

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Council

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held August 10, 2026

Rittman City Council Met in a
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, August 10, 2026
7:13 p.m.

Members Present: Rich Schumacher, Sonya Hayward, Melissa Shows, Don Sweigert and Nick Huff
Members Absent: Amanda Nelson
Presiding: Mayor Rudy Arnold

The invocation was given by Pastor Brad Carpenter from Life Ministries followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Presentation - Ron Moore Jr. from Austintown and his wife Lisa. Ron has a presentation this evening to the McWilliams family and to Michelle Ries. Mr. Moore stated he has done approximately 470 paintings of people who have passed. Mr. Moore stated he was also diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease in 2004.

City Manager Beshara presented Michelle Ries a commemorative pin that she had commissioned.

City Manager Beshara also read a proclamation that was received from the Board of Trustees of Chippewa Township expressing deepest sympathies and honoring the lives of Sergeant Scott Ries, Christine and McKinley McWilliams.

Approval of Minutes

- a. **June 8, 2026.** Shows moved to approve, upon roll call Shows – Yes, Huff – Yes, Sweigert – Yes, Schumacher – Abstain, Hayward - Yes and **motion carried.**
- b. **July 13, 2026.** Huff moved to approve, upon roll call Shows – Yes, Huff – Yes, Sweigert – Yes, Schumacher – Yes, Hayward - Abstain and **motion carried.**

Citizens Forum

Brenda Stefanica Provchy – 28 Fairmont Avenue - also a member of the Downtown Rittman Beautification Initiative. I'd like to start by thanking everyone for their efforts regarding the function and maintenance of the City of Rittman. Thank you to Amanda Nelson and Mr. Simpson for working on Ordinance 8531. The citizens of Rittman appreciate your consideration, and we move to the third reading. The business areas are the heart of our town, and in my opinion that it is important to create a positive impression to visitors, potential merchants, and investors alike. Ideally, the business locations would return to a place where people gather and shop. I feel it is an attainable goal to enhance and preserve the charm of our city. Some of the things along with the maintenance and care asked of the property owners and the tenants are very small and can be achieved with minimal efforts or funds such as keeping exterior clean and organized, maintaining paint, removal of signage and clutter when a tenant vacates, cleaning or applying approved aesthetically pleasing window covers. The hope is to attract new businesses, volunteerism, and positive community engagement. I'm proud to be a lifelong Rittman resident and can say that as our small group works along Main Street to do what we can do to enhance the aesthetic, many of the residents approach us to share their pride and concerns for our community with us. We thank you for the consideration and encourage you to pass ordinance 8531 to help set a standard for our public areas.

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Ron Tisher – 294 Winkler Drive - I see things on social media, and they said, oh, come down and talk. So, I'm going to. It seems some people want an outdoor pool. I grew up at the outdoor pool. I worked at the outdoor pool. The outdoor pool never made any money. So in your consideration of what's out there, it's not building an outdoor pool. It's like owning a boat. You just throw money in the water. So that was kind of it. As wonderful as it sounds, and I wish that they had a removable wall so you'd have an outdoor area so people could get sunburned like they did back in the day. City pools, city park centers rarely make money. They are a public service. They are a benefit you offer to the citizens, and the costs have always been underwritten by the city. And you just have to decide how much of a cost you're going to underwrite and what the fees are. But the last thing I want to see, having a backyard pool is expensive enough, the city does not need to add to the deficit by building another pool. Thank you.

Old Business

a. Res. No. 8531 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, to enact the Downtown Main Street Overlay District (“DMSOD”) which is to preserve and enhance the safety, visual character, economic vitality, pedestrian experience, and overall appearance of the traditional downtown commercial corridor of the City of Rittman and declaring an emergency.
Third Reading. Res. No. 8531 was read on third reading. Huff moved to adopt.

Hayward - I talked to a couple of the businesses that are actually downtown, still active. They had no idea. I figured Chamber would have informed businesses what was going on. They had no idea. I did give them a copy of the packet that was online. But there were some other questions that I had like with the windows, they're on back order, you're giving them 30 days to replace a window that gets broken.

Beshara I think it's something we're going to have to talk about and discuss, and certainly we've given people a lot more time to take care of their property maintenance issues. So that would be something that I think we could consider right now. Simpson - Yeah, I would expect that enforcement on this would be just like important than anything else, case-by-case basis, as long as you show that there's a diligent effort to try to remediate whatever the issue was, then, you know, they're going to give you more time.

Hayward - Okay, and then approve displays? It's number five under the windows and doors. It's where a street-facing commercial storefront window shall remain transparent, reasonable, visible, more practical, excessive coverings, spoil, paper coverings, permanent obstructions and conditions intended to obscure the storefront visibility shall be prohibited if set during active renovation, temporary vacancy transitions, approved displays or circumstances authorized by the city.

Simpson - So if somebody wanted to obscure the storefront visibility, they would have to, if they wanted to say some sort of like a Halloween display or like for a parade that was coming by, then they would have to ask the city, we would have to approve whatever the obstruction was going to be before they were allowed to do it. Hayward - so the flower shop, they're still, is it just for the vacant ones?

Simpson - the one on the corner that's, are they still renovating? So I mean, that's covered for in here, the temporary, during active renovation, just to...

Beshara - the flower shop in general they're ok.

Hayward - I'm just asking, and they've got to ask for permission for any of their displays.

Beshara - well, if they're going to put a display that's going to cover everything, then it's a problem.

Simpson - They can put flowers up in the window, they can basically the counter or something, that's fine. They also can't paint the window with flowers.

Huff - now, if the they painted the windows with house paint, then it started chipping off and looked like garbage. I mean, that's more of what they're addressing, not like something that's tasteful and elegant.

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Simpson - and even then, it would only be temporary. We can't have it. We're not going to have anybody covering up the entire glass plate window.

Mayor Arnold - the other thing I think you mentioned was the word active renovation, which hopefully we can maybe define, because if you, for example, the one on the corner potentially has been a renovation, but what is active renovation? You know what I mean? If you continue to say, well, we're renovating, at what point are you not actively renovating? So I think that word in there is helpful.

Hayward - and then you guys are aware of where the businesses are decorating lights on their buildings.

Hayward - 1164.05C. Downