

COUNCIL CAUCUS MINUTES

Monday, October 6, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

**Mayfield Village Civic Hall -Mayfield Village Civic Center
6622 Wilson Mills Road, Mayfield Village, Ohio**

The Council of Mayfield Village met in Caucus Session on Monday, October 6, 2025 in Mayfield Village Civic Hall at the Mayfield Village Civic Center. Council President Schutt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council President Schutt asked, Mrs. Betsa, may I have a Roll Call, please?

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Arndt, Mr. Gall, Mr. Marquardt,
Mr. Murphy, Mr. Meyers
and Mr. Schutt

Also Present: Mayor Bodnar, Ms. Rich, Ms. Calta,
Mr. Cappello, Chief Carcioppolo, Chief Matias,
Mr. Marquart, Mrs. Echt, Mr. Russell, Mr. Stupczy,
Ms. Wolgamuth and Mrs. Betsa

Absent: Mrs. Jurcisek

Council President Schutt stated, please let the record reflect that Mrs. Jurcisek is absent and excused from this evening's meeting.

MAYOR

Just a reminder that this Friday is the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner catered by Marigold Catering at the recently-opened Bellavie Mayfield Ballroom starting at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you all there.

That's all I have. Thank you.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Mayor Bodnar.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Happy Birthday to Tony Coyne. His birthday was on October 2nd.

Just a reminder that our next Regular Meeting of Council is scheduled for Monday, October 20th at 7:00 p.m. in this room. And then I wanted to turn it over to Mrs. Betsa.

Mrs. Betsa stated, a special thanks goes out to Danielle Echt. For the past four years, Danielle has been participating in the 24 in 24, *And So We Run*. It's a 501(C)(3) non-profit corporation with the mission to grant wishes for children battling life-threatening illnesses by facilitating a physically demanding 24-hour challenge. The event features participants attempting to complete one mile every hour for 24 consecutive hours. All of the proceeds are donated to Special Wish of Northeast Ohio, a foundation that supports over 400 children from Northeast Ohio. Special Wish takes care of sick children, grants children's wishes, provides meal deliveries to families at the hospital, provides support to children and families and much more. During the evening's event of the 24 in 24, Danielle ran a mile every hour; this little peanut going around determined to complete the challenge. It's not a race, but the participants receive a medal that is put around their necks by the wish children at the final mile. That's a happy heart moment in itself.

This year, it hits home to me when Chrissy Vargo was asked what Oakley would want for her Special Wish before she passed. And Chrissy asked for a Christmas that Oakley would never be able to have. And within an hour, despite a blizzard, Santa was at Cleveland Clinic, a Christmas tree was being put up in Oakley's hospital room, Christmas decorations, Christmas carols and everything. Special Wish was able to coordinate this even though it was Thanksgiving weekend. A multitude of volunteers from the 24 in 24 and Special Wish, including Danielle were there to sadly celebrate. Not only that, Special Wish checks in with Chrissy and Eric to this day to make sure they are okay. So Danielle, I thank you.

And to all who donated on Danielle's behalf, I thank them as well.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Ms. Echt.

Ms. Echt stated, thank you.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Mrs. Betsa as well.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Wiley Park Paver Repair and Replacement - A&J Cement Contractors (not to exceed \$35,000) (Engineer)**

Council President Schutt asked, Mr. Cappello?

Mr. Cappello stated, yes, Council President. The Wiley Park parking lot is made up of permeable pavers. They're made out of cement. There's about 1,250 that are deteriorated, and we need to replace those. This is the contractor who was the low bidder on the proposal for the paver replacement. We're also going to hopefully get maintenance done out front here with our driveway and the turnaround. It needs to be vacuumed. That should be part of this also.

Council President Schutt asked, any questions?

Mr. Gall stated, yes, I do have a question. Could you elaborate on basically what's causing this damage?

Mr. Cappello replied, just salting. The pavers are about 14 years old. I believe they were installed in 2011. The area over that parking lot is next to the Historical Society, so the Service Department salts it to make sure no one falls. So I think that's one of the reasons.

