - Elliot: rain garden presentation was well done, with a lively discussion
 - Elliot thanked James and other Commission members for preparation of materials for the students on Friday, May 2nd. After rain canceled the May 2nd date, the sycamores had to be planted. Weather cooperated and the celebration took place on May 5th, with six Whitehouse staff, an arborist from First Energy Company, Elliot, and 125 third graders from Whitehouse Primary School in attendance. Since soil was no longer available, mulch was provided for the children to shovel around the young sycamores. Karen Gerhardinger provided good publicity photos in the Mirror Newspaper on May 8th.
 - Elliot relayed that the Administrator - Jordan Daugherty - concerned about old silver maples in park area near the playground, and they will have to come out. Jordan proposed planting a grove of sycamore trees which could provide the shade when the maples (eventually) come out. Asked group for feedback. Diane asked if we could use the same site annually to continue to plant sycamores; James confirmed we could do that, but that the motivation was to plant more of them sooner - this fall - approximately 7 or 8 (vs. waiting annually). Enough trees to go around the area, and potentially some other varieties as well. Laurie indicated a diversity of trees would be preferable - Tulip polar may be a good addition. Suggestion was 4 Sycamore and 4 Tulip Poplars.
 - James added that a brick could be ordered to memorialize the tree planting for this year (type of tree(s) planted, Arbor Day 2025); Elliot will follow-up.
- **Tree Inventory:**
 - James provided updates including:
 - Three oak trees in the roundabout which didn't make it through the winter. Replace with same oaks. Elliot asked why they failed - James thought it may be potentially trimmer damage around base.
 - Two river birch by the office which are also dead and need removed. Unsure what trees will replace, would like to not use river birch due to limb loss; looking for a cleaner replacement.
 - Redbud in the plaza on Providence by the depot and is sickly, needing replaced. Plans exist for redoing the plazas, will check with Mike to see

where that stands (in next year or so), as that may influence timing of new planting.

- **Tree Commission Availability for America in Bloom Visit:**
 - Elliot indicated that he and Chris would not be in town, sought representatives to be present between 9 and 3:30 on the 23rd and 24th of June. Diane is not available until after 3:30.
- **Forms and Docs**
 - No updates
- **Door Hangers**
 - Diane provided new version of door hanger, which with the addition of the QR Code, will be used. Motion to approve revised format made by Chris, Amy Seconded.
- **Growth Award Progress and Ideas**
 - Elliot communicated that the following items to add in August/September timeframe renewal of Tree City and Growth Award is the first week in December - but we have to plan the contributing activities:
 - story boards should be included in the growth award application, which would need photographed to be included for ~2 points.
 - New member was added this year.
 - New Trees planted.
 - Budget was increased.
 - Tree inventory ~30% of addresses inventoried.
 - Laurie is working through the tree academy this year, which may contribute.
 - Laurie also shared some of the homework given, relevant to tree inventory - updates, inventory process, spending a day with the urban forester (Stephanie), planning the street tree planting for a currently unplanned area. James added that there were several Sassafras indicated on the plan, which are hard to source. Laurie will let us know when she hears from Stephanie to coordinate her visit along with others. Questions from the homework will be included in the next committee meeting.

III. New Business

- **Continue Tree Inventory Began in 2024 - Planning discussion:**
 - Elliot commented that we need to review all places we did last year, and determine which streets remain. Diane had the relevant updates to inform areas to address in 2025, shared with the group. There was an open question related to how far into the lawn we would inventory; center of street to 30' was being used, but on a street without a sidewalk there is some ambiguity. James will check with Mike on what the regulation is - it *may* vary based on development where the

right of way is marked. He also indicated that AREIS shows the right of way for each property.

