

Lowellville Village Regular Council Meeting 12/10/25 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor called meeting to order

Roll Call – Ron Rotunno, Bob Coppola, Don D’Onofrio, Joe Donatelli, Keith McCaughtry, Ryan McNicholas

Also in attendance: Mayor-James Iudiciani, Sr. Village Administrator-Joann Esenwein, Solicitor-James Lanzo and Fiscal Officer-Tina Strait

Mayor requesting to go out of regular order of business to hear from Administrator. She will cover the consultant report since he was unable to make it tonight. And hear from our Zoning Inspector and public request, if any.

Motion to go out of regular order moved by McCaughtry 2nd McNicholas

Roll Call – yes

Consultant Report by Village Administrator:

OEPA Findings and Order

- Passed last month (the RFQ) – will need put in Vindicator to receive proposals
- WPCLF Planning Loan – interest 0% if term is 5 years or less. (Work is requirement from EPA)

North Side Fire Station

- Still pending cost from state procurement

Riverfront Park & Water Street

- Construction still on-going
- Watching we don’t exceed grant received
- W Water St-Saving – under cost so far
- Funding is constantly changing
- Basketball court has been poured. Will be seal master covered in the Spring
- Camera update – equipment purchased and still in budget
- Playground equipment installed

Parson’s Ave

- Still on-going
- Few changes orders
- Still within budget. OPWC and WPCLF – these pay consultant

OPWC – Watson Street

- Dec 19 dead line to get application in
- Possible small governments (we scored 6 out of 9, so far)
- If design completed by March 2026, we are awarded additional 5 points.
- Local share 16% = \$67,053.92 (will also look at ARC funds to cover this)

Village Administrator Report:

- Legislation and agreement for MS Consultants for 2026 not to exceed \$16,095.00
- Did talk with school about baseball fields – Seriously looking into, would like a few months to look over information.
- They can receive grants for ballfields
- Street Dept. has 2 full-time and 1 part-time. Want to keep with part-time for 2026? Council can decide. Possible raises? Coppola – Salary Ordinance and step program would need revised by new council coming in.
- Levy Renewal – \$103,000.00 year approximate (4.5mil) – Reminder to pass this legislation tonight that goes to county. After county it comes back to us and then in January, we need to pass legislation that goes to Board of Elections. Everything must be done by February 4th, 2026 to make primary election. Mayor-we need to talk to residents.
- Village Administrator left meeting

Zoning Inspector-Nick Ruozzo

- Vacating alley behind church-all 3 properties have sent letters to approve. Will need council to start process. Coppola-council will need vote to start process, then public hearing will need set, at least 3 publications 3 weeks to 30 days. Send letters to all property owners and then back to council for final approval if they want to vacate.
- Is zoning board the same for 2026? Mayor-No. Coppola-once I'm appointed in January, we will get things going.
- Status of Trash can ordinance? Coppola – sent to Solicitor. Solicitor states he sent, Coppola states he does not have. Fiscal officer will pull everything out tomorrow and update Coppola.
- Is there anything we can do for the residences at the end of McGaffney (ex: Dick Stouffer)-can they put their trash cans in the alley for pick up? A: No, the trash trucks are not allowed in the alleyway. Can they put on Leardi? A: yes, but may need BFI permission.
- Vacant houses of 15 years, deplorable-Board of Health cannot enter without permission. Not sure who is authorized give permission. Mayor-does house have zoning violations? A: yes Mayor-are they in foreclosure? A: No Mayor-can we put in foreclosure? A: the one is going to in January. Donatelli-delinquent in taxes? A: Yes, but have to wait 6months before county can do foreclosure. Mayor-once that happens do, we have to take to Struthers court? A: Lanzo-you have to have police get warrant to enter.
- Jehovah Witness building – 2 semis on property, what's the status? A: Mayor-it was just transferred into her name. The semis are there for renovations. Nick-we are receiving complaints.
- Will be a commercial building, is considered a road. The ballads will need moved once it's ready.
- Keith-the apartments on W Wood 77 & 79 the 4plex. 3 out of 4 are empty and 2 are full of mold. The doors have been left open and stray cats have been going in.

