

Finance, Wages & Audit Committee Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 6, 2025  
6:30 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers

The Finance, Wages & Audit Committee met on Thursday, November 6. In attendance were Committee Members Louise Estep, Martha Frantz, and Rachel Smith, along with Mayor John Berry, Fiscal Officer Kristel Beyer and Administrator Chad Beyer. Also present were Councilman Rick Tolles and incoming Councilmen Sean Thiebaut and Doug Grey.

Estep stated the meeting was scheduled to establish the 2026 Temporary Appropriations and a few other finance-related items. She turned the meeting over to Kristel, who distributed a Revenue Status report as of November 6, an Appropriation Status report as of March 23 (first three months of the current year) and a draft of the 2026 Temporary Appropriation Resolution. Kristel reviewed the changes, which included increasing funds in the Parks, Streets, Water and Sewer funds, due to the addition of a new employee. There is a decrease in the H2Ohio Grant Fund and the American Rescue Plan Fund, due to those monies being expended in full in 2025. The overall appropriations are decreased by \$71,782.92 from last year and the following projects were included in the appropriations:

**Equipment to video and stream the Council Meetings** -- Kristel will follow-up with Mike Bailey from a previous conversation they had on what would be needed. Rachel will talk to the IT employees where she is employed regarding the “Owl Technology” and it was also discussed to reach out to the Village of Whitehouse to see how they stream their meetings and what platform they use.

**Quarterly Newsletter** – Louise stated that more communication needs to go out to the residents so they are informed on what legislation is passed, garage sale dates, Applebutter passes, and how to establish an account with the upcoming new utility software to name a few topics. A discussion ensued on how to get this out – via U.S. mail, via email, a text to the resident’s telephones to alert them a new publication has been posted on the Village’s website, etc. It was felt that keeping it more digital, but also keeping in mind that some residents still may not have access electronically.

**Master Meter Backflow Preventer at King Road** – This has gone out to bid since the lowest price Chad obtained was \$94,000. This expense would be paid 50% from Water Fund and 50% from Water Capital Fund.

**Streets** – Chad stated he is going to schedule Premier Patching to do some crack sealing and spray patching on the Village streets. Louise stated she would like to see a comprehensive review of the streets because it might be time for some to be repaved. We have \$331,990 in the Street Levy fund and we need to begin to use this to improve the streets. Kristel stated

she would share with Rick the name of an engineering company who can assess the streets and put them in a hierarchy of needs, like what was done with the sidewalks.

**Lawnmower** – Chad stated that one of the lawnmowers is 8 years old and the cost of the repairs might be more than what we should pay versus getting a new mower. He is working with McCabe Outdoor Power and has obtained the first quote of \$15,816. They will do a trade-in, but at this time, doesn't know what the amount would be. This expense would also be split over multiple funds. Chad stated that he doesn't need the mower during the Temporary Appropriation timeframe, but he doesn't know when the buyer has to order the mowers to ensure they will be delivered before mowing season begins. He will do some additional research on this.

**Health Insurance** – Louise asked if we have received information on the health insurance rates for the Village employees for 2026. Kristel said the rates at this point look like they will be going up 2.87% and this has been built into the appropriations. Louise said this is really good based on the rate increase she has incurred at her place of employment.

**Sidewalks** – While there won't be any sidewalks paved during the first three months of the year, discussion ensued on how to continue to get monies into this fund. Louise stated Amplex pays the Village \$750 per quarter for equipment they have on the water tower. Louise asked Kristel to work with our Solicitor to get legislation drafted so that this money can begin to go into the Sidewalk fund, like it does for the Charter Communication Franchise Fees (Spectrum). There was also discussion on whether M2X Communications pays anything for being in the Village or if they should. They currently do not pay the Village any franchise fees and there is no agreement in place. Kristel will follow-up with the Solicitor regarding an agreement and potential franchise fees.

**Computers** – The Village has four computers and three of them need to have their operating systems updated to be in compliance with Cyber Security. She is working with Daycor in Bowling Green, who is obtaining quotes for the computers and she will work with them once they are purchased to have all of the data transferred from the current computers to the new computers. They will include an up-to-date operating system and a virus protection system.

Some items that were discussed will be looked at again during a future Finance Meeting on the Permanent Appropriations and they include – lighting at the basketball courts, with a timer; lighting at Lincoln Street, with a motion sensor, expanding and renovating Council Chambers.

Louise stated she received an email from David Fowler, who wanted to meet with her on a brainstorming session to recognize Tourism as the chief industry of the Village. He stated Joe Schroeder would also be present and Louise stated Jody should be invited since she is the Chair of the Industrial Committee. They met on November 5. David stated he would like the Village to invest in the tourism initiative for at least 2-3 years until the Chamber could do it on their own.

They did not give a dollar amount and David mentioned he knew we probably couldn't do the 2% of the budget as he had proposed in legislation. They would like to see things done to help strengthen the downtown in the way of beautification and advertising. He suggested a maintenance fund for trees/grates, light poles but Louise indicated she thought this would fall under the Village responsibility. Joe stated the Chamber would like to advertise in the Ohio Magazine and Destination Toledo. After discussion, they were asked to come up with a tiered listing of wants/needs, along with a cost for each – similar to how the Town Hall Committee prioritized items that needed to be done in the Town Hall. Louise then brought up the suggestion for an Airbnb Tax. She said if we are looking at tourism, this is a way to get money back to the Chamber for tourists who “stay” in the Village without using current tax dollars. Joe and David said they thought it was a good idea and many Villages already do this. Louise stated she would present this to Council and see if they want to go this direction. If they do, she will work with the Solicitor to draft up the legislation and talk through how the money will get from the Village to the Chamber for “tourism” expenses. Louise stated a new fund would need to be added to keep the money separate from other taxes collected.

(At this time, the Mayor had to leave for another meeting.)

Louise asked if there are any updates on transferring the money into investments. Kristel stated that she has contacted UAN and they are going to help her through this process. She is also checking with her local rep at the Auditor's Office regarding the interest and whether it needs to be split over multiple accounts versus going into the General Fund.

Kristel shared an Appropriation Status report as of November 6 and indicated we need to transfer some money within the Parks, Streets, Water and Sewer funds to cover the salary and benefits of the new employee who was hired after the 2025 Permanent Appropriations were approved. She said we are moving money within the funds and not increasing the total appropriations. Kristel stated she would need this to be an emergency so she can process payroll.

Kristel stated, due to cost, they are looking to replace Frontier and is looking at Amplex and Spectrum for their phones.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Louise Estep  
Chair, Finance, Wages & Audit Committee