

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Perry Village Council
Perry Village Hall 7:00pm

Regular Meeting
August 14, 2025

Mayor James Gessic presiding.
Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBER PRESENT:

Ashley Hacking
Elias Coss
Jean Schonauer
Mike Glover
Rick Walker
Rebecca "Becky" Shimko

PERSONNEL IN ATTENDANCE:

James O'Leary	Solicitor
James Gessic	Mayor
John H. Roskos	Clerk/Fiscal Officer
Christian Gray	Zoning Inspector
Steve Williams	Police Chief

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lars Bjorksten, Roy Blalock, Curtis Curd, Bill Debus, Brian Farley, Hope Gessic, Lee Glover, Pam Jenkins, Robert Parker Lori and Ron White. Others may have been present but did not sign in.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Mayor Gessic announced that Amanda Giavonette was appointed to the Planning Commission. Also, he spoke with VonArbor Tree Service concerning a diseased willow tree and desired to remove it prior to the Fall Festival. Two days later, they came and removed the tree at no cost to the Village.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Brian Farley (Manchester and Green). I just had a question and more of a petition, talking with more of the community. I'm a registered nurse. I've been here for seven years in this community, it's been very difficult to get to meetings. I know a lot of people have got really young kids. We have a lot of elderly folks that are in their homes. So I was wondering if it would be possible to start live streaming, streaming or recording these meetings, to put it out there for more of the

community, just to see you guys, to meet you guys, and to be a part of the conversation, just in general, that's the feedback I'm getting from the folks as we're talking here.

Mayor Gessic responded that we looked at that a couple years ago. It's quite costly to set it up, and then we have to save all that information, and then when someone asks for a copy of it, we have to have some staff to redact certain information and provide a copy to the requester. My personal cell phone is on the website for those with questions.

Brian Farley: I just have one thing to say. So I've been to now few meetings. I went to the town hall, and maybe folks aren't coming because your response is just how you were to me, oh, and laughing. I'm just trying to share my feedback with you as our leader. So thank you very much for rolling your eyes.

Mayor Gessic replied: I did not roll my eyes or laugh. I am sorry you feel that way.

Lori White (Hidden Village) My question is what is the deal with the house on Harper with scaffold going through the window it looks like it is abandoned.

Mayor Gessic acknowledge that house, along with 11 or 12 others that look abandoned and the Village has attempted several times to encourage the proper repair or sale of each of the houses. The Village passed legislation to require payment annually for abandoned houses. So we thought after we did this for so long, they would eventually just sell the properties and get out from under them. But unfortunately, they've only gotten rid of one property, and we have had success for other people doing that, like we had one that got torn down on Green that was yellow, that's kind of leaning next to your second house there. And then we had two or three other ones get sold right away, once they found out they had to pay money. So they got rid of them. There's no people living in them, but for some reason, they just don't want to sell these properties.

Solicitor O'Leary added that the Village attempted to have one of the properties condemned through the Fire Department, but they did not condemn the property. Also, we're going to start addressing our property maintenance portion of it, a little more extensively this year. So they got the, you know, a mix of windows and there's other issues. You know, our property management code is kind of large, you know, even like you see, peeling paint, we can go after somebody. I don't want to be that type of person here. I don't want to be going after peeling paint. I want to go after your structural (issues) where it's, you know, physical garbage. So that's what we're doing right now.

Pam Jenkins: So I have the same question as her, and I just talked to the zoning inspector before the meeting, and I've made some calls and everything comes back to the village. You have to do condemn the building. So, I called our fire department today and spoke to a woman, and I couldn't I didn't get her name, but she said that they don't do that. I just walked around it when I was at the feed store last week and took some pictures. I mean, windows are out, like you said,

all the debris has fallen down into the building. There's trees growing up. Half the roof is missing. I don't see how that can't be a hazard. It needs to be condemned.

Solicitor O'Leary: We completely agree with you and if we could go that route, we would.

A letter regarding property maintenance issues will be going out soon to 4 properties on Main St. and 1 on Harper.

Councilman Coss said I will speak to that myself and multiple people within the village have reached out to them, and I've been unsuccessful with getting them on the phone, but I know a couple people who live on Thompson have been in contact. I want that specific building, and they absolutely refuse to entertain an offer... (There was additional related discussion.)

Solicitor O'Leary interjected: we appreciate your comments, and I don't want to cut you short, but we're past the three minutes. Okay, certainly, if you'd like to talk to any Council after the meeting and discuss the matter further.

READING & DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES:

Regular Council Meeting July 31, 2025 (emailed on August 7, 2025)

Rick Walker made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 31, 2025 regular council meeting. Jean Schonauer seconded the motion

Discussion: No corrections were noted.

Vote to approve: Elias Coss, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Jean Schonauer, yes; Ashley Hacking, yes; Rick Walker and Mike Glover, yes.

LEGISLATION

Council considered the following legislation:

Resolution No. 40-2025 (Tabled on July 31, 2025 on 3rd Reading)

A resolution authorizing the Mayor of the Village of Perry to enter into an annexation agreement with the Township of Perry, Lake County, Ohio and declaring an emergency

Motion to Reconsider Resolution 40-2025: Jean Schonauer (unable)

Seconded: Rick Walker

Vote to Reconsider Resolution No. 40-2025: Ashley Hacking, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, abstain; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Motion to Pass Resolution 40-2025: Jean Schonauer as an emergency measure

Seconded: Ashley Hacking

Discussion:

Vote to Pass Resolution No. 42-2025: Ashley Hacking, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, abstain; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Resolution No. 41-2025 (3rd Reading)

A resolution amending Resolution No. 66-2024 and approving the Permanent Appropriations Funds for the Village of Perry, Ohio for the Year 2025 and declaring an Emergency

Motion to Pass Resolution 41-2025: Rick Walker

Seconded: Jean Schonauer

Discussion: Fiscal Officer Roskos informed Council the need to pass this legislation is because we've had some additional expenses that we need (funds for); there have been some additions since the first reading...so the first major change was in operating supplies and materials. 1000-630... \$12,000 additional funds for our summer salt. So that'll enable us to order that. We need about \$50 more dollars in dues and fees in the police department for the year. And the next largest item, (actually the largest item) is in personnel services, employees for full time. We're increasing that from \$290,000 to \$345,000 and the associated Medicare line item with that will be increased as well from \$4,328 to \$5,010. We're looking at decreasing medical and hospitalization for hourly full time in the general fund by about \$13,000... basically that cost is going to be absorbed in a way by the SRO fund, 2904, for basically the same line item in that fund. We need \$100 more in postage for zoning, about \$2,000 more in operating supplies and materials for the road department. Unfortunately, the back-hoe, recently broke down, so there's approximately \$4,000 to \$6,000 in repair. So we're looking at increasing repairs and maintenance of machinery and equipment in the road department. We're also looking at repairs, increasing repairs and maintenance of motor vehicles by \$6,000 in the road department for hopefully, well, it's a contingency for any unexpected repairs for the remainder of the fiscal year. Hopefully we don't need it. Also, need about \$500 more in office supplies for the Village Hall, \$200 more postage for Fiscal Officers' office, approximately \$5,000 more in accounting and legal fees for the year, and also we received a refund from the IRS that needs to be returned to the Treasury in the amount of \$3,925.40.

There was an inquiry regarding the amount we spent on salt this year. "Well, just this year, ... it's not including that additional appropriation, we... spent approximately \$27,000 for salt this year. That doesn't include 2024.

Vote to Pass Resolution No. 41-2025: Ashley Hacking, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Resolution No. 45-2025 (2nd Reading)

A resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with LCN Holdings, Inc. to provide for the leasing of certain real property for the period of February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027 and declaring an emergency.

Resolution No. 47-2025 (Recommendation to Suspend the Rules – Statutory Item)

A resolution authorizing the Mayor, and Fiscal Officer to enter into agreements with Andover Bank, and STAR Ohio and declaring an emergency.

Fiscal Officer Roskos explained every five years, the village has to appoint depositories for our deposits; the current expires on September 10, 2025; so the Revised Code requires us to assign a depository the previous month.