- Diane reviewed the master plan with the group; James has a zone map in the maintenance shop which could help to guide progress. Elliot will review the previously completed areas, match back to the zone map, and devise a plan in collaboration with all members, to review at the next meeting.
- **Tree Commission Table at Farmers Market Saturday Mornings-EAB, ALB & SLF awareness**
 - Elliot spoke with Sheri about the farmers market; she was happy to learn of all the updates and progress made this year by the group - and looking forward to being able to come back to our meetings. She suggested Mark Schriefer could help to arrange a farmers market table on Saturday mornings. Discussion around type of materials available to distribute for children who show, and what we should have on hand in the way of information handouts. James thought ODNR may have some materials (Stephanie) may have items.
 - Farmers market begins mid-June; extends ~8 weeks. Will check with the administration on availability of a table.
- **Facebook Ideas From Tree Risk Publication; also EAB, ALB and SLF awareness**
 - Elliot is going to send materials to Mark S. to update the Facebook page; he relayed that

IV. Discuss Other Issues as Appropriate under the Village Charter

- Chris and Elliot will be gone in June and July, overlapping the normal meeting dates.
 - Move June meeting to June 19th, with the July meeting to be July 10th.
 - Diane raised motion to adjust dates seconded by Chris.

Adjournment:

- Amy moved to adjourn at 8:36 PM, seconded by Diane.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Connelly

ORDINANCE 09-2025

AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE ON THE BALLOT AT THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION A CHARTER AMENDMENT TO CHANGE ARTICLE IV, MAYOR, SECTION 4.08(C), EXECUTIVE POWERS, FOR THE VILLAGE OF WHITEHOUSE, LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the present Charter for the Village of Whitehouse provides for a mechanism for the appointment, promotion, transfer, suspension, reduction and removal of certain employees of the Village; and

WHEREAS, this provision now in place, under certain circumstances, may prove untenable to be followed and therefore is in need of amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Council for the Village of Whitehouse has determined that it would be in the best interests of the public that the Charter for the Village of Whitehouse be amended to change the process and procedure for the appointment, promotion, transfer, suspension, reduction and removal of certain employees of the Village.

NOW THEREFORE, Be It Ordained By The Council Of The Village Of Whitehouse, Lucas County Ohio, That:

Section 1. The question of the change of Article IV, Mayor, Section 4.08(C), Executive Powers, shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the Village of Whitehouse at the general election to be held on the 4th day of November, 2025, at the regular places of voting in the Village of Whitehouse between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Article IV, Mayor, Section 4.08(C), Executive Powers, shall be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE IV MAYOR

SECTION 4.08 EXECUTIVE POWERS

(C) Except as otherwise provided by this Charter or the Whitehouse Municipal Code, the Mayor shall have the power to appoint, promote, transfer, suspend, reduce or remove any officer or employee of the Municipality except those required by this Charter to be elected or appointed; provided, however that such appointment, promotion, reduction or removal of officers provided for by this Charter and the heads of departments or divisions established pursuant thereto shall not take effect without the concurrence of a majority of the members of Council.

Section 2 The ballot for the election shall be entitled; "Village Charter Amendment Ballot" and the question to be submitted on the ballot shall be: "Shall the proposed amendment of Article IV, Mayor, Section 4.08(C) of the Charter of the Village of Whitehouse be adopted?" This shall be followed by the text set forth in Section 1 above. To the left of said wording, in boxes, with the appropriate place for marking, shall appear the words, "Yes", and "No", and each voter shall indicate his/her vote by appropriate marking on the ballot.

Section 3. The Clerk of Council is directed to publish the full text of the proposed charter amendment, as set forth above, for not less than two consecutive weeks in the Mirror and Toledo Blade with the first publication being at least fifteen days prior to the election, in accordance with Section 9 of Article XVIII, Ohio Constitution, and ORC 731.211.

Section 4. To pay the cost of printing copies of the proposed charter amendment and the publishing of notice, there is hereby appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$500.00, or so much thereof as may be needed.

Section 5. The Clerk of Council is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Ordinance to the Board of Elections of Lucas County, Ohio no later than 4:00 p.m. on August 1, 2025.

Section 6. It is found and determined that all formal actions of Council concerning or relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees, that resulted in such formal actions, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of the Village of Whitehouse and the State of Ohio.

Section 7. This ordinance is deemed an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare, and for the further reason that it is necessary to promptly submit this matter to the Board of Elections and to allow sufficient time to notify the citizens of Whitehouse of the proposed amendment.