Mr. Gall asked, and is this the first time that it's being repaired?

Mr. Cappello replied, they've done spot repairs in the past, but I don't think anything has been done this magnitude ever before. So there's also as part of this, we're going to get a pallet of about 200 pavers to have in stock so in the future, if we have to replace a few, we can in-house.

Mr. Gall asked, and what is the condition of the remaining pavers? Because from the area in the picture, there would be several thousand pavers in that parking lot.

Mr. Cappello replied, there's approximately 8,000 pavers out there.

Mr. Gall asked, okay, so we're replacing—

Mr. Cappello replied, about one eighth.

Mr. Gall stated, about an eighth of them. And it's not the first time we've done it.

Mr. Cappello replied, the ones in the past, I couldn't say how many they've done. I don't think it was anywhere near that amount.

Mr. Gall stated, so giving an anticipation of the condition that's out there, how often are we going to be doing this? Every year? Replacing 1,200? They're deteriorating now.

Mr. Cappello replied, correct. I mean, these are the ones that have deteriorated. The other ones are in good shape. I can't obviously tell you what the longevity is going to be, but I think this will take care of it for a while.

Mr. Gall stated, I'm just looking at the longevity of this concept of if we do 30,000 every other year.

Mr. Cappello stated, I don't believe it will be every other year, either. I mean, it's been 14 years since it was installed.

Mr. Gall stated, right, but you said we've had some repair in the past.

Mr. Cappello stated, yes. I don't know how many, but I don't believe there were that many. Service did it themselves, Frank has input on that.

Mr. Stupczy stated, yes. So every year, anywhere between 10 to 30, we go out and pull out and pick up and replace. It's never been to this degree, this way.

Mr. Gall stated, well, I was just thinking of what it would cost just to replace it with something more. I understand the concept of permeable pavers for the water and everything else, but I'm thinking at the expense and where we're sitting in our budget, if it would be something that we should look at just replacing part of with a more permanent solution. Just out there because, again, in two, three years, we could have another \$30,000 and then another \$30,000. I don't know how expensive it is to be able to just replace it or, say, pick it up and gravel it.

Mr. Cappello stated, well, we want gravel. Again, I don't think you're going to be spending \$30,000 in the next two, three years. But, again, if you wanted to, you could always look into doing a replacement 5 to 10 years from now.

Mayor Bodnar asked, Tom, I thought you looked at the cost of removing all the pavers and replacing all of them, and I thought you also looked at the cost of just paving everything over, and both costs were very significant, and you had indicated at Department Head there is still a lot of useful life left in what's there now.

Mr. Cappello replied, that's true. I think the replacements were close to; I apologize, I don't have the numbers.

Ms. Wolgamuth stated, around \$300,000 for the expansion.

Mr. Cappello stated, that was the expansion, yes. But then that arch would go away. We would go back to the original rectangle and gain about double the amount of spaces, but that would cost about \$300,000.

Mr. Murphy asked, can you pave over?

Mr. Cappello replied, no.

Mr. Gall stated, thank you.

Council President Schutt asked, any other questions or discussion?

There was none.

Council President Schutt stated, okay, thank you, Mr. Capello.

- **North Woodlane Drive Gas Main Reconnection (Engineer)**

Council President Schutt asked, Mr. Cappello?

Mr. Cappello stated, yes Council President. Part of the first phase of the Woodlane Park project, when we replaced the existing culvert and put the new one in at North Woodlane, the existing gas line was in conflict. The gas company came out and they cut it on both sides of the new culvert, and they decided at that time, because there's a loop and a redundancy, they weren't going to reconnect it. Over the past few years, though, since the culvert's been installed, some of the residents to the west have experienced freezing in their lines. They did some work this summer down on North Woodlane and then down Woodlane, replacing the steel main with plastic, which they said should reduce the freezing, but we also requested that they would also reconnect the line so you got more movement, and they plan on doing that this year before the cold season. They would need an easement from us because they wouldn't go under the culvert, they would have to go in front of it, and we own the property there. It's property that was purchased from Mrs. Breeden to do the project. We would just want to be aware that we might get an easement from them before Council, and I'd like to get it approved so they can get this work done this year.