Motion to Suspend the Rules: Rick Walker
Seconded: Jean Schonauer

Vote to Suspend the Rules: Ashley Hacking, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Rebecca Shinko, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Motion to Pass Resolution 47-2025: Rick Walker
Seconded: Jean Schonauer

Discussion: None

Vote to Pass Resolution No. 47-2025: Ashley Hacking, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Resolution No. 48-2025 (First Reading)

A resolution authorizing the mayor to enter an agreement with the Board of Commissioners of Lake County to provide central dispatch and communication services in declaring an emergency.

Discussion: Mayor Gessic inquired about the increase in dispatch fees. Fiscal Officer Roskos said next year, (it is at) \$37,020 and by 2030 it goes up to \$84,000, more than double...

Police Chief Williams added with the Next Gen 911; state mandates have come out now, regional dispatcher dispatch centers have to be equipped to accept all modes of communication-text message, live stream video, video, face time, things like that. This is going to pose a huge problem on your dispatch. Now your dispatcher is going to be forced to sit there and watch critical incidents. On top of that, there's just a bunch of technology. This is all state mandated. This is federal and state mandated.

Councilman Walker interjected that the other portion of it, too, that's complicated, is that such communications used to take the money, collect the money, and that was it. Now the state's mandated that if, if Perry makes a call to Central, central accepts the call and pushes it out,

Central...Perry has to pay central for that. So each individual entity that's using these systems are paying separately.

Council discussed inviting the Sheriff's Office or Captain Bachnicki to attend a meeting to further explain the cost increases; some state/federal funds are being used. There may be some other options available. County funding for this does not trickle down to us; part of this service is paid through 9-1-1 fees on cell phone bills. The Fire District is facing a similar increase in costs. We would like to maintain our relationship with the Sheriff. There was some discussion about dispatch in other communities and the difficulty to moving it. Council suggested encouraging the County Commissioners to get us more funding; Council expressed that we should make sure we aren't missing funding opportunities.

Ordinance No. 2025-06 (2nd Reading or Suspend the Rules)

An Ordinance determining to proceed with the improvement of various streets in the Village of Perry by supplying said streets with Electric Street Lighting and Sidewalks and declaring an emergency.

Motion to Suspend the Rules: Rick Walker
Seconded: Ashley Hacking

Vote to Suspend the Rules: Ashley Hacking, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Rebecca Shinko, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Motion to Pass Ordinance 2025-06: Rick Walker
Seconded: Elias Coss

Discussion: Fiscal Officer Roskos indicated that it needs to be passed by September 8th.

Vote to Pass Ordinance 2025-06: Ashley Hacking, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Ordinance No. 2025-07 (2nd Reading or Suspend the Rules)

An Ordinance to levy assessments for improvement of various streets in the Village of Perry by supplying said streets with Electric Street Lighting and Sidewalks and declaring an emergency.

Motion to Suspend the Rules: Rick Walker
Seconded: Jean Schonauer

Vote to Suspend the Rules: Ashley Hacking, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Rebecca Shinko, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Motion to Pass Ordinance 2025-07: Mike Glover
Seconded: Rick Walker

Discussion: None

Vote to Pass Ordinance 2025-07: Ashley Hacking, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

Ordinance No. 2025-08 (2nd Reading)

An Ordinance amending the Village of Perry Public Records Policy to permit fees for video records including body camera footage as authorized by Ohio House Bill 315 and Ohio Revised Code Section 149.43 and declaring an emergency

Reports:

a. **MAYOR GESSIC**

Mayor Gessic requested the Chief to get the road guys looking at it quotes for a new plow truck for next year. I believe, three different vendors... GM, and think International was the last one you guys talked about getting a quote on. Also, (we) looked at putting the arrows down on the road, on the park, for directional purposes, for people driving down the wrong way.

Also, I did request a quote. I got two vendors I'm looking at for painting the lines on the road for Center here and maybe Manchester. Waiting for a call back. Mr. Parker reminded the Mayor that the County puts out a quote every year for their projects and the Mayor might want to see who they are using and have them complete the work at the County price.

b. **SOLICITOR O'LEARY**

Solicitor O'Leary had nothing to report.

c. **ENGINEER ROBERT B. PARKER, P.E.**

Engineer Robert B. Parker, P.E. reviewed the progress on various projects.

