

On Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 6:00 PM, Mayor Joseph Galea opened the Council meeting with a word of prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited by those present.

The regular meeting for the Council of the Village of Monroeville was then called to order.

Present at roll call:

Chris Raftery	and	Joseph Galea, Mayor
Mark Miller		Tom Gray, Village Administrator
Sue Rogers		Eunice Collene, Fiscal Officer
Bob Whitacre		Gabby Toscano, Solicitor
Sam Wiley		Chief Jon Earl, MPD

Also attending: Tom Vitaz, Ashley Morrow, Jim Ehrman, and David Beck.

The September 2025 financial reports, bank statements, balance sheets, check reports, and bank reconciliations were previously distributed to the Council via e-mail.

EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER

Council member Tammy Schlachter had previously notified the Mayor that she would be unable to attend tonight's meeting. The Mayor asked Council for a motion to excuse Tammy Schlachter from tonight's meeting. Sam Wiley made that motion, seconded by Mark Miller. Motion carried with no discussion.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGENDA

The Mayor asked for Council's approval of the agenda as amended to include Ordinance 2025-18. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Sue Rogers, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried with no discussion.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

The Mayor asked Council for a motion to approve the minutes from the regular Council meeting on September 9, 2025, and the special Council meetings on September 23, 2025, and September 26, 2025. Sam Wiley made that motion, seconded by Sue Rogers. Motion carried with no discussion.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Mayor asked Council for a motion to approve the September 2025 financial reports. Sue Rogers made that motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre. Motion carried with no discussion.

APPROVAL OF THE MONTHLY CREDIT CARD REPORT

The Mayor asked Council for a motion to approve the September 2025 credit card report. Chris Raftery made that motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre. Motion carried with no further discussion.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Ashley Morrow, Community Engagement and Resource Manager with the Huron County Mental Health & Addiction Services, addressed council regarding their levy that is on the November 4th ballot. There was a new levy on the May ballot that failed. They have new leadership now and this will just be a .50 mill renewal. If this does not pass, the levy and fund will cease to exist. These funds are used to operate the Mobile Crisis unit. The levy generates \$11.00 per year per \$100,000 value on a home.

David Beck addressed council regarding the condition of streets in the village. He acknowledged the improvements made in the school zone after his visit to council in May of 2021. Last year, he noted the condition of Hamilton Street and is glad to hear grant funds were received and this will be done in 2026. There was discussion of generating an inventory of the streets and prioritizing what needs done and getting them on rotation. Mr. Beck acknowledged funds and grants needed to accomplish this and asked where things stand. Tom Gray said he has obtained pricing to do an inventory and it is expensive. Tom said it will be considered to be built into the 2026 budget. Mayor Galea explained how the grant process works and that we have a good advocate with Ohio House Representative Kellie Deeter to assist in getting grants.

Tom Vitaz complimented the police chief on progress and safety in the school zone. He asked about how the utility bills will look with our new system. For example, if they would be postcards or full sheet. They will be full sheet and we can customize them. After much discussion on rates and information on the bills and the website, he was told we will update the website to provide more information and check his billing to be sure it is correct.

Jim Ehrman requested an update of the drainage issues from the Sandusky Street property. Mayor Galea explained the owner is looking for a more economic engineering to move the project forward to tap into the village's system. Tom Gray said the definition of the scope needs to be changed to be more cost effective.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Administrator – Tom presented his report that had been previously submitted to the Council. He noted a reliable source has told him Thursday or Friday, we would see activity at the Sunrise railroad crossing. Trex has located a permit and filed application for transfer of the permit and will hopefully be filed this week or next week for 7-Eleven. No opening date has been determined yet.

Fiscal Officer – Eunice presented her report that had been previously submitted to Council. Eunice requested amending or updating Ordinance 2011-13 that deals with how we invoice insurance or others for work done by village employees and equipment being used for accidents, etc. All agreed. This will be drafted for the next meeting.

Eunice asked for clarification on employees getting November 28, 2025. In the past, employees were given the day off with pay as a holiday. If the employee had to work, they received pay at time and a half. Chief Earl noted it was easier getting the part-time officers to fill in, giving the full-time officers the day off with that incentive. Chris Raftery asked if we haven't already set that precedent? All agreed. Chris Raftery made that motion, seconded by Sam Wiley. Motion carried with no discussion.

Eunice reported plans are progressing for the Vintage Village Christmas on December 13th and there will be some exciting new changes!

Police – Chief presented his report that had been previously submitted to Council. Chief acknowledged the valuable services and his support of the Huron County Mental Health & Addiction Services levy and noted how they work closely, side-by-side, and the valuable resources they provide, saving his department and the village time and money.