VOTE ON EMERGENCY MEASURE: Yeas: _____ Nays: _____

FINAL VOTE ON THE MEASURE: Yeas: _____ Nays: _____

First Reading: _____

Second Reading: _____

Third Reading: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE: _____, 2025.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Duly Appointed Clerk of Council

Solicitor

ORDINANCE 11-2025

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE FOR THE SUSTAINABLE OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (“SOPEC”) ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PROGRAM, AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF JOINTLY ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING AN ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PROGRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Village Council of Whitehouse, Ohio (the “Village”) previously enacted legislation authorizing the Village to establish an opt-out electric aggregation program, pursuant to Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code (the “Electric Aggregation Program”), for the residents, businesses, and other eligible electric consumers located within the Village, and for that purpose, to act jointly with any other village, city, township, municipal corporation, county, or other political subdivision of the State of Ohio, as permitted by law; and

WHEREAS, by joining the Southeast Ohio Public Energy Council (DBA Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council) (“SOPEC”), the Village will be able to act jointly with other members of political subdivisions and thereby maximize the potential benefit of electric deregulation through group purchasing efforts; and

WHEREAS, this Village Council, pursuant to Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code, has held two (2) public hearings on the Plan of Operation and Governance (the “Plan”) for the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITEHOUSE, COUNTY OF LUCAS, AND STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1. This Village Council hereby approves and adopts the Plan of Operation and Governance of the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program in the form presented to this Village Council and on file with the Clerk.

SECTION 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Village Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in open meetings of this Village Council, and that all deliberations of this Village Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including the Village’s Codified Ordinances and Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall go into effect upon its passage as provided by law and the Charter of the Village of Whitehouse.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an Emergency Measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of said Village and its inhabitants, and for the further reason that it is necessary to meet the time requirements for aggregation elections.

VOTE ON EMERGENCY MEASURE: Yeas: _____ Nays: _____

FINAL VOTE ON THE MEASURE: Yeas: _____ Nays: _____

First Reading: _____

Second Reading: _____

Third Reading: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE: _____, 2025

Mayor

ATTEST:

Duly Appointed Clerk of Council

Solicitor



**Operations Report and Status Update
June 3rd, 2025**

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Administration-

- Nothing to report

Police-

- Complete 2024 Collaborative Police Advisory Board Desk Top Review for Final Certification
- Prepare for Cherry Fest
- Multi-Sport Event on June 21st.
- Safety Town June 23rd-27th

Fire-

- Calls for service in May

Public Service-

- Crack Sealing
- Seasonal positions Full
- Bulk Item Curbside Pick up June 28th

SAFETY AND HEALTH REPORT

02-01-25 None

ZONING

05-20-25

1. **Permits (Total Count for 2025):**
 - 6 New Home
 - 24 Contractor Registrations
 - 13 Fence Permits
 - 5 Shed Permit
 - 2 Non-Temporary Sign Applications
 - 1 Temporary Sign
 - 4 Pool Permit
 - 1 Garage
2. **Zoning Cases:** 1 Case turned over to Maumee Courts*
3. **Zoning Report:** (Attached) 2025 Current

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

06-03-25

Special Events

1. Easter Event- March 29th, 2025
2. Summer Concert Series – May 15, June 19, July 17, 2025
3. Arbor Day – May 2nd with a rain date of May 5th 1:30pm
4. Bridge Dedication May 8th at 6:30pm
5. 3rd Grade Events – May 9th 1:30pm Stations, May 15th 1:30pm arrive Mock Council
6. Memorial Day May 26th 2025
7. Cherry Fest- June 12, 13, and 14th 2025
8. Dancing in the Park – June 26th Evening
9. Founders Day – July 2nd, 2025 (Fireworks)
10. Ice Cream with Mayor and Council – August 16th at 12:00-2:00pm
11. Halloween – Friday, October 31st
12. Christmas Event – Saturday, December 6th, 2025

SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENTS

04-15-25

1. Whitehouse Square Townhomes – Surveying Began April 2025.

STREETS

06-03-25

1. **North Texas St. (Lone Oak Ditch to Swan Creek), Bond St., Cemetery Rd (Intersection at SR 64)** – 2025 OPWC Street Resurfacing. To Kleinfelder for Engineering as of January 2025. Advertised in paper for Bid (March 2025). Bid Opening April 3rd at 2pm (April 2025). Bid Awarded to Gehrken Paving (May 2025) Approximate start date is (June 23rd 2025)
2. **Waterville St. Resurfacing** – Providence St. to Oak Crossing Lane. Approved through OPWC/Small Government Funding Program-schedule year 2025. Mill & Fill project. To Kleinfelder for Engineering as of January 2025. Advertised in paper for Bid (March 2025). Bid Opening April 3rd at 2pm (April 2025). Bid Awarded to Gehrken Paving (May 2025). Approximate start date is (June 23rd 2025)
3. **Finzel Road Improvements** – Resurfacing 4600' of Finzel Road from SR64 Roundabout to Anthony Wayne Jr. High School. This is a Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funded project. Project cost is anticipated to be \$644,730 and grant funding is \$466,180. Project year is 2028.

PARKS & RECREATION

05-20-25

1. **Disc Golf** – Public Works Staff is working with volunteers on construct improvements at Sandra Park to include the disc golf course. Equipment procured. Course 50% completed (April 2025). Almost Completed (May 2025)
2. **Park Sign & Front Park Design** – Reconstruction of Whitehouse Park sign and Landscape design for front of park along Providence St. between St. Louis and Lucas St. Working with Edge Group on Concept May 2025.
3. **Story Book Walk** – Installation completed March 2025. Researching ideas on new books.

WATER
05-06-25

1. **Elevated Storage** - A new .5MG Water Tower is currently in the design engineering phase. Design engineer is Poggemeyer Design Group. Grant awarded for construction of new .5 MG Elevated Water Storage Tower - \$1,874,138.00. Plans to OEPA for review. Bid opening-July 12th. Apparent low bidder-Maguire Iron for \$2,753,000. Awaiting award. Awarded to Maguire Iron. Anticipated to start mid-November. Start date pushed back to February. Groundbreaking occurred in February 2025. Foundation Poured (March 2025). Site work being completed for steel (April 2025). Steel work has begun (May 2025).

WASTE WATER
05-06-25

1. **Sanitary Sewer Trunk Main** –Working with Jones & Henry Engineering on the installation of a sanitary sewer trunk main to be constructed to replace current force mains and sewage pumping stations which are nearing the end of their useful life and needing replaced. Wrapping up plans to submit to OEPA. Easement acquisitions underway. Awarded to Mark Shaffer’s Excavating & Trucking for \$2,486,185.00. Construction Spring 2021-Project started March 2021. Presently on hold-delay in material acquisition. Material acquired-construction has resumed. Cemetery Rd closing July 26th for 35 days. Cemetery Rd. & Wabash Cannonball Trail are open. Currently constructing final connections at Logan and Field Ave. All underground construction completed. Earth work & pavement restoration is underway. Final clean up completed. Awaiting project closeout.
2. **Sanitary Sewer Collection System Evaluation** – Contacted with Jones & Henry to review sanitary sewer inspection data and make recommendation for future maintenance efforts. Recommendation to perform cast in place sectional liners and rehab manholes. Estimated project cost \$1,050,456.00. Council approved project for Water Pollution Control Fund nomination. Jones & Henry to make application – Fall 2024. Announced as an intended project for funding through Water Pollution Control Loan Fund for 2025.
3. **Force Main Hydrogen Sulfide Mitigation** – Working with OHM on testing for solutions.

STORM SEWER
05-06-25

1. Staff working with Lucas County Engineer to move forward petition process for the maintenance of Swan Creek to include all of the Swan Creek Watershed west of I-475 in Lucas County. Petitions to be filed with Lucas County. Ditch petition hearing to begin Spring 2021. Petition Filed. First reading held 12-2-21. Approved by unanimous vote to continue with determining the need for ditch maintenance and costs. Expected to take 24 months to gather information. Lucas County Representatives will be at Whitehouse answering ditch petition questions on July 30, 2024 – 4-8 p.m. Final Hearing is August 6, 2024 at 2 p.m. at the Lucas County Commissioners. Hearing postponed. Recessed to July 15, 2025. Mayor has been meeting with Lucas County and other Elected officials looking for alternative source funding.
2. Loan Oak Ditch Cleaning – In progress. Cleaned from SR 295 to Oak Brook (May 2025)

SANITATION**04-01-25**

1. Established 2025 bulk drop off/curbside dates. The drop-off dates will be January 3rd-4th & 10th-11th, March 21-22. The curbside pickup dates will be June 28th, September 27th. Total Residents served for January was 377. March Drop off 189 residents served (206 loads). Recycled 3000lbs of steel (April 2025).