The first round, the 40th round, 40 of OBWC, it looks like we're going to score on the top of the small government on the Maple project. Because the email from the county engineer's office was confusing. Still don't know what it said. I have to give them a call. It's their first year. I'm going to call and find out what that really means... I'm not sure what it means.

We have two OPWC grants this year, for those that don't know the grants that we received are storm water for Center...and for Thompson and Green, which will be starting next month, depending on Enbridge... now, we're waiting to find out, and we're calling them everyday. They laid the straw down for all the big holes they got...and the second one is for Green Street resurfacing, which will happen...that's being done in conjunction with Lake County Department of utilities, replacing the water line.

d. **JOHN H. ROSKOS - FISCAL OFFICER**

The Fiscal Officer gave an oral monthly report.

So, the monthly report- the general fund ended with a balance of \$1,956,733 in the end of July. On monthly revenue for July of \$305,830 versus expenditures of \$135,588 for a net surplus for the month of \$168,243. Of the revenue, \$120,000 was from Lake County Storm Water...as part

of our local match for the 2025 Center Road Drainage Improvements Project, which includes more than one street, it's not just center. Personnel expenditures are higher this July versus last year, primarily due to an extra period last month, and wage increases. Expenses in other areas, such as supplies, materials were similar to last year. By comparison, our revenue in July of 2024 was \$184,374; expenses for July 2024 are unfortunately not comparable to July 2025, as there was a significant accounting adjustment in personnel expenses during July of 2024. Net income tax revenues in July 2024 were \$128,379 versus \$146,848 for July 2025. Activity in other funds- we paid \$3,839 to the Illuminating Company for electricity for street lights, and that comes out of Fund 2902, there was no other significant activity in our governmental funds, and we remitted \$32,631.98 of income tax and net profits tax to the JEDD for the month. Other discussion- I'm still awaiting a final report by the State auditor for our 2023-2024 audit, and no other updates at this time on any other miscellaneous items.

e. **POLICE CHIEF WILLIAMS – POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Police Chief: Chief Williams submitted his report.

f. **STREET COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS – PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Street Commissioner Williams submitted his report.

g. **CHRISTIAN GRAY – ZONING REPORT**

Mr. Gray stated that he did not have anything to report other than a Planning Commission Meeting held prior to the Council Meeting. He recommended that the Planning Commission be set up to meet monthly and cancel the meetings if nothing needs to be reviewed. This will minimize scheduling conflicts for Commission members.

h. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MAYOR GESSIC**

Mayor Gessic reported that the JEDD will meet in about two weeks. (August 26 in AM)

i. **COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

The following reports were made by Councilmembers:

1. **Rick Walker**: Distributed the Fire Board report. If you have any questions on that, let me know. The Pitch-In Program is very busy. At the moment, we have received four requests, in the past couple of weeks, Carmen and I went to visit one of them... One of them is washing windows. And Carmen's going to reach out. He has a firefighter friend that used to do it. Maybe we can get him to do it pro bono, because that's what he does, you know. So work on that exterior. She asked for both....It's a two story house, so we would not, we would definitely not do the second story. And we, the homeowner, is fine with that. But we have, we got, we already have four in line for raking leaves in the fall, preemptively...that's all I have, please, unless we have new volunteers. We could use volunteers.

Councilwoman Schonauer inquired about Pitch-In assignments in which volunteers go into the home. She was under the impression that Pitch-In would not go into the house for liability reasons. She further suggested having a waiver to sign if the plan is to go into the homes.

Councilman Walker responded that the requesting party does sign a request form which details the work to be performed. The project is evaluated prior to proceeding. There would be a minimum of 2 people going into the home; it was noted that all volunteers receive a background check, which is reimbursed. Mr. Walker suggested forwarding the information to Solicitor O'Leary for review.

