

Executive Summary: Village of Minerva Park Council Meeting October 8,

1. In Attendance: Councilpersons Paessun, Camara, Grant, Koss, Martin and Pinter; Mayor Southard, Police Chief Delp, Fiscal Officer Wilcheck, Attorney Shamp and Planner Fischer.

2. Motion to enter executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment of a public employee made by Camara; 2nd by Koss-approved by unanimous aye vote. Council returned to open session – 7:22 PM

3. Minutes:

Motion to approve 9/24/26 Committee as a Whole Minutes made by Camara; 2nd by Koss-approved by unanimous aye vote

Motion to approve 9/24 Council Meeting Minutes made by Camara; 2nd by Grant-approved by unanimous aye vote

Motion to approve 9/27 Council Work/Strategy Session Minutes made by Paessun; 2nd by Grant-approved with majority aye vote (Camara abstaining)

Motion to approve 10/1 Council Works Session Minutes made by Camara; 2nd by Koss- approved with majority aye vote (Grant abstaining)

4. Village Official Reports

Police: Chief Matt Delp reported on department activities and addressed questions about a recent series of vehicle break-ins.

Key points included:

- Three vehicle break-ins had recently occurred.
- The Chief indicated that the incidents did not appear to involve the same group responsible for an earlier series.
- The suspected vehicle and individuals were not captured by the Village's Flock camera system, limiting investigative opportunities.
- Police had previously obtained a suspect vehicle's license plate in a separate incident, and that vehicle was later found to have been stolen and abandoned.
- Council encouraged residents to review the Chief's monthly report for additional information.

The Safety Committee announced a public meeting for the following Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Village building. The meeting was intended to allow the Chief to respond directly, on the record, to topics previously raised with Council. The committee clarified that there would be no citizen-comment period or open discussion at that meeting; residents were encouraged to email the committee representative or Chief with questions for consideration.

A council member also praised the department's house-watch service, describing officers' visits to the member's property during a five-day absence. Residents were encouraged to take advantage of the service.

Fiscal: Fiscal Officer Jeffrey Wilczek reported that the September financial report had been distributed by email. He also discussed legislation affecting Village finances and confirmed an upcoming Finance Committee meeting.

The Finance Committee described its intention to develop a forward-looking financial perspective covering approximately five years. The objective is to help Council assess:

- Anticipated capital and infrastructure projects.
- Future budget requirements.
- Potential spending reductions if necessary.
- Financial priorities and longer-term affordability.

A Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for October 27 at 8:00 a.m. A Finance Committee meeting for the October 27 was also mentioned.

Engineer Report

North Lake Court roadway and water lines — Task Order 41

Work was anticipated to begin around November 2 and finish around December 11. The project is intended to address water lines and roadway/court-area issues affecting residents.

Storm and sanitary sewer CCTV inspections — Task Order 43

The Village discussed a two-year CCTV inspection effort involving storm and sanitary systems. Officials also discussed proactively cleaning debris from problem areas, including Park Lane, to reduce the likelihood of future blockages and service issues.

Additional road maintenance

The Mayor reported plans for street crack sealing and manhole-cover repairs. Residents were advised to watch for contractors and forthcoming Village communications about scheduled work.

The Village also discussed an upcoming MS4-related meeting concerning stormwater management and related project matters. The exact date and time were not confirmed during the meeting.

Officials noted that residents might need to close toilet seats during certain sewer-cleaning operations if the planned work could cause water to come through plumbing fixtures. Staff indicated that this possibility would be verified and communicated publicly if applicable.

Executive takeaway: Infrastructure work is moving forward across municipal facilities, roadways, and sewer systems. Clear construction schedules, resident notices, and preventative maintenance remain important to minimizing disruption and managing public expectations.

Legal, and zoning: Legal counsel Jesse Shamp reviewed the proposed code amendments and stated that the changes were primarily definitional and intended to align Village ordinances with the Ohio Revised Code. He did not identify major legal concerns with the items reviewed.

Village Planning: Planner Eric Fischer reported sever updates:

- Continued work on planning and commercial-district matters associated with the proposed replacement commercial development and rehabilitation center.
- An expectation that related material could be introduced at the next work session.

- A Planning and Zoning meeting scheduled for October 21 at 7:00 p.m.
- Recognition of Brady Oxender's resignation from Planning and Zoning and appreciation for his years of service.
- Discussion of a potential committee-member advancement or appointment, subject to confirmation and the appropriate approval process.

Zoning Officer: Report in packet

Planning and Zoning – Tommy Grant

The committee acknowledged Brady Ochsander's resignation and discussed a potential replacement or advancement within the committee structure, subject to confirmation and future Council action.

MPCA – Jason Camara

The meeting included reminders about the Village's Fall Festival:

- Date: Saturday, October 17, 2026.
- Time: 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- Costume parade: Expected to begin at noon.
- Residents interested in judging the parade were encouraged to contact the event organizer to determine whether volunteers were still needed.

5. Committee as a Whole Report

Finance Committee – Tony Pinter

The committee reiterated the value of a multiyear financial outlook. Upcoming financial discussions are expected to help Council identify priorities, evaluate projects, and determine whether spending adjustments are necessary.

Safety Committee -Cathy Paessun announced a public meeting for the following Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Village building. The meeting was intended to allow the Chief to respond directly, on the record, to topics previously raised with Council. The committee clarified that there would be no citizen-comment period or open discussion at that meeting; residents were encouraged to email the committee representative or Chief with questions for consideration.

She also praised the department's house-watch service, describing officers' visits to the member's property during a five-day absence. Residents were encouraged to take advantage of the service.

6. Mayor Report: Mayor Southard reported that the Maintenance Building is reported to be approximately 95% complete, with a potential move-in by the end of October. Remaining work included outstanding permit and water-line inspection/testing requirements. The driveway had been paved.

7. Public comment:

Tony Benedetti of Berry Lane Court shared several concerns regarding the upcoming North Lake Court project and the Village's approach to water-line repairs:

- Water-line issues had reportedly occurred at multiple locations, including Berry Lane Court, East Shore Court, and North Lake Court.
- The resident questioned whether the proposed scope accurately addressed the locations and nature of historical leaks.
- The resident referred to a prior engineering report and questioned the need for certain construction work and water-line looping.
- The resident asked whether the Village had paid for earlier repairs and suggested that available records did not clearly establish who had performed or funded them.
- The resident argued that available funds should prioritize documented, existing problems rather than work on lines the resident believed were not currently failing.

Village representatives responded that the objective was to address infrastructure proactively rather than wait for failures. They cited residents' experiences with interruptions to water service and the potential for larger problems if repairs were delayed. The discussion also referenced water-line breaks and service arrangements involving Columbus.

8. Legislation

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2026-13 Amending Traffic Offenses

Motion to approve made by Camara; 2nd by Koss-Approved by unanimous aye vote

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2026-14 Amending General Offenses

Motion to approve made by Camara; 2nd by Koss-Approved by unanimous aye vote

ORDINANCE 2026-15 Bonus 2nd reading

ORDINANCE 2026-16 Police Compensation 2nd reading

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES REQUIRING 3 READINGS for ORDINANCE 2026-17

Motion to approve made by Grant; 2nd by Camara-Approved by unanimous aye vote

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2026-17 Supplemental Appropriations

Motion to approve made by Grant; 2nd by Pinter-Approved by unanimous aye vote

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES REQUIRING 3 READINGS for ORDINANCE 2026-18

Motion to approve made by Camara; 2nd by Koss-Approved by unanimous aye vote

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2026-18 Employee Handbook Revisions

Motion to approve made by Grant; 2nd by Camara-Approved by unanimous aye vote

MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO INCLUDE ORDINANCE 2026-19

Motion to approve made by Koss; 2nd by Camara-Approved by unanimous aye vote

ORDINANCE 2026-19 Creation of Administrator Position 1st reading

RESOLUTION 2026-19 TIRC Recommendations 2nd reading

RESOLUTION 2026-21 Annual Contracts 1st reading

RESOLUTION 2026-22 Snow Removal-Blendon Twp 1st reading

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES REQUIRING 3 READINGS for RESOLUTION 2026-23

Motion to approve made by Camara; 2nd by Grant-Approved by unanimous aye vote

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2026-23 Accepting Amounts and Rates

Motion to approve made by Grant; 2nd by Camara-Approved by unanimous aye vote

9. Old Business

Councilperson JP Martin reported on leaf pickup, expected to begin the following week, weather permitting. Tuesday is the likely start, rather than Monday to avoid conflict with trash/recycling pickup

Halloween trick-or-treating was announced for October 29, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

10. New business: Village entrance landscaping and lighting

Council discussed two dead trees at the Farview entrance and possible replacement options. Resident Diane Schrimpf shared information about potential tree selections and associated costs.

The discussion covered:

- Reviewing replacement trees and determining an appropriate budget.
- Coordinating removal of the dead trees and replacement landscaping.
- Investigating the existing electrical infrastructure serving the entrance's uplighting.
- Considering solar-powered lighting as an alternative.
- Evaluating commercial-grade lighting options that would improve the Village's appearance and potentially allow color changes for holidays.
- Reviewing existing solar lights at Village monuments and courts, some of which may have battery-performance issues.

Motion to adjourn made by Camara; 2nd by Koss-meeting adjourned 7:46 PM

Jeffrey Wilcheck, Fiscal Officer

Tiffany Southard, Mayor