Village of Middlefield Council Minutes

February 12, 2026

Council met in regular session Mayor Garlich called the meeting to order by **roll call** at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mayor Garlich, Mr. Scott Klein, Mr. Carl Hornung, Ms. Kaitlyn Arganti, Mr. Sam Morrow, Mr. Bill Blue, and Mr. Kyle Kaplan.

Also present: Ms. Leslie McCoy- Village Administrator, Chief Tucholski, Lt. Graley, Mr. Nick Giardina- Fiscal Officer, Mr. Luke McConville- Village Solicitor, Mr. Alex Duncan, Ms. Kim Breyley, Mr. John Boksansky- Zoning Inspector, Ms. Ann Wishart- Maple Leaf, Mr. Aric Anderson, and Mr. Ben Reed- Fire Department, and Ms. Sabine Weizer.

1. Opening Ceremony: Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Agenda: No additions/deletions.

3. Approval of Minutes: January 8, 2026. ***Mr. Hornung made a motion to approve January 8, 2026 minutes as amended to add personnel promotion under executive session, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).***

4. Payment of Bills: ***Mr. Hornung moved to authorize payments totaling $555,848.66, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).***

5. FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Income Tax and Financials – The report is included in the packet. Mr. Giardina stated the main three categories of water, sewer, and income tax are up 1.68% compared to the previous year. Sewer is down due to large industry businesses using chiller systems. Mr. Giardina stated total receipts are up and expenses are down compared to the previous year. Withholdings are up almost 7% compared to the previous year. Total business deposits are down but employment in the Village is still strong.

6. AMBULANCE REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Mayor Garlich stated there is an ambulance meeting for next week.

7. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Mr. Reed stated there was an accident involving an ambulance yesterday but all occupants are okay, the ambulance does look to be totaled. Mr. Anderson stated there was a medical incident in Glen Valley that himself and Officer Nadaud responded to and were first on scene. Officer Nadaud was the first to assess the situation and start CPR. Mr. Anderson stated that Officer Nadaud never hesitated and because of his quick actions that individual is still alive right now. Mr. Anderson stated Officer Nadaud's actions were impressive and he did a phenomenal job on scene.

8. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Ms. McCoy stated she has approved a storefront renovation application for a sign. Ms. McCoy stated she is still answering questions about properties in the Village.

9. ZONING REPORT: Report is included in packet. Mr. Boksansky stated he was able to issue almost all zoning permits for the month of January.

10. STREETS, SIDEWALKS & UTILITIES REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Chief Tucholski stated there has been a lot of snow removal and a lot of salt has been put down. Chief Tucholski stated the sidewalks are being cleared as best as they can but the roads are the main priorities. Chief Tucholski stated sidewalk maintenance in the Village is the responsibility of each homeowner. The Village does it as a courtesy at no cost for the residents. Chief Tucholski stated there has been a lot of maintenance being done on Village vehicles and equipment.

11. POLICE REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Chief Tucholski stated there was 629 calls for service in the month of January. Chief Tucholski stated a new officer will be sworn in tonight. The new police tahoe will be set up as soon as parts come in and will be on the road as soon as it is set up. Starting pays for police and sergeants got an increase in wages.

12. PARKS & RECREATION REPORT – Report is included in the packet. Ms. McCoy stated Spring/Summer Registration is open. Ms. McCoy stated there was another America250 meeting to go over some planning.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mayor Garlich opened the public hearing at 7:30PM.

Mr. Boksansky stated this is so that he can personally issue someone an open storage permit and so the applicant can renew their open storage application as long as they are in good standing.

1. **7:30PM PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 26-106 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1159.06 ENTITLED "OPEN STORAGE AND DISPLAY OF MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT", AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

Mayor Garlich closed the public hearing at 7:33PM.

FIRST READING –

1. **RESOLUTION 26-02 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE'S US BANK MASTERCARD AGGREGATE MAXIMUM CREDIT LIMIT TO BE $25,000, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Resolution 26-02 by title only. Mr. Giardina stated the credit limit was constantly being hit and was causing issues so this credit limit increase will prevent so many issues. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to place Resolution 26-02 on first reading as an emergency and waive the required readings, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Morrow made a motion to *PASS* Resolution 26-02, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

2. **ORDINANCE 26-107 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARIES AND WAGE RATES FOR THE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE VILLAGE RETROACTIVELY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-107 by title only. Mayor Garlich stated the CPI increase is 2.7%. Mayor Garlich as waived his own CPI increase. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to place Ordinance 26-107 on first reading as an emergency and waive the required readings, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Blue made a motion to *PASS* Ordinance 26-107, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

3. **ORDINANCE 26-108 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SALARIES AND WAGE RATES FOR THE NON-POLICE EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE RETROACTIVELY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-108 by title only. Ms. McCoy stated these are the normal CPI raises along with some employees getting merit raises. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to place Ordinance 26-108 on first reading as an emergency and waive the required readings, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Morrow made a motion to *PASS* Ordinance 26-108, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

4. **ORDINANCE 26-109 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE 2026 WAGE RATES FOR POLICE OFFICERS OF THE VILLAGE RETROACTIVELY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026, AND DECLARING AND EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-109 by title only. Chief Tucholski stated this the normal CPI increase and the starting pay along with sergeant pay has increased. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 26-109 on first reading as an emergency and waive the required readings, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a motion to *PASS* Ordinance 26-109, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

5. **ORDINANCE 26-110 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEFIELD, OHIO.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-110 by title only. **Mr. Blue made a motion to place Ordinance 26-110 on first reading motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

6. **ORDINANCE 26-111 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A FORD F-600 TRUCK WITH PLOW AND SALT SPREADER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-111 by title only. Chief Tucholski stated this is on ordinance because it is not a planned expense. The Lopro broke down so a new salt truck is needed. **Mr. Hornung made a motion to place Ordinance 26-111 on first reading as an emergency and**

waive the required readings, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Morrow made a motion to *PASS* Ordinance 26-111, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).