2. **Rebecca Shimko**: Thank you Mayor. I don't have anything at this time other than to endorse Christian's recommendation to schedule a monthly Planning Commission Meeting and canceling if there is nothing to discuss.
3. **Jean Schonauer**: Jean Schonauer said the only thing I have right now is I do want to get a work session on the books very quickly so that we can start working on the 2026 budget, so department heads, get ready. And then we'll also review our current financial statements, just to make sure that we are staying, I mean, we do it anyway, but just as the committee to make sure that we're within our budgeting categories. Obviously, a couple of things have gone a little off kilter and we've had to make those adjustments through resolutions. But I just want to make sure that we are all thinking about what could potentially come up in the remaining five months that we have, or four months actually. So, can we meet on Thursday, August 28th @ 6:00 p.m. for a work session to start the budget for 2026? All agreed.

And then, as John mentioned in his report, IRS is a little confused on some of the payments that we made to them for our payroll taxes, and they sent it back, and now we're sending it back to them. I now have a whole folder here, and I'm going to be going through it again and establishing a timeline so that we can send a letter to IRS, showing the timeline and explaining why they should keep that money, because it's theirs to keep. So that's another project I'm working on right now

4. **Mike Glover**: Mike Glover had two items from the Parks Committee. But first thing ...the meeting minutes for May 20 and June 3. Unfortunately, I didn't have time between the two meetings tonight to get the copies made...to stick in everyone's mailboxes, as well as give John a copy for the records.

Second thing for the park is at the last meeting, I decided to step aside as Chair for the parks committee, and Ashley accepted the chair position in the meantime, and I'm going to assume the vice chair position. So as of right now, Ashley is the chairperson of parks committee.

The last thing I have is, I don't know, I'm sure everyone's gotten a letter from the Lake County Treasurer in the mail for the street light assessment that the previous CFO did not submit paperwork timely or at all, to add that to our tax duplicate. So, I received a letter that was dated, I believe it was July 28th and it said I had a due date of July 14. I called the treasurer and explained that I can't pay in the past, so what am I supposed to do about this late date? And she explained that we all need to call her, call the treasurer's office and explain to them the situation, and they will remove that

late fee. It's only seven and a half dollars, or roughly seven and a half dollars, but after everybody in this community is added together, it's 1000s and 1000s of dollars. So call the treasurer's office and tell them to remove the street lighting assessment late fee. Not everyone received a letter or late fee; the Fiscal Officer noted that other communities have had issues with Street Lighting Assessments this year as well. The main number is 440-350-2516.

5. **Elias Coss:** Elias Coss mentioned he has a couple of things to report. First, as far as the youth the Perry Youth Recreation District, we finally have started the interviewing process. This week, we interviewed four- I had back to back interviews yesterday. We have some pretty good candidates, whether or not we're going to identify the future leader of our rec department or not. We have our final interview tomorrow at four o'clock. Again, the goal is to have a director on staff no later than the first week of October, interview, determine if there's going to be a second round, and then determine if we're going to hire somebody, and make the offer; if they accept, allow them the opportunity (to prepare)...So no later than the first week of October.

As far as the Fall Festival, today is the final day for people to become a sponsor. We've done very well with sponsorships, very appreciative of individuals, local, small businesses, big businesses. And quite honestly, we actually have quite a few businesses outside of Perry that wanted to be a part of this, and so I won't go into any specifics right now. I will share that on behalf of the Festival Committee here within the next week or so, once everything's final. But that's exciting news.

I met with the both the Fire Chief and Chief Williams here to finalize plans for fireworks yesterday for an hour. So there's still some paperwork, because there, when it comes to the fireworks, the approach has changed, but it used to be just done on paper and essentially kind of an honor system, which is kind of scary, I know, but now everything is digital, and the fire department, the firework company, has to submit it. So, they were working on that yesterday, and I didn't get a chance to follow up today. But the goal was to have that confirmed today, whether or not, regardless, we're looking good.

I'm working with Chief Williams here to take care of some concerns with the pond in Lee Lydic Park, as long as we can get that cleaned up and in order, the goal is to have a fishing derby the morning of the Fall Festival. I have several people who have reached out they can be in one of them, the Boy Scouts, the Perry Boy Scouts and their leader have also volunteered to run that for us. But again, I can't really finalize that until we know exactly what's going on with the pond. I don't know nothing about the Fish Derby, how it's ran, or whatever.

Mayor Gessic asked whether the plan is to have trophies for the fishing derby.

Councilman Coss said yes, but he has to get the pond cleaned up first.

Further Coss said I need to make sure we have enough volunteers, because the last time we had (the Derby) at our Fall Festival, we have over 100 physical bodies down there, and...the people running said it was a hot disaster, but there is a interest there, which is cool, right? So, and then as far as the Fall Festival, we are in need of volunteers the day of the event, in many different capacities. I can tell you right now that Mike Glover here to my left does not want to run parking from nine o'clock in the morning until 10 o'clock at night. But there's other things that we can do at the Fall Festival. If you're interested or know somebody who's willing, ...(even an hour)... shoot them my way. Everybody should at this point, should have my phone number. You guys can call and text me...and express your interest.

Finally, with the new superintendent at the schools, Todd Porcello, several months ago, I reached out to him, looking to, you know, build a relationship and take the opportunity of having a new leader within the schools and start some conversation, some healthy conversations in many different capacities. And while not going into specifics, I can tell you today, he and I have met; I believe it's five times... and then we've had all the meetings recently. We had Chief Williams in one and some other parties as well. But I'm excited to announce that both Mr. Porcello, who's the superintendent of schools, is very excited to have these conversations with us in the Village, and it seems like, as of right now, that those are going in a very positive direction, and...we've been very frank with one another. The mayor actually sat in on one of the meetings, and the takeaways from both parties have been very, very positive. The energy has been good, and it's actually pretty exciting.

Chief Williams met with us a week ago. We met this week again, but we met a week ago to kind of outline the SRO program going into the next school year or this coming year. There were some questions asked for both sides and some...shared some concerns and stuff like that. But again, it was a meeting that's very productive and very excited with starting the new contract with us this year, they made a couple requests that we were able to honor, all that's looking pretty good.

Police Chief Williams added: Prior to these meetings, myself and Elias talked to Porcello in early June, about two weeks after it was announced that he was taking office; we started bridging the gap and fixed our relationships, started having discussions then as to who we want in the schools. And it's been a collaborative (effort); a couple of different people who I was considering...putting over there (in the) school this year on a permanent basis, and both top personnel and other administrators over there sat in and had discussions with them, and they provided input.

Councilman Coss interjected that the School is very excited. They are very excited with what we were able to put together and stuff like that...The approach was, you know, to start bridging this gap between the two entities...So they are having a meeting tomorrow, security staff from the school, along with the two SROs. And I believe there may be some administrators there, yeah, there may be some. So ...Porcello took our feedback back to the teachers, or not the teachers, but the

administrators and kind of outlined, what are some expectations? So again, that was very well received. So I would say there were some words that were clearly identified. What has happened over the past couple months in the meetings that we've had together, the words that kind of come up over and over again, is just moving forward, you know, not living in the past and focusing on communication and collaboration, those, those two seeds have really come up a lot in our conversations. So you know, what I can tell you is and I can speak, you know...the energy is very exciting.

6. **Ashley Hacking:** Ashley Hacking stated she has no news yet on our grant for the pickleball court. Hopefully we're going to hear that we got it. So we are waiting. She asked the Mayor about the water spigot at the park and he responded they will be getting to it soon. Posts will be painted and the stop sign will go up; speed limit sign is rusting, Chief noted we have plenty to replace it. Working on removing the phragmites from around the pond; backhoe broke down- township will be lending us a track hoe. Phragmites will be dumped next to the road garage; next Parks Meeting is September 10 at 6:00 PM at Lee Lydic Park. There will be a presentation by the Metroparks on September 14 about Butterfly and Hummingbird Gardens.

Councilwoman Hacking mentioned the efforts to inform the public about issues surrounding the Data Center Project. She noted that additional information has been uploaded to the website. She noted Council continues to look at School funding challenges. She plans to meet tomorrow at 8:30 am with John and Jennifer Capo and to go through school funding, financing in the data center and just kind of make sure all the numbers are good. To go through everything from the auditors and just kind of talk through all funding. So it's just kind of touch base. We're going to just have a good conversation making sure if that project does go forward, that the school district's in a good place. So that is a conversation.