Council President Schutt asked, any questions?

Mr. Meyers asked, yes, I have a question. Why wasn't that figured under the project?

Mr. Cappello replied, it was. Well, it was up to them to do it. They decided not to. When they cut and capped it, they were able to maintain gas service while we built the culvert. I asked them if they were going to come back and they said no, we have redundancy risk, we'll leave the cut and cap it. So now they have to come back because all the gas lines have been freezing for three to four residents.

Mr. Meyers asked, how big of a line did they have?

Mr. Cappello replied, four inch.

Mr. Murphy asked, were the gas lines freezing before cutting and capping it?

Mr. Cappello replied, when I talked to the gentleman from Dominion, he had said there was a record, but it wasn't as frequent as it was the last few years. I think there was some historical record of one of the homes having a frozen gas line. I think it happened at least twice at Mr. Mackey's house.

Mr. Gall stated, last year. It happened several times. And they were coming out and supposedly vacuuming it out once a week or whatever it was, and it still kept freezing. I actually went out on a walk and I actually saw them out trying to suck the water out of the line.

Mr. Meyers stated, it's not like the old days where they used to be able to melt the water. Now they're plastic lines, so they can't do that anymore.

Mr. Cappello stated, the plastic line is also supposed to help with condensation, so they should have less, that's from the replacement, they should have less freezing issues. It's not going to totally eliminate it, but it should reduce their frequency greatly, and I think by the looping of this, it'll also cause the gas to loop, instead of just puddling at the end there.

Mr. Gall stated, part of the problem now is the guy's pipe goes above ground. It's attached to his bridge, so when the bridge gets cold, it just permeates the cold through the line and freezes the whole thing.

Mr. Meyers stated, I understand gas lines. I know that's what it's for.

Mr. Cappello stated, Mr. Mackey's line, actually, before we replaced the culvert, his line used to actually be above.

Mr. Gall stated, right, above the water. I mean, if there's a zone there, it's just going to freeze up.

Mr. Cappello stated, the gas company, Enbridge, did state that they're going to relocate his main, off the bridge, and actually bury it under the creek. They're going to overcut it under the creek.

Mr. Gall asked, is that in here?

Mr. Cappello asked, in where?

Mr. Gall replied, in the main connect? He said it's currently still attached to his bridge.

Mr. Cappello replied, correct, because they haven't done the work yet. When they come out to do the reconnection, they said they were going to redo his line, and actually put it under the creek, and then get it off the bridge.

Mr. Gall stated, okay. That'd be a good thing. Thank you.

Council President Schutt asked, any other questions or discussion?

There was none.

- **Truck 8 Engine Replacement (Service Department)**

Council President Schutt asked, Mr. Stupczy?

Mr. Stupczy stated, thank you, Council President. We had truck 8 come in a few weeks ago with a heavy knock in the engine, and the check engine light on. After some tear down and investigation, it looks like Cylinder 6 was stuck closed. It caused the lifter to bend, and the camshaft to warp. So we think, well, we know, it needs a new engine. Classic Ford gave me quotes to replace the engine on it.

Council President Schutt asked, any questions or discussion?

Mr. Meyers asked, does the new engine come with a warranty?

Mr. Stupczy replied, it does, yes. That's why we are going through the dealership.

Mr. Gall stated, I do have a question. Isn't this the second time we've heard about an engine seizing?

Mr. Stupczy replied, this is the second engine.

Mr. Gall asked, is it a maintenance issue?

Mr. Stupczy replied, no, it's not. It's a 2016 GMC 1500. It's 9 years old. This particular engine, the Ecotec3 V8, is known for lifter issues, because it has this active fuel management system. You can get more information by Google searching it. What it does is, the active fuel management system, as I understand it, shuts down cylinders, so it can serve fuel during non-hard working hours, or moments. It causes gunk buildup within the engine, and then the cylinders will, or the valves will, stick closed. It happened here, on this engine.

Mr. Gall asked, what kind of mileage is on the truck?

