

**Village of Russells Point
July 21, 2025
Council Meeting**

Mayor John Huffman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Council members Joan Hinterschied, Greg Iiams, Joan Maxwell, Steve Reid, Rebekah Smith and Dave Wallace were present. Village Administrator Spencer Mitchell and Fiscal Officer Marc McGuire were also present.

Guests: Dianne Gauder (Zoning Officer/Floodplain Administrator), AshLee Hullinger (Clerk of Court/Admin Assistant), Joe Freyhof (Chief of Police), Ann Elleman, Sharon DeVault, Jacob Boyd

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to approve the council meeting minutes dated July 7, 2025. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

Reports:

Fiscal:

- The presentation of the June 30, 2025 bank reconciliation and financials was reviewed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Maxwell to approve the bank reconciliation and financials as presented. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

Administrator:

- The administrator report was submitted to council. Council did not have any questions or comments.

Police:

- The police department had 472 calls for service in June.
- Year to date, there have been 72 code enforcement cases with 33 of these cases being resolved.
- Chief Freyhof noted that the 2022 cruiser had a recall notice regarding a powertrain issue and is being repaired. The 2024 cruiser had a totally integrated power module replaced. The light bar on the 2019 cruiser needs replaced.

Zoning:

- Dianne Gauder, Zoning Officer/Floodplain Administrator, submitted the zoning report to council.

Maintenance:

- The maintenance report was submitted to council.
- Council Wallace noted that the catch basins were cleaned out on Harborview Drive, a private drive, and that the owner should be billed. Administrator Mitchell will research to determine if Harborview Drive is a private drive.
- Councilor Wallace also noted that the water line was turned on at Harborside on the Lagoon and asked to make sure that water meters were installed with water actually being measured.

Logan-Union-Champaign (LUC) Regional Planning Commission

- Councilor Iiams submitted the LUC Executive Committee report council and noted that 2 roundabouts will be installed. One is scheduled for 2026 and involves the intersection of US 33 and State Route 274 and the other is scheduled for 2027 involving State Route 366 and State Route 117.

Indian Lake EMS Joint Ambulance District:

- Councilor Reid submitted the Indian Lake EMS Joint Ambulance District meeting report to council. Council did not have any questions or comments.

Parks & Recreation:

- Councilor Hinterschied submitted the Park meeting report to council and noted that "Pop in the Park" is scheduled for September 14, 2025 with music, food trucks and an ice cream truck.

Indian Joint Fire District:

- Councilor Maxwell submitted the Indian Joint Fire District report to council. Council did not have any questions or comments.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

- Resolution 25-1054 – Certifying Unpaid Charges for Services Performed by the Village and Authorizing County Auditor to Place Delinquent Amounts on Tax Duplicates for Collection. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to waive the 3-reading rule on Resolution 25-1054 and declare it an emergency. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Maxwell to approve Resolution 25-1054 by title. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.
- Resolution 25-1055 – Approving Choice One Engineering to Prepare Construction Plans for a Storm Sewer Improvement Project on the Municipal Building Property. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Hinterschied to waive the 3-reading rule on Resolution 25-1055 and declare it an emergency. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 5-1, with Councilor Wallace voting against. Motion passed. Councilor Reid expressed concern as to whether an engineering firm was needed for the project. Administrator Mitchell stated that preliminary drawings/plans were made in 2019 but needed updated to take into account elevations, flooding and drainage. **Motion** was made by Councilor Iiams and seconded by Councilor Maxwell to approve Resolution 25-1055 by title. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 5-1, with Councilor Wallace voting against. Motion passed.

Citizen Comments:

- Dog Warden Jacob Boyd, from the Logan County Sheriff Department, discussed the new facility for the Logan County Animal Shelter. The building will provide dog kennels and cat housing, animal care (a veterinary room and a grooming room), livestock housing and outdoor runs. The mission of the animal shelter is to save as many animal lives as possible and provide shelter for lost animals until they are reclaimed by their owner or adopted into a forever home. Deputy Boyd noted that approximately \$203,624 is needed to cover expenses for the materials required to furnish a room and is asking for sponsorships and donations. A fund-raising event is scheduled for August 16, 2025 that includes gun raffles, cash bar, basket raffles, outdoor equipment bidding and such. Chief of Police Freyhof noted that the Russells Point Police Department works with Deputy Boyd on animal issues within the village. Councilor Reid stated that he believes the village should have a fiduciary duty to support the animal shelter as to how the village uses the services of the Logan County Dog Warden.

Old Business:

- Mayor Huffman provided an updated on the new village marquee sign in front of the municipal building and stated that the upper portion of the sign should be installed next week.

New Business:

- Mayor Huffman shared an email received from Governor DeWine's office regarding the dredging of Indian Lake. It was made clear, through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the funding request of \$250,000 for this project will be fulfilled.
- Mayor Huffman has spoke with the Indian Lake Visitor's Bureau and the director will be in attendance at the August 4, 2025 council meeting to give a presentation on how the funds received by the visitor's bureau from the village is being used.
- Administrator Mitchell has met with website design companies to reconstruct the village website. The current website is a GoDaddy.com product and is not user friendly. Administrator Mitchell noted that the functionality of a website is important and provides the village an opportunity to share information with the community. A new website could integrate the ability for online payments of water bills, share a calendar of events, provide elected official and staff contact information and much more. Website construction would cost approximately \$7,000 and would take 6 to 8 weeks before it could be made live. **Motion** was made by Councilor Reid and seconded by Councilor Hintershied to further explore developing a new village website and the cost to implement. A roll call vote was taken and council voted in favor 5-1, with Councilor Wallace voting against. Motion passed.

There being no further business, **motion** was made by Councilor Maxwell and seconded by Councilor liams to adjourn at 7:53 PM. Motion passed.

John Huffman, Mayor

Marc McGuire, Fiscal Officer

Date Passed