Mayor Gessic added that he has a meeting with the Administrators at Perry the 26th to discuss, and that'll be our second meeting. We've kind of established that we're going to try to meet once a month... Maybe we'll do breakfast next week.

PURCHASE & APPROVALS:

Mr. Roskos submitted purchases and approvals to Council for the time period from July 30, 2025 through August 7, 2025. Councilman Rick Walker made a motion to approve. Jean Schonauer seconded the motion.

Vote to approve: Ashley Hacking, yes; Elias Coss, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Mike Glover, yes; Rick Walker, yes; and Jean Schonauer, yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Intended to address topics discussed during the meeting)

Bill Debus (News Herald): I was wondering Jim with the 40-2025 does the township have to pass any legislation?

Mayor Gessic responded, yes there are two meetings, the Township and the JEDD. Both will likely be meeting on August 26th to review it.

Pam Jenkins asked what streets are getting streetlights and sidewalks?

Mayor Gessic responded that the legislation was for streetlights and sidewalks that already exist in the Village.

Question: the water lines on Green, are they doing all the water lines on Green?

Robert Parker explained that they are replacing the six inch 100 year old asbestos line from Manchester to Thompson with an eight inch PVC pipe.

Pam Jenkins: The last thing that we didn't talk about at the meeting, so I don't know if you'll let me talk about this, is the photo contest. At the last meeting, you guys approved some prizes for a photography contest, and that's in the works. We've gotten one so far, which is a start. It's on the Perry community Facebook page, and I think John put it on the Village page, yeah, and we've got some flyers up in different places, so hopefully that will take off and just tell people about it. I'm going to repost it on the community page.

Council etc. What's the date it has to be done? What's it? it's already started, and the Last Day is September 5, and then we'll have them judged, and then we're going to present prizes at the 14th at the event at the park. Oh, the butterfly garden, and it's by Lake County Metro Parks, not me.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Solicitor O'Leary informed the audience that Council had requested Executive Session to:

- (a) To consider the purchase of property for public purposes, the sale of property (ORC 121.22 (G)(2) at competitive bidding, or the sale or other disposition of unneeded, obsolete, or unfit-for-use property in accordance with section 505.10 of the Revised Code, if premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person whose personal, private interest is adverse to the general public interest.
- (b) Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.
- (c) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

Inviting Council, Mayor Gessic and Solicitor O'Leary. No action is planned after Executive Session.

Jean Schonauer made a motion to go into Executive Session
Seconded by Ashley Hacking

Vote to go into Executive Session: Elias Coss, yes; Jean Schonauer, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Rick Walker, yes; Ashley Hacking, yes, and Mike Glover yes.

Perry Village Council went into executive session at 8:12 p.m.

At 9:12 p.m. Rick Walker made a motion to come out of Executive Session, which was seconded by Jean Schonauer.

Vote to come out of Executive Session: Elias Coss, yes; Jean Schonauer, yes, Rebecca Shimko, yes; Rick Walker, yes; Ashley Hacking, and Mike Glover, yes.

The Council door was opened, and the meeting continued.

Ashley Hacking made a Motion to place the following Notice in the News Herald and on the Village website:

The Village of Perry Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Village Hall at 3758 Center Rd., Perry, OH 44081 on Thursday, September 18 at 6:00 PM to consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission to amend 890 OV-OVERLAY (MIXED USE) DISTRICT I of the Village of Perry Zoning Code. All interested parties are encouraged to attend and may submit comments in writing or in person at the hearing. The proposed amendment is available for review at the Village Hall.

Jean Schonauer seconded the motion

Discussion: none

Elias Coss, yes; Jean Schonauer, yes; Rebecca Shimko, yes; Rick Walker, yes; Ashley Hacking, yes, and Mike Glover yes

ADJOURNMENT:

Mike Glover made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Jean Schonauer.

Vote to Adjourn: Elias Coss, yes; Jean Schonauer, yes, Rebecca Shimko, yes; Rick Walker, yes; Ashley Hacking, yes, and Mike Glover, yes

The Perry Village Council Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

**A Work Session Meeting will be
8/28/2025 at 6:00 p.m.**



John H. Roskos, Fiscal Officer



James Gessic, Mayor

Posted 9/19/25