Mr. Stupczy replied, 55,000 miles. We looked at, you know, what are the merits of replacing the truck, or replacing the engine? This is a tool truck. This is not a truck that we expected anything to happen to for a very long time. Even though it's a 2016, I truly believe that this AFM system is the culprit. I mean, there's actual delete kits you can buy, plug it in the engine, to make that system not work. The truck itself is in great condition. Very little rust, it doesn't pull, it doesn't push, it doesn't carry any heavy equipment, it just is our tool truck. So, we feel that this is the most reasonable option.

Mr. Gall asked, are we going to replace it with the same type of engine?

Mr. Stupczy replied, it's the only thing we can do.

Mr. Gall asked, would it make sense to look at one of those delete kits? Unless it comes with a warranty, which would void the warranty.

Mr. Stupczy replied, it does come with a warranty, which would void the warranty. The dealership obviously can't put a delete kit in.

Mr. Gall asked, how long is the warranty?

Mr. Stupczy replied, I think it's 5 years. I don't know exactly.

Mr. Murphy asked, what does the delete kit do?

Mr. Stupczy replied, it's an active fuel management system that shuts down cylinders when it's not working.

Mr. Murphy asked, it turns that off?

Mr. Stupczy replied, it just eliminates that and allows the engine to run. So when that valve's not opening and closing, it's not combusting, it's not burning, it's just gunking up in the hot engine, just sitting there, while the rest of the engine's working. So it just ends up sticking closed.

Mr. Murphy stated, I'm surprised they still manufacture it.

Mr. Gall asked, are we getting a new engine or a rebuild?

Mr. Stupczy replied, this is a new engine.

Mr. Meyers stated, I think it's a remap. I think that's all you can get anymore.

Mr. Stupczy stated, it's the engine that goes in this truck.

Mr. Meyers stated, yes, they're not putting a Ford into a Chevy.

Council President Schutt asked, any other questions or discussion?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Mr. Stupczy.

- **Annual grinding of the mulch pile (Service Department)**

Council President Schutt asked, Mr. Stupczy?

Mr. Stupczy stated, thank you, Council President. The mulch pile, or the crushed pile, will be amassed during the season. We typically grind it, and move it out of our backyard this time of year as we get ready for leaf season. The quotes come in usually close to \$10,000. I wanted to put it on the Caucus just in case I need to bring it to Council.

Council President Schutt asked, any questions?

Mr. Meyers asked, are they going to haul it away this year again?

Mr. Stupczy replied, yes.

Mr. Murphy asked, and you have money from some landscaping company that was paying us from Progressive's stuff, right?

Mr. Stupczy replied, well, Progressive is paying us for their landscape company to bring their debris to us. The agreement was \$9,000.

Council President Schutt asked, any other questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Mr. Stupczy.

- **Equipment to be declared surplus (Service Department):**
 - **2009 Freightliner M2-106 with plow**
 - **1987 American Roads Leaf Vacuum Trailer**
 - **1991 American Roads Leaf Vacuum Trailer**

Council President Schutt asked, Mr. Stupczy?

Mr. Stupczy stated, thank you, Council President. The 2009 Freightliner was replaced by the F600 that we just had built, and took delivery of, and an 87 Vacuum Trailer, and a 91 Vacuum Trailer. They were replaced a couple years ago with the grant that we got to get the new Old Dominion Vacuum Trailer. These are large pieces of equipment that I'd, like to put on, *Govdeals*, and move off of our property.

Council President Schutt asked, any questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Mr. Stupczy.

- **Legislation (Finance Department)**
 - **Appropriations – Final – 2025**
 - **Appropriations – Temporary – 2026**
 - **Adjusting the Amended Official Certificate of Estimated Resources for 2025**
 - **Advancing from the Proceeds of tax levies for collection year 2026**

Council President Schutt asked, Ms. Rich?

