

Village of Lowellville Regular Council Meeting

May 13, 2026 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting call to order by Mayor James Iudiciani, Sr.

Roll Call – Ryan McNicholas, Dom Piscitelli, Don D’Onofrio, Joe Donatelli, Dave Durbin

Motion to excuse Leslie Daniels and Solicitor James Lanzo moved by D’Onofrio 2nd Donatelli

Roll Call – Yes

Also in attendance: Village Administrator, Joann Esenwein and Fiscal Officer Tina Strait

Motion to approve previous minutes 4/8/26 and special meeting 4/29/26 moved by McNicholas 2nd D’Onofrio

Roll Call - yes

Motion to send claims to the claims committee for approval moved by Donatelli 2nd Piscitelli

Roll Call – yes

Motion claims approved and placed on the pay ordinance moved D’Onofrio 2nd Donatelli

Roll Call – yes

Clerk (Tina Strait) read correspondence

Comments: Mayor-the rental agreement for the pavilion will need legislation.

Salary ordinance needs verbiage corrected, says years of service, should be years of services “and/or”.
Vacation is by year of service.

Fiscal Officer (Tina) – Some employees are not be given raises on anniversary dates, which also causes issues on when they are due for next raise. This is why the fiscal officer requested that only supervisor can say when someone is due for a raise. There is no pattern for raises for most employees.

We owe the police chief from May 22, 2024 till April 10, 2026 back pay. Pay raise not given because ordinance reads years of service and he’s not paid according to years of service. He is paid by step.

We also owe Tom Wolfgang back pay. We will need to calculate this and let council know. Council said once calculated bring to next council meeting.

Fiscal officer – budget will need adjusted, okay Ryan.

Motion to pay police chief owed back pay moved by Donatelli 2nd D’Onofrio

Comment: D’Onofrio- when we bring a new employee in with extra credentials, we need to create a new pay line with a step 1 instead of paying at a higher step already created. This should keep it easier to track.

Roll Call – yes

Comment: Esenwein – sent D’Onofrio a suggested pay scale, Jayden Mamula took his test for level 1 at the WWTP and scored 65, need 70 to pass. This is fantastic since he has no past experience in the field. Our current step program does not include different levels for this.

Esenwein – Cybersecurity RFP update

- Received 2 responses for the RFP (requested 4)
 - One we received was not what we requested
 - Team Office is the one we’ll go with. Will need approval to go forward. Next step would be to take to Columbus and show them what was done and get their approval.
 - D’Onofrio says he received a call asking “do I bid on what I think you need or what you asked for?” Esenwein – they are to bid on what I asked for. This is a grant for specific work we need not HB96.
- Motion to go forward with Team Office moved by D’Onofrio 2nd Piscitelli
- Roll Call – yes

Esenwein – Permission to enter into agreement with Sedgwick for workers compensation

- Motion to enter agreement moved by Donatelli 2nd Durbin
- Roll Call – yes

Requesting closure of W Water St. from 3rd St. to 1st St. from 1st St. to Riverfront Park for River Fest on 6/6/26 from 9AM till 11PM

Motion to approve closure moved by Donatelli 2nd Piscitelli

Comment – D’Onofrio – Do we have a noise ordinance that will be violated? Mayor: It’s in the business district so don’t so but that would be a question for ordinance chairman

Roll Call – yes

American Legion donation – that approval was given at the special meeting held on 4/29/26

- As of now only the mayor will be speaking

Riverfront Park opening 6/6/26 - Ribbon Cutting ceremony will be at noon and invitations are being sent. We have also received the agenda for River Fest.

Strait - Shop with a Cop bank account, still not closed. Was voted to close back in December but you requested I hold off till you spoke with the chief to make sure he doesn’t plan on doing again. While I was at bank I asked about this account and they do not have it listed as a “Village” account which means I have no access to close it. Will need whoever has access to account to close it and have it moved to our main account. Currently at \$5,985.95 but also has a \$5.00 service charge per month. The chief says he does not have access to account. We think Stacy Karis does, the mayor will request for her to close and let me know.

Mayor request we go out of regular order of business and hear from engineer, fire chief, police chief, and public request.

Motion to go out of regular order moved D’Onofrio 2nd Piscitelli

Roll Call – yes

MS Consultants – Zach

- OEPA findings and orders
 - Notice of Violation response was due 4/13/26, received. Need outlining approach to address outstanding orders with revised schedule.
 - WPCLF loan will need submitted, not sure of amount yet.
 - OPWC-will request if we can get a grant since it is infrastructure.
 - Will need approval ordinance for administrator to advertise for RFQ
- Riverfront Park and W Water Street
 - Paving to start next week, weather permitting
 - Anticipating completion end of May
 - Do have issues with people entering the park even though it's closed and someone caused damaged
- Parsons
 - HK was to arrive today but rain delayed that
 - Was on site before meeting, some sidewalk was installed
 - Curb issues, residents will not have access to driveways. Requesting that contractor moves equipment so residents can park on road. Approx. 5-7 days to dry.
 - Residents will need plenty of notice when this will take place, please be sure that happens, this is the contractor's responsibility
 - Durbin – we have a disabled resident on Parsons
 - The apartment complex – they will have to park on Walnut
- OPWC projects are open for FY28 due in September
 - Mayor – we need to focus on sanitary.
- CDBG Mahoning County
 - Engineering would be paid by Village

Solicitor Lanzo arrived at 7:15PM

Fire Chief Dave Harris

- Applied for Grant
- Invited to Struthers for field day (end of June)
- Will have fire dept at River Fest

Police Chief Rick Alli

- Will talk in executive session

Public Request:

Dr. VanEpps – Went to University of Akron – was looking at some books and found in 1923 the maximum daily water temp Mahoning River was 115° in July.