Motion to return to regular order of business moved by Donatelli 2nd McNicholas

Roll Call – yes

Mayor – any questions regarding minutes from the previous meeting? No

Motion to suspend the rules from reading the previous minutes moved by Coppola 2nd Donatelli

Roll Call – yes

Motion to approve the minutes from previous month moved by Coppola 2nd McNicholas

Roll Call - yes

Motion to send the claims to the claims committee for approval moved by Coppola 2nd Rotunno

Roll Call – yes

Move that the claims be approved and placed on the pay ordinance by Coppola 2nd Rotunno

Roll Call – yes

Fiscal Officer read the correspondence for tonight's meeting.

Coppola – Roof, what's the status? Thought it was under warranty? Mayor – we got grant for repair. The person who did roof claims they are not responsible, Solicitor did send them a letter. Mayor talked to Matt and he will do with free labor. Material may be around \$5,000.00 Mayor asked solicitor, do we need to inform person who did roof that we will be contracting with Sky Roofing? A: yes, we inform him and let him know may have litigation in regards to this.

Mayor in regards to email from Fire Chief Harris – did we pay the bills he has listed? Fiscal officer states she did not have time to look over each line yet. We paid some and some we do not have invoices yet.

Mayor – Reorganization meeting will be 1/7/26 at 6:30 PM and swearing in will be on the Dec 21st at noon. (Solicitor will get Mayor the papers)

Improvements Committee – Ryan McNicholas

- Decorating contest is the 21st from the Enrichment Group
- FO is requesting all money from enrichment group to handed in quicker.
- Also, checks from banner's was just handed in and they are from June, July, and August. Would like for these checks to be sent directly to office for deposit and the tracking can still be done by whoever handles this. Don will contact her in regards to banners and enrichment money.

Finance Committee – Keith McCaughtry

- Had a finance meeting for the 2026 temporary appropriations. Note the highlight in pink on papers-those ones we had to take some money out of. As we get more money those items will be increased first.
- At this time, it's looking good to start the year.

Utility Committee – Don D'Onofrio

- Direct Energy (gas)-looks like we have contract till 1/28/26 at 5.29
- Mayor will call Dave Ferro
- Will be looking into the aggregation

Ordinance Committee – Bob Coppola

- Trash Cans – will need looked into
- Salary Ordinance – lots of errors – will need redone

Safety Committee – Joe Donatelli

- Nothing to report at this time

Mayors Report – James Iudiciani, Sr.

- Email was received from Manny at County Auditor office in regards to any special assessments. FO gave to Nick, Zoning.
- Ask Nick to call Manny
- In May I had assessments done by the County Auditor for sewer. We don't know if these have been paid but we need this done. Coppola-who are they paying, Aqua? Mayor-that's the problem once they pay, we don't know. Solicitor, can we put these on their taxes? A: yes Mayor-we are paying the auditor and shouldn't it be coming to us? A: yes
- Mayor asking FO for update – informed him Joann is working on and requested language from Manny, which was received. I believe she's working on but got delayed due to working on the budget. He will use the list he has but Coppola suggested he speak with Joann first.
- Ryan asked about follow up to FO in regards to Struthers Court not sending us money this year. A: yes, they stated that no one paid their tickets yet so that's why we have not received any money.
- Spoke with Joann in regards to the senior citizen bus. May have to go in with another township to receive money.
- We need a place to park the bus – if anyone has a suggestion, please let us know
- Received email from Gary Slaven about liability insurance for the bike trail. Will check with Joann to make sure this was already done on our policy.

Legislation

- Resolution requesting certification from county auditor pursuant to Ohio revised code section 5705.03 \$103,000.00 annually 4.5 outside mills **RESOLUTION #4168**
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd McCaughtry
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by McCaughtry 2nd Donatelli
- Roll Call – yes
- Resolution authorizing the rollover of accrued vacation leave for police dept. personnel from calendar year 2025 into calendar year 2026 **RESOLUTION #4169**
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd McCaughtry
- Comment: D'Onofrio – this is a one-time only, correct? A: yes
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Donatelli 2nd McCaughtry
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance to approve current replacement pages to the Lowellville codified ordinances and declaring an emergency **RESOLUTION #4170**
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd D'Onofrio

- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd Donatelli
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance Amending ordinance #4156 & repealing all ordinances inconsistent with the ordinance – Salary Ordinance
- Move to send to 2nd reading by Coppola 2nd D’Onofrio
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance repealing and rescinding resolution #159.01 in its entirety and providing for an emergency **RESOLUTION #4171**
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd D’Onofrio
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd D’Onofrio
- Ordinance repealing prior ordinance #4121 and establishing the salary and benefits for the Village fiscal officer of the Village of Lowellville
- Move to send to 2nd reading by Coppola 2nd Donatelli
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Village Administrator to enter into a contract with MS Consultants **ORDINANCE #4167**
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd D’Onofrio
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Rotunno 2nd Donatelli
- Roll Call – yes
- Contract with Atty. James E Lanzo for the provision of legal services – authorization for the Mayor and Clerk of the Village are authorized to enter into this contract.
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd D’Onofrio
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd Rotunno **RESOLUTION 4172**
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance to hire Atty. James E. Lanzo Village solicitor for a period of 1 year **RESOLUTION 4173**
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd McCaughtry
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd McCaughtry
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance to hire a tax commissioner for the Village of Lowellville – Tom Collins at \$350.00 month
- Move on suspension of the rules by Donatelli 2nd Rotunno
- Roll call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd Rotunno **ORDINANCE 4174**
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Village Administrator to enter into contract with Comp. Management workers compensation/Risk Management consultants, Inc.
- Comments-Coppola-the amount depends-it will vary according to payroll
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd Donatelli

- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Rotunno 2nd Donatelli **ORDINANCE 4175**
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Village Administrator to enter into a contract for fair housing services by the Mahoning Valley Fair Housing Assoc.
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd Rotunno
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd Rotunno **ORDINANCE 4176**
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Village Administrator to enter into contract with The Vindicator for legal ad services/bidding
- Comment – Coppola – where do we post for meetings – A: The Vindicator and the Village website. Coppola – there is no charge for this, correct? A: Correct and we do not have to put in The Vindicator we only have to post publicly.
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd Donatelli
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Donatelli 2nd Coppola **ORDINANCE 4177**
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance repealing and rescinding resolution #351.17 & 351.19 are repealed in their entirety and enacting replacement legislation and providing for an emergency.
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd D’Onofrio
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd McNicholas **RESOLUTION 4178**
- Roll Call – yes
- Ordinance approving the temporary appropriations for the period 1/1/26 through 3/31/26
- Move on suspension of the rules by Coppola 2nd McNicholas
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Donatelli 2nd D’Onofrio
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on suspension of the rules for the pay ordinance by Coppola 2nd McCaughtry
- Roll Call – yes
- Move on passage by Coppola 2nd Donatelli
- Roll Call – yes

Old Business –

- Coppola - did they take care of the signs that were falling apart – Mayor – yes, must have been bad winds.

New Business –

- McCaughtry – Sending well wishes to council and new council to come in. Will help with anything needed.
- Coppola – Vacating of road. Bob will let FO know of correct proceedings.
- Motion to proceed/start procedure with vacating alley way moved by Coppola 2nd McCaughtry

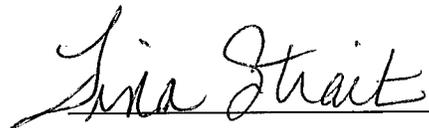
- Roll Call - yes
- This will need sent to the county.
- Mayor-does it need replated? Lanzo – if you vacate it it becomes part of their property and the county will redraw the map.
- Mayor – Police have a separate bank account that we want to move to our regular bank account and then add a line into UAN with the amount in the account.
- Motion to close account and move to our Village account and create a line item in UAN for Police Dept. donations moved by Coppola 2nd Donatelli
- Roll call - yes
- Do we need legislation for this? Lanzo-no
- Mayor will check with the chief before we do anything. FO – I will wait till after the New Year
- Mayor – to new Council – suggest a trip to Eastgate Regional Council Governments
- Mayor - Thank you to all our exiting Council

Motion to adjourn moved by Coppola Sine Die 2nd McCaughtry Sine Die

Roll Call - yes



Mayor, James Iudiciani, Sr.



Fiscal Officer – Tina Strait

Thank you for all your years of service – Bob Coppola, Ron Keith McCaughtry and Ron Rotunno