7. **ORDINANCE 26-112 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2026 ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-106 by title only. **Mr. Klein made a motion to place Ordinance 26-112 on first reading as an emergency and waive the required readings, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Blue made a motion to *PASS* Ordinance 26-112, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

8. **ORDINANCE 26-113 AN ORDINANCE HIRING BRANDON PESKA AS A FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER, CONTINGENT UPON HIS COMPLETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 139.01 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AT THE PAY RATE OF $35.39 PER HOUR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-113 by title only. Mr. Peska was previously a K-9 handler and has been an officer for 15 years. Mr. Peska stated he is in the process of moving closer to Middlefield. **Mr. Blue made a motion to place Ordinance 26-113 on first reading as an emergency and waive the required readings, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6). Mr. Hornung made a motion to *PASS* Ordinance 26-113, motion seconded by Mr. Morrow. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

   Mayor Garlich swears in Brandon Peska under oath in State of Ohio as a Full Time Police Officer.

9. **ORDINANCE 26-114 AN ORDINANCE ENACTING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 911.25 ENTITLED "REQUIREMENTS FOR WATER METER REPLACEMENT AND PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY."** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-114 by title only. Ms. McCoy stated this is for the meter changeout program to get residents to respond in a timely manner to get their water meter changed out. Ms. McCoy stated is they do not schedule within 30 days of receiving the letter there will be a penalty added to their monthly bill. **Mr. Klein made a motion to place Ordinance 26-114 on first reading, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

SECOND READING

1. **RESOLUTION 26-01 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ARCHIVIST TO ACT AS THE DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEFIELD COUNCIL FOR PURPOSE OF REQUIRED PUBLIC RECORDS TRAINING.** Mayor Garlich introduced Resolution 26-01 by title only. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Resolution 26-01 on second reading, motion seconded by Mr. Blue. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

2. **ORDINANCE 26-102 AN ORDINANCE REVIEWING THE SCHEDULE OF FEES IMPOSED BY THE VILLAGE PURSUANT TO SECTION 135.09, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-102 by title only. **Mr. Morrow made a motion to place Ordinance 26-102 on second reading, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

3. **ORDINANCE 26-106 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1159.06 ENTITLED "OPEN STORAGE AND DISPLAY OF MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT", AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Mayor Garlich introduced Ordinance 26-106 by title only. **Mr. Blue made a motion to place Ordinance 26-106 on second reading, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).**

THIRD READING

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Web Site Report –** Kim Breyley: Included in the packet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS and COMMUNICATIONS

Planning & Zoning (Mayor Garlich/Mr. Klein/Mr. Linberg/Mr. Dietrich/Ms. Shaffer) – January meeting minutes included in the packet. Mr. Klein gives an overview of the pending projects and permit applications from the January 2026 Planning and Zoning meeting.

Streets, Sidewalks, & Utilities (Mr. Morrow/ Mr. Blue/ Ms. Arganti/ Ben Garlich) – January meeting minutes included in the packet.

Economic Development Committee (Ms. McCoy, Mr. Klein, Ms. Arganti, Mr. Michalakes, Mr. Dietrich, Ms. Breyley, Ms. Martin) – No meeting in January.

Parks & Recreation (Mr. Blue/ Mr. Morrow/ Ms. Arganti/ Mayor Garlich/ Ms. Bean/ Mr. Soltis) – January meeting minutes included in the packet.

Finance & Ordinance (Ms. Arganti/ Mr. Morrow/ Mr. Klein) – January meeting minutes included in the packet.

Public Safety (Mr. Hornung/ Mr. Blue/Mr. Kaplan/ Mayor Garlich) – January meeting minutes included in the packet.

VILLAGE CALENDAR: (ALL MEETING DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

FEBRUARY – (subject to change)
February 10, 2026 5:15pm STREETS COMMITTEE
February 10, 2026 6:00pm PLANNING COMMISSION
February 11, 2026 11:00am TIRC Meeting (Geauga County Auditor Real Estate Appraisal Office)
February 12, 2026 12:00pm RECORDS RETENTION COMMITTEE
February 12, 2026 5:30pm RECREATION COMMITTEE
February 12, 2026 6:00pm FINANCE COMMITTEE
February 12, 2026 6:30pm SAFETY COMMITTEE
February 12, 2026 7:00pm COUNCIL MEETING
February 16, 2026– *President's Day - Village Offices Closed*

MARCH – (subject to change)
March 10, 2026 5:15pm STREETS COMMITTEE
March 10, 2026 6:00pm PLANNING COMMISSION
March 12, 2026 5:30pm RECREATION COMMITTEE
March 12, 2026 6:00pm FINANCE COMMITTEE
March 12, 2026 6:30pm SAFETY COMMITTEE
March 12, 2026 7:00pm COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Blue made a motion to allow Ms. McCoy to apply for use of funds from the county for the turning lane at Arby's project, motion seconded by Mr. Hornung. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).

ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Klein motioned to adjourn the Council meeting at 7:59 PM, motion seconded by Ms. Arganti. Roll Call. All in favor: Yeas (6).

PENDING
Tabled: Resolution 21-08

These Council Meeting Minutes are to be supplemented by any audio recording of the Meeting, to the extent any such audio recording exists and is kept by the Village.

Approved: _____
MAYOR

Attest: _____
FISCAL OFFICER