Traffic activity was reviewed. Chief requested approval to accept the resignation of Erik Reinhart and waive the training reimbursement costs since the village required him to attend the training. Sam Wiley made that motion, seconded by Sue Rogers. Motion carried with expressing gratitude for his service. With that complete, Chief Earl requested approval to hire Logan Gale as a full-time police officer for the village with a start date of October 27th at \$25.00 per hour. He is currently a part-time officer with the department. Sam Wiley made that motion, seconded by Chris Raftery. Motion carried with no discussion.

Chief updated discussion on the FLOCK traffic cameras. He has a contract for a 60-day free trial of nine cameras to cover every entry to the village. If we opt to keep all cameras, the cost would be \$27,000 per year. This is a significant cost savings to the village if you consider what it would take for the officers to even attempt to do the work the cameras will do for us. Chief gave reference to a couple of criminal cases that would have been solved very quickly if we had the cameras. Several other surrounding communities are getting these cameras as well and we will be able to network and communicate with them to stop the crimes before they happen here. Chief requested permission and authorization to sign the 60-day free trial contract. Sam Wiley made that motion, seconded by Sue Rogers. Motion carried with no discussion.

Solicitor – Gabby Toscano had nothing to report on behalf of Jim Barney.

Mayor – The Mayor acknowledged Elisa and Andrew Brown and family for being awarded the Entrepreneurial Spirit Award from the Huron County Growth Partnership at the "Network After Work & Annual Awards" held October 8th in the Village of Monroeville – The Village Barn. He noted this was well attended and was a great opportunity in showcasing the Village. The Homebody Harvest last weekend was another success and went well in the community. He acknowledged the Monroeville Lady Eagles Volleyball team won their 4th straight Firelands Conference. They will be invited to a future meeting for full recognition. The Mayor continued to highlight the many attributes of the Village that made it a simple decision for him and his wife to settle here to raise their family.

BOARD AND COMMISSION REPORTS

HRJFD

Huron River Joint Fire District convened on October 1: Bob reported there were 15 calls in September, with five being in the village. The department went to the schools last week to take part in Fire Safety Week. Trick or Treat will be October 26th from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., followed by the annual Halloween Parade at 3:00 p.m. They have two renewal levies on the ballot. Mayor asked if they had any report on

the pending ambulance issues and meetings. Bob said nothing to report at this time. They are attending meetings and gathering information like everyone else.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS FOR PASSAGE

The Mayor asked for a motion to suspend the rules for the following legislation. Chris Raftery made that motion, seconded by Sue Rogers. Motion carried with no discussion.

Ordinance 2025-18 *An Ordinance amending or supplementing certain funds for appropriations in Ordinance no 2025-05, and declaring an emergency,* was presented for passage. Chris Raftery made a motion, seconded by Bob Whitacre, to pass Ordinance 2025-18 by title only. Mayor Galea asked Eunice to explain. Fiscal Officer Collene noted the appropriations were necessary for repairs to the instant water heater since there has not been any hot water in the MMC building for a month or more and the boiler feed water pump failed over the weekend. Payroll also ran short in the Parks Department when payroll was run this week. Tom Gray said we exceeded the useful life and stated the gas exhaust manifold on the tankless water heater was drawing moisture into the vent pipe, ruining the combustion chamber and that water from the top was not being evacuated properly. Motion carried with no further discussion.

APPROVAL OF BILL SUMMARY

The Mayor asked Council for a motion to approve the bill summary. Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Chris Raftery, to approve the bill summary as presented, which included memo expenses and check #047255 to check #047326, for a total of \$1,012,995.66. Motion carried with no discussion.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Mayor Galea noted we need to schedule a work session to discuss the budget and the need to reschedule the November regular meeting that falls on Veteran's Day. Gabby asked if we didn't have an ordinance that automatically pushed a regular meeting to the next day if it fell on a holiday. Nobody recalled ever having such an ordinance. Mayor Galea asked Eunice to look into this for the next meeting. Gabby gave some references that have such an ordinance. After some discussion, it was agreed and decided to have a work session on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Sam Wiley motioned to move the regular November meeting to Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried with a second from Mark Miller.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before them, the Mayor asked Council for a motion to adjourn. Sam Wiley made that motion, seconded by Chris Raftery.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Eunice A. Collene, Fiscal Officer

Joseph Galea, Mayor

The minutes of this meeting were recorded by Fiscal Officer Eunice A. Collene, who examined them for both form and content, subsequently approving them as transcribed.

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