Terrance Escaro – Wanted to thank the village for when tree fall over in his yard on E Grant St., the village helped clean it up.

Motion to go into executive session and invite Chief Alli, Fiscal Officer, Mayor, Solicitor, Village Administrator to discuss pending litigation and vandalism at park moved by Donatelli 2nd D'Onofrio

Roll Call – yes

Motion to return to regular order of business moved by Donatelli 2nd D'Onofrio

Roll Call – yes

Committee Reports

Improvements – Joe Donatelli

- Nothing at this time

Finance – Ryan McNicholas

- Will be having a meeting Monday at 5:30

Safety – Dave Durbin

- Mayor-Lady approached Dave and asked if we could put a fence up in front of the playground, she is handicapped and unable to chase her kids. It's not designed for a fence but this is a council decision to make.

Utility – Leslie Daniels (absent)

- Mayor-there was a young man walking around this weekend, he works for Spectrum, spoke with him and he loved our town. He was from Africa.

Mayor – We have a new resident that came to city hall for a soliciting permit. Other communities are \$25.00 Rich spoke with him but the ordinance currently reads the mayor is to provide these permits. Will need to go to ordinance committee to pass a resolution to charge \$25.00 and do application process. He sells 3rd party electric and gas.

Motion for the solicitor to view our current ordinance on solicitation and make adjustments including a \$25.00 fee and new application process as per request moved by D'Onofrio 2nd McNicholas

Ordinance – D'Onofrio

- Pending vacating of Robinson Court
 - Have properties that belong to village but church has built on it
 - Solicitor suggest the village give the church an easement

Claims – Piscitelli

- Have we heard back from X-Press, lots of conversation happening so I couldn't hear what was being said? They believe X-Press gave to his insurance. Solicitor-request that they have insurance to cover, they should have.

Solicitor Lanzo

- Looked over contract for Fire Station, do have some comments:

- Use of Premises – overly limited, needs expended. Example, does the chief plan on putting an office?
- Dangerous Materials – since it's the fire dept I'm sure there will be some hazard materials that have to be there. Will need amended.
- Prices – if planning on buying pricing gets better as time goes on.
- Finance disclaimer – option to buy is not based on any contingency for financing
- D'Onofrio – can we do anything with contract tonight? Lanzo-can pass in principle pending changes
- Motion to authorize Joann to do pending the exception of: Use of Premises and Dangerous Materials and approval by our solicitor after amended moved by D'Onofrio 2nd Piscitelli
- Roll Call – yes

Mayors Report

- Hudak will be here tomorrow to do the curbs, weather permitting

Legislation:

- A resolution authorizing the village administrator to advertise professional engineering services to evaluate the existing sanitary sewer on behalf of the Village of Lowellville to compete notice of violation required work RESOLUTION #4197
- Motion to suspend the rules moved by Donatelli 2nd Piscitelli
- Roll Call – yes
- Motion to move on passaged moved by Donatelli 2nd D'Onofrio
- Roll Call – yes

Old Business:

D'Onofrio –

- Joann why are the village vehicles kept outside at the garage, no room? A: correct, no room
- Keys for city hall – Council would like copies; Joann will get made

Durbin –

- Have sewer rates been updated? No, must be sent to ordinance committee
- There was some confusion regarding a few commercial accounts. Thought they were being charged residential but they are charged commercial. The commercial language will need looked at.

New Business:

Durbin –

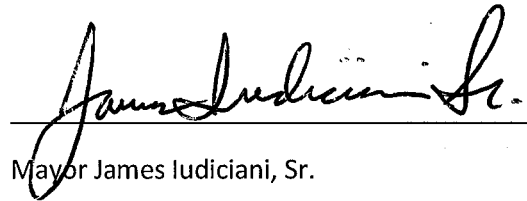
- Would like to do something for Nick Ruozzo. Requesting Tina to find start date. Tina will email to you all.
- Also, our past council
- McNicholas will put something together

Mayor asking about when we receive the money for the permits, in regards to the condos, can we use that for the city hall roof? FO explained that it goes into a revenue account and appropriation accounts are different. They are not connected. We can receive under general fund and bill out of general fund.

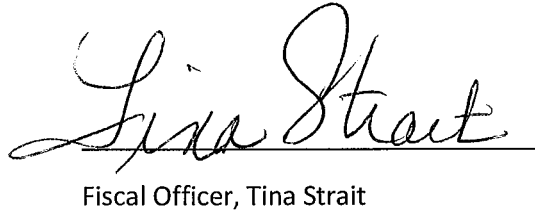
D'Onofrio asking if the buildings downtown are going to get started. Mayor: he is applying with the county for approval on both, the condos and downtown.

Motion to adjourn moved by Donatelli 2nd Piscitelli

Roll Call – yes



Mayor James Ludiciani, Sr.



Fiscal Officer, Tina Strait