Ms. Rich stated, thank you, Council President. This is our annual budget legislation that will be coming before you. The final appropriations, and the adjusted amended certificate for 2025 is just adjusting the revenue and expense budget. The appropriations, temporary for 2026, is just the temporary budget to get us through January and February before we pass the permanent budget in March. And with advancing from the proceeds of the tax levies the Ohio Revised Code allows us to ask the Treasurer to advance us the property taxes in January instead of the normal February and July schedule.

Council President Schutt asked, any questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Ms. Rich.

Any Other Matter That May Come Before Council

Council President Schutt asked, are there any other matters to come before Council this evening?

Mr. Murphy asked, one question. Illuminating Company, electric company, any update on those discussions? I'm still, getting calls on them.

Mr. Gall stated, yes. That was my question too.

Mayor Bodnar stated they are still working on it. The last we heard from Dave Conley from the Illuminating Company, well actually, we had to get in touch with him last week, because we were having issues on Beta Drive with intermittent power outages, and when that happens we have some businesses that are, you know, if you're using a 3-D printer, and it stops midway through, whatever you've got in the printer is lost, and so now instead of solving the problems that they already have we've just added to the list. But they are working, I understand through John Marquart that First Energy is working with QED and Canon, and I think OMNI had some trouble last week. I don't know if they're working with OMNI directly, but they are working to figure out the source of that problem, and get our Business District in order. So we don't have all the answers yet. We're still working on it. We keep prodding them.

Mr. Murphy asked, what about the telephone poles? I'm getting calls that people are worried that telephone poles are going to come down on them, because there's so much stuff, and are they rotted, and are they old?

Mayor Bodnar stated, if they have any specific ones, if they could take a picture of it. Or are they just generally worried?

Mr. Murphy stated, they kind of just want some assurances and the electric company has just been mum on everything.

Mr. Meyers stated, last week, they dug every pole on Wilson Mills by hand and inspected them. Every pole from SOM and Wilson Mills to Village Trails. They dug by hand. They inspected them and then they back-filled every one. They addressed every pole for rot.

Mr. Murphy stated, that's good to know. I appreciate that.

Mr. Meyers stated, they did it last week.

Mayor Bodnar stated, so, I'm expecting to hear from Dave Conley. I talked to him on Friday a couple of times. He said he would get back to me, not this week, but next week. So hopefully, we'll be able to have answers to more of the questions, and we'll get back to Council after he reports back to me hopefully next week.

Mr. Murphy stated, I'm happy to talk to this guy, but I mean, there's got to be a little bit more urgency in getting a message out. I told the guy that was there at the end of my development you guys need to get some form of message out, and they've just been nothing. I haven't heard anything. I haven't heard anything about them checking telephone poles. The communication just hasn't been there, and people aren't happy. There has to be more communication.

Ms. Calta stated, I don't think the First Energy has ever been good at good communication. You can ask any community around. Bratenahl had numerous issues with them.

Mr. Murphy stated, like I said, I am happy to talk to him. The squeaky wheel gets the grease.

Mayor Bodnar stated, we talked to him. You can ask John Marquart, last week I was getting a little hot under the collar with this guy because they don't seem to do anything until you prod them, and then once you prod them, they just try to placate you and push it down the line a little bit further.

Mr. Murphy stated, then you get the Pizzazz telephone pole catching on fire. People are nervous and worried. No joke. There's been no communication. Something's got to give.

Mayor Bodnar stated, we have a *Voice of the Village* coming up. We can put something in there.

Mr. Murphy stated, I think that'd be a great idea.

Mayor Bodnar stated, we will include as many answers as we have. If we don't have answers, we'll say why we don't have answers and what they're saying they're going to do and that we will keep everybody up to date.

Ms. Calta stated, you can always include their phone number in the *Voice of the Village*.

Mr. Arndt stated, yep, call them out.

Mr. Gall stated, yes, it's a public number.

Mr. Arndt stated, call them out. If you have a problem, here's the phone number. Let them get a thousand calls and maybe they'll get off their butts.

Mayor Bodnar stated, they actually tell us that that's part of the problem when people complain to us and they don't call the numbers that they're supposed to call, then it goes through a different cycle and you go down a different path and so instead of somebody reporting it to me and me telling Dave, they would prefer that people call and report it to them directly. Now, I think that's just another argument to stretch it out a little bit but that's what they're saying. So we'll include their numbers and the contact information and all the information.

Ms. Calta stated, I think they probably need to report it to both.

Mayor Bodnar stated, I think both as well.

Ms. Calta stated, talking about communication it probably should go both ways. There is a tag on the poles. I don't know if they told you that.

Mayor Bodnar stated, no.

Ms. Calta stated there's a tag on every pole that has a number and you can take a picture of it and you can e-mail it to First Energy. So, usually, it's for reporting lights out.

Chief Matias stated, they prefer addresses though because a lot of those numbers aren't accurate anymore.

Ms. Calta stated, I think when you put it in they ask for both, Chief, you're right. But they've always asked for that pole number too.

Chief Matias stated, we always given them addresses.

Mr. Arndt stated, not even that. I was going around the other day because I was getting calls too. There's a lot of trees that are overgrown on that side that are right into the wires. I mean, they got a lot of work to do and they have zero answers.

Mayor Bodnar stated, apparently how they do this is they contract out with a third party to do their inspections and they are rotated and every year they do a random number. They don't do every tree every year. It just rotates through. I don't know what happened with that third party who was doing their inspections but I think that's where the ball was dropped.

Mr. Murphy stated, yes. But the trees too. When the Village was experiencing bursts, I was getting called back then asking that they take down all the overgrown trees. That's what caused all the

power outages the first time. Like Mark said, they got their work out of it and they have provided nothing in my opinion.

Mayor Bodnar stated, it's very slow. It's very frustrating. We had a gentleman where they came and did work about three months ago on his property and then just left it a holy mess. What street was that on?

Mr. Stupczy replied, Dave Perout on Beechers Brook.

Mayor Bodnar stated, so I think they've gone back and taken care of that.

Mr. Stupczy stated, after we told them, yes.

Mayor Bodnar stated Dave had been calling them for three months and then he finally told us and we dealt with it with Dave and then a week or two after that they went out and cleaned up the mess. It's always like this with them.

Mr. Murphy stated, I agree, but that doesn't mean it's right, especially when telephone lines are falling over on cars and stuff and people are nervous.

Mayor Bodnar stated, and I told Dave that, I said, look, somebody could've died, the business could've been burned down. We were lucky both times. We can't rely on our luck. We need to get this fixed. He understands that.

Mr. Arndt asked, could we go above our contact's head?

Mayor Bodnar replied, we could, I suppose, but I'm guessing he's doing what he's supposed to do.

Mr. Arndt stated, not fast enough.

Mayor Bodnar stated, I think he is hired to do a certain job and I think he's doing his job. So I don't know if going above his head would help us.

Mr. Murphy stated, I don't know if we have to go above his head right now but I just think that we need to convey an urgency. Not that we haven't already.

Mayor Bodnar stated, he is aware. We're on it.

Mr. Murphy stated, I don't know if he knows that we're still getting calls about it.

Mayor Bodnar stated, well, we get random calls but if you get calls, e-mail us and tell us what's going on because unless you tell us, we don't know people in the neighborhoods are calling you.

Mr. Murphy stated, nervous nellies.

Mayor Bodnar stated, well, that's okay, I'm nervous too.

Mr. Murphy stated, and I agree.

Mr. Arndt stated, 100%.

Mr. Murphy stated, a telephone pole landed in someone's backseat.

Mayor Bodnar stated, we're lucky no one got hurt.

Mr. Murphy stated, yes. 100%. People are nervous. And we're relying on a third party to check these poles? I can't even believe he's saying that to be honest, but what do I know?

Mayor Bodnar stated, I wish they would go out there and do the inspection themselves or get their work done in a timely way and taking a look at all the poles to see if they're rotted at the bottom and going around to see which poles are leaning, but apparently that wasn't what was happening. We will keep following up with them.

Council President Schutt asked, are there any other matters to come before Council?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, since there are no other matters, the meeting is adjourned. It is 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Betsa, MMC
Clerk of Council