

Meeting Summary – Committee as a Whole

Date: Thursday, October 23, 2025 **Time:** 6:38 p.m.

Attendees: Councilpersons Pinter, Koss, Paessun, Grant, Martin, Camara, and Mayor Southard.

1. Infrastructure & Streets

- **Paving Projects:**
 - Paving was delayed due to weather but is scheduled to restart next week.
 - Work has started on **North La Plaza Drive**, with concrete base layers being poured.
 - The committee expects faster progress thanks to the use of *quick-set concrete*.
 - **Resident Communication:**
 - Discussion about clearer separation between updates for *Minerva Lake Road* and *Northland Plaza Drive* on public communications.
 - Suggestion to emphasize that businesses remain open during construction.
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2. Yard Waste & Gutters

- Council reminded residents **not to pile leaves or debris in the street** to prevent clogged gutters.
 - A social media reminder and inclusion in Monday’s village email were planned.
 - No citations will be issued, but residents were encouraged to “make better choices.”
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3. Community Events & Food Trucks

- **Upcoming Food Trucks:**
 - *Machi Habachi* – Friday 4–7 PM
 - *Schmidt’s* – Halloween weekend
 - Lighthearted discussion about themed food (pumpkin spice cream puffs, shawarma, etc.).
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4. Village Survey

- **227 surveys** were received — representing **over 10% of village adults**.
 - Consultant **Pete DeSalvo** will compile results for presentation at the **November 20** meeting.
 - The group expressed excitement about the high participation rate.
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5. Recreation & Parks / Pool Discussion

Main topics: guest passes, pool operations, concessions, and events.

a. Guest Pass Policy

- Debate over whether unused guest passes should **carry over** to the following year.
- **Concerns:**
 - Accounting and tracking challenges.
 - Potential loss of revenue if prices rise.
 - Software limitations for pass expiration.
- **Ideas discussed:**
 - Manual system or printable carryover passes.
 - Offering smaller bundles (e.g., 8- or 16-pack instead of 10).
 - “Early bird” special with two-year expiration.
- **Consensus:** Keep current one-season expiration for now; revisit after survey results.

b. Pool Committee Meeting

- Next meeting scheduled for **November 6 at 6:00 PM** (before the regular work session).
- Committee members: **Jason, J.P., and Anastasia.**

c. Pool Renovations

- Council intends to post updates about the **pool improvement project** (phase one to begin after the 2026 season).
- Plan to engage community and pool members for input.

6. Pool Concession Stand Operations

- Review of **profitability and management:**
 - Operations improving year-to-year; better inventory control and scheduling.
 - Still not breaking even but narrowing losses.
 - Some leftover inventory donated to first responders or MPC events.
- **Staffing:**
 - Consider optimizing lifeguard/concession overlap during slow hours.
 - Potential for self-checkout or cashless sales, but concerns about young users.
- **Pricing & Costs:**
 - Discussion re factoring taxes/fees into prices (rounded to \$5 increments).
 - Agreed prices should be inclusive and simple for kids.
- **Ideas for Next Season:**
 - Add high-margin items like popcorn (requires new equipment).
 - Explore partnerships with food vendors or third-party concession operators.
 - Consider occasional food trucks at the pool.

7. Pool Events & Community Engagement

- Discussion on **reviving special pool events** (e.g., live bands, themed nights).
- Lessons learned from past band nights: great concept, poor promotion and timing.
- **Proposals:**
 - Plan and promote early (January).
 - Coordinate with the *Blended Township June Day* and MPCA events to avoid conflicts.
 - Introduce theme nights (“Neon Night,” “Country Night,” etc.).
 - Hold a **Resident Weekend / Open House** before official pool opening—possibly with discounted admission or “polar dip” event.
 - Consider a “Save the Pool” fundraiser or flash membership sales.

8. Infrastructure Update – Minerva Lake Road

- **Soft spots** in the roadbed are **worse than expected**.
- Engineering firm assessing next steps.
- Initial estimate of **~\$70,000** for repairs deemed excessive; engineers and ODOT reviewing cost alignment.
- Project currently **paused pending engineering review**.

9. Personnel Policy Update (Chapter 4 Revisions)

- Council reviewed **non-substantive updates** to the employee handbook.
- **Key clarifications:**
 - Employees must maintain sufficient leave balances; unpaid leave requests may be denied.
 - Repeated insufficient leave requests may result in disciplinary action.
 - Clarifications added for **banked holidays**, including exceptions for Christmas.
- Council agreed to approve via roll-call vote since changes were minor.

10. Adjournment

- Meeting concluded after final administrative items and acknowledgments.
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Key Takeaways

- Road paving projects delayed but progressing.
- Pool guest pass rollover remains under review.
- Pool concessions improving but still unprofitable; new pricing and vendor options explored.
- Strong desire to reestablish the **pool as a community hub** through better events and marketing.
- Minerva Lake Road repairs facing engineering cost challenges.
- Employee leave policy clarified to avoid future misuse.

Jeffrey Wilcheck, Fiscal Officer

Tiffany Southard, Mayor