MISCELLANEOUS**02-01-25** None**INCOME TAX AND JEDD/JEDZ****05-06-25 Income Tax (As of April 30, 2024)****a. Whitehouse Income Tax Collections**

- i. 2025 = \$1,448,066.25
- ii. 2024 = \$1,206,527.82
- iii. Year to Date Comparison = 20.02% Increase

b. MTJEDD

Date	2nd Qtr 2024	YTD (3rd & 4th Qtr. 2023, 1st & 2nd Qtr. 2024)
Receipts	\$229,690.79	\$1,366,687.09
Refunds	\$32,901.15	\$66,122.68
Grants Paid	\$0.00	\$503,323.00
Subtotal	\$196,789.64	\$797,241.41
Maintenance Fund	\$19,678.96	\$79,724.14
Retainage Fund	\$1,967.90	\$7,972.42
Net Tax Revenues	\$175,142.78	\$709,544.85
MTJEDD Disbursement	\$131,357.09	\$532,158.64
Whitehouse Disbursement	\$43,785.69	\$177,386.21

c. STJEDZ

Date	1st Qtr. 2025	YTD
Receipts	\$490,616.85	\$490,616.85
Refunds	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grants Paid	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$470,616.85	\$470,616.85
STJEDZ Disbursement	\$352,962.64	\$352,962.64
Whitehouse Disbursement	\$117,654.21	\$117,654.21

Current Open Cases for Council Report

Priority	Case	Topic	Status	Date opened	Due Date	Address Num	Street
High	<u>24-0006</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	02/01/2024	05/30/2025	6711	GILEAD ST
Normal	<u>24-0066</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	10/10/2024	05/23/2025	10233	Witte Walk
Normal	<u>24-0068</u>	Abandoned Vehicles	Open	12/09/2024	05/30/2025	6531	EASTVIEW DR
High	<u>25-0006</u>	Abandoned Vehicles	Open	03/15/2025	05/09/2025	10125	WATERVILLE SWANTON RD
Normal	<u>25-0007</u>	Abandoned Vehicles	Open	03/19/2025	05/30/2025	10650	WATERVILLE ST
Normal	<u>25-0008</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	03/25/2025	05/30/2025	10820	WATERVILLE ST
Normal	<u>25-0009</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	03/26/2025	05/16/2025	6700	CEMETERY RD
Normal	<u>25-0010</u>	Parking Complaint	Open	04/01/2025	05/30/2025	6633	MERRITT ST
Normal	<u>25-0012</u>	Noise Complaint	Open	04/08/2025	05/08/2025	6320	Providence Street
Normal	<u>25-0013</u>	Collection of Junk or Debris	Open	04/22/2025	05/16/2025	10950	TOLEDO ST
Normal	<u>25-0014</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	04/24/2025	05/15/2025	6414	LENDERSON AVE
Normal	<u>25-0015</u>	Zoning-No Permit	Open	05/16/2025	05/23/2025	6537	EASTVIEW DR
Normal	<u>25-0016</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	05/20/2025	06/06/2025	10938	CABLE AVE
Normal	<u>25-0017</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	05/19/2025	05/30/2025	6650	OAK CROSSING LN
Normal	<u>25-0018</u>	Property Maintenance	Open	05/19/2025	05/30/2025	6007	CHRISTOPHER DR
Normal	<u>25-0019</u>	Tall Grass/Weeds	Open	05/21/2025	05/27/2025	11159	WHITETAIL WAY
Normal	<u>25-0021</u>	Tall Grass/Weeds	Open	05/29/2025	06/03/2025	11172	WEST ST
Normal	<u>25-0022</u>	Tall Grass/Weeds	Open	05/29/2025	06/03/2025	6821	WHITEHOUSE SQUARE BLVD