

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
MINUTES OF VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
October 23, 2025

The Village of Blanchester Council met in regular session on October 23, 2025, at 6:30 P.M. with the honorable John Carman, Mayor, presiding.

Mrs. Marie Brooker	Present
Mr. William Garner	Present
Mr. John Hill	Present
Mr. Reilly Hopkins	Present
Mrs. Lynn Lewis	Present
Mr. Josh Parks	Present

**Agenda**

It was moved by Mrs. Lewis and seconded by Mr. Parks to approve the agenda.

Vote:     Yea – Mrs. Brooker, Mr. Garner, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks  
              Nay – None

**Motion Passed**

**Guest Speaker**

**Public Comment**

**Minutes**

It was moved by Mrs. Lewis and seconded by Mr. Hill to approve the minutes from October 9, 2025.

Vote:     Yea – Mrs. Brooker, Mr. Garner, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks  
              Nay –

**Motion Passed**

**Approval of Bills**

It was moved by Mrs. Lewis and seconded by Mrs. Brooker to approve the Bills from October 23, 2025.

Vote:     Yea – Mrs. Brooker, Mr. Garner, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Parks  
              Nay –

**Motion Passed**

## **Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee** –Nothing to report.

**Safety & Service** – Nothing to report.

**Cemetery** –Mr. Daniels reported that we are expecting quotes for cutting down 3 large trees, waiting for them all to come in. The next Cemetery Board Meeting will be on November 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10 A.M. in Council Chambers

## **Old Business-**

Second reading - Ordinance No. 2025.022 An ordinance establishing the position of Village Administrator for the Village of Blanchester, Clinton County, Ohio, pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code 735.271 and abolishing the Board of Trustees for the Public Affairs pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 735.272.

Mayor, the few minor changes were made, and the new version has been provided. Some of the items we still need to work through.

Sec 1-Shall oversee and supervise the following departments, typically its utility and street. Mr. Parks would like to add Parks, Zoning, and Fiscal Office.

Mr. Parks asked why the Cemetery Board is not on there.

Solicitor advises that he remembered Finance Committee and Safety Committee, which creates conflict as there are Council members on both of those committees, and the Administrator serves at the pleasure of Council, and therefore, you have them supervising those that are the Administrator's supervisor, which is a conflict. The Cemetery board, I was not sure who serves on the board, whether it has any Council members or elected officials on it, that's why they are not on there. The Parks department is on there; there are elected school officials on there, but they are acting on behalf of the legislative branch of Blanchester, so they fall under the Village. They aren't elected, they are appointed.

Sec 2- included that the Village Administrator shall be in charge of the grant administration.

Sec 7- The Village Administrator shall receive a yearly salary provided in the employee agreement with the Village of Blanchester.

Solicitor, we will have to come up with an employment agreement sooner rather than later.

Sec 8- The salary of the Village Administrator shall be paid from various funds to be determined by appropriations at a later date.

Mayor- you have Zoning in there, zoning is not a money maker, they essentially pay their own salary with what they bring in. You're putting a burden on that fund as zoning doesn't need oversite. Were over compensating with having a Village Administrator as they will be doing everything that I the Mayor does. You're making this position to complicated because you want

them to oversee every department that doesn't need it, but because you want it that way, the pay is complicated as it is no longer two departments. You're making the position where we don't need the Mayor or council, and they can run the whole town themselves.

Mrs. Lewis asks if we have the money to support this position.

The mayor says we do not, and that is the problem. We have all these projects going on, and we are struggling to pay the contractors since we have to submit for reimbursement. The Federal Government is shut down right now, and it's taking a lot longer to get these reimbursements back. We have contractors calling us wanting their money as they are having to pay late fees of their own; some have said they are not willing to do business with the Village going forward. Mayor, I want to hear from the rest of the council. Do we think all these departments should be included?

Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Brooker do not agree,

Mr. Garner, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Hopkins are fine with them being in there for now so that we can do more research and take them out in the third and final reading.

Mr. Parks agrees.

It was moved by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mr. Parks to approve the second reading.

Vote: Yea – Mr. Garner, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Parks

Nay – Mrs. Brooker, Mrs. Lewis

Roll Call- Mrs. Brooker no, Mr. Garner yes, Mr. Hill yes, Mr. Hopkins yes, Mrs. Lewis no, Mr. Parks yes

**New Business** - None

**Discussion Item** - None

**Department Reports**

**Solicitor** – Nothing to report.

**Parks** – Mr. Jackson Boo Bash on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M. Next after that is breakfast with Santa, we are working on a lot of projects and schedules for the next two years we are working to add new things.

**Police** – Chief - Halloween next week we will have additional Officer's out and about passing out candy, Lindsey set up in the municipal building. Mr. Parks this is an idea for Safety and Service Committee, as I have been thinking about all the speed limit signs in town, we have a lot of variations 25, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, what if we eliminate the 40-55mph and just continue the 35mph to the Village limits I think that may be confusing to some people. I do have a small compilation of Bodycam footage to show you that I want you all to see what the officers have been doing from their prospective this is all recent footage. The pursuit out of town speeds hit around 100 mph, the driver flipped the truck, somehow both driver and passenger were not hurt this is the truck that we recovered 186 grams of methamphetamines. The Officers are doing a great job on how they are handling the situations they are being courteous and polite when making the arrests, they really are out there doing an excellent job.

**Street** – Nothing to report.

**BPA** – Mr. Bowling we had a meeting last week it was well attended. The people are realizing that our staff are professional and doing what they are supposed to be doing. We have a lot of projects that we are working on to make Blanchester a better place and secure growth. An update of delinquent accounts 90 days was \$180,000 currently is \$5,540. 60 days around \$20,000, 30 days \$110,000 those are the facts as of today. At our last meeting we updated our shut off policy shut off's will be 30 days past due going forward unless a suitable arrangement has been made with our Trustees or Staff. Next meeting November 20<sup>th</sup>, the Village Administrator Ordinance just a reminder the BPA and Board are open to any discussions about this position as there hasn't been any, 1982, 2006, 2017, and 2019 all have attempted to implement the Village Administrator position and all have failed. I urge you to have open conversations with department heads and boards as this goes further. Landlord sub-Committee for policies and tenants that consists of James Bowling chairman, Lynn Lewis, Dean Lynch, Cheyenne Duggins and Donna Johnson, first meeting is October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Zoning/Maintenance** – Nothing to report.

**Fiscal Officer** – Mayor, they are working to get contactors paid checks have been going out some of them have said they don't want to work for the Village, there are a lot of things that have positive and negatives with everything we do.

**Mayor -**

It was moved by Mr. Hill and seconded by Mrs. Lewis that the meeting be adjourned at 7:10 PM. All agreed to adjourn.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_