

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## ASHVILLE COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Held: February 17, 2026

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### FISCAL OFFICER

Jesse Burke moved, seconded by Ron Teeters, to approve payment of the following invoices. All votes were yay.

- Bricker Graydon for economic development/data center legal services in the amount of \$39,438.25.
- Isaac Wiles for legal services in the amount of \$10,602.50.

### MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Clark addressed questions submitted by a resident regarding why Sgt. Mayse was not appointed Acting Police Chief. Clark stated that the appointment decision is his responsibility and that he met with the officers, who recommended Chris Hempstead. Clark explained that the officers respect Mr.

Hempstead, that he has mutual respect for them, and that they have confidence in his ability to lead the department.

Mayor Clark added that Mr. Hempstead has more than 20 years of law enforcement experience, including several years serving as a supervisor for a department of more than 40 officers.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Ron Teeters commended the dedication and passion of Ronde Cook-Brushart, a member of the Harrison Township Zoning Commission. Mr. Teeters expressed his desire to maintain a positive working relationship with the township. He stated that Columbus is gradually expanding toward the area and may eventually annex nearby properties. He further commented that he hopes the township may one day be incorporated into the Village to help prevent Columbus from gaining full control over surrounding areas.
- Jesse Burke stated that he is a member of the Protect Pickaway Alliance and encouraged other Council members to consider joining. Mr. Burke also noted that he had been informed that South Bloomfield is interested in constructing a fire department substation.

Bert Cline reported that he had met with representatives regarding the proposal and that Ashville and the township were each asked to contribute one-third of the total cost. Mr. Cline stated that the proposed building would also house their police department and expressed concern about contributing millions of taxpayer dollars to a project that would not directly benefit Village residents. Mr. Burke agreed that a one-third contribution was not reasonable but expressed hope that a fair agreement could be reached.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ronde Cook-Brushart thanked Council for considering the community's input regarding the proposed data center. She also encouraged the Village to establish its own Design Review Board.

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The Council of Ashville convened in Regular Session from 6:30 PM to 8:02 PM in the Charles K. Wise Council Chambers at 200 East Station Street, Ashville, Ohio 43103. Mayor Clark called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL

Jesse Burke-present; Ron Teeters – present; Jeremy Scoby-present; Dave Rainey-excused; Darryl Glick-present; Jeff Martin-present

### MINUTES

- Jesse Burke moved, seconded by Ron Teeters, to approve the minutes for the February 2, 2026 Regular Session as presented. All votes were yay.

### PRESENTATION

- Gary Walters of Rinehart Insurance Company reviewed the Village's 2026 casualty and liability renewal. He reported that, due to favorable loss ratios, the premium increased by only \$400 compared to last year, which is relatively low. Mr. Walters noted that the Village currently holds bonds on certain employees and suggested the option of adding an Employee Dishonesty Policy as an additional layer of protection. Council discussed whether to increase the Village's coverage limits. Mr. Walters also reviewed the cyber-security renewal and presented two company options. Council stated they will review the policies and determine whether to adjust coverage limits and which cyber-security provider to select.

### LEGISLATION

#### RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING

#### **02-2026      A RESOLUTION SELECTING TIM OOTEN FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE PICKAWAY COUNTY 9-1-1 PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Mayor Clark read the Second Reading of Resolution 02-2026-title only.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Mayor Clark announced his individual committee appointments. Jeff Martin moved, seconded by Ron Teeters, to approve Clark's appointments. All votes were yay.
- Ron Teeters reported that the Parks Committee will meeting Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM to discuss park equipment.
- Mayor Clark reported that he would like Council to begin the review process of the current Rules of Council and requested the April 6<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting start at 5:30 to allow for a thorough review.
- Mayor Clark said that representatives from Bricker Graydon will be attending the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss economic development strategies. Clark said the meeting will start at 5:30 to allow for thorough discussion.

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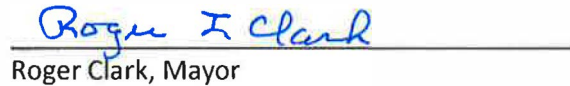
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Jesse Burke moved, seconded by Darryl Glick, to adjourn the meeting. All votes were yay, the motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

APPROVED: March 2, 2026



ATTEST: April Grube, Clerk



Roger Clark, Mayor

All formal actions of the COUNCIL of the VILLAGE OF ASHVILLE concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions, ordinances, and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.