

**Minutes from the Finance Committee
Village of Waynesville, Ohio
August 18, 2025**

Committee Members present: Chris Colvin, Connie Miller, Troy Lauffer

Guests present: Mayor Isaacs

Staff present: Jamie Morley, Chief Copeland

The meeting was called to order at 6:02. Mr. Colvin moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting, Mr. Lauffer seconded. 3 Ayes

Mr. Colvin asked about the notice we received from Aetna. Because the village contributed less than was paid out on our behalf our premiums went up considerably.

Chief reported that due to new legislation in Ohio we must make a strategic plan for cyber-attacks. Chief has requested quotes from various services to provide such a plan. This means we will have a completely new IT policy. The deadline is October 2026, but we must show progress by October 2025.

Mr. Lauffer asked questions about various entries on the listing of payments.

Mr. Colvin inquired about RITA and Ms. Morley said all seems well. He also inquired whether the schools have been paying appropriately in RITA on behalf of their staff. It appears they are.

Ms. Morley stated we need to transfer money into the police fund to cover the health insurance for the officers. Approximately \$39,000.

The committee discussed possible changes due to the audit findings. Nothing is firm yet. A list of recommendations will come from the auditor when they finish the process.

Ms. Morley let us know we have \$5 million in the general fund. She thought maybe we should move it into the STAR account from the SWEEP account as the STAR account is earning 4% and the SWEEP account is only earning 2%.

Chief discussed the possibility of imposing a Business District Improvement Tax. The plans are as follows:

We have put away \$420,000 for new light poles, by next year that will be \$540,000.

The estimated cost of the bollards to replace the concrete barriers is \$195,000. Chief is looking for Safety Grants to cover the cost of the bollards. The sidewalks will cost an estimated \$350,000, the lights and the associated costs of wiring, \$300,000. Other costs around \$150,000. The total cost of the downtown renewal project will be approximately \$1,000,000.

The village would pay about 75% of the cost. Because the sidewalks are the responsibility of the property owners the Business Improvement Tax will be imposed on about 100 businesses and residences on Main St. The tax can be paid in a lump sum, or as an add-on to the property tax over 5 years. The cost to each property owner will be determined by the square footage of sidewalk on their property. The average cost will be around \$550 a year for 5 years, or \$2750 if paid all at once. Chief requested that the Finance Committee recommend the new tax to Council and direct the Village Manager to get bids for all facets of the project. Mr. Colvin agreed to propose this to Council.

Mr. Colvin moved for adjournment, Mr. Lauffer seconded, 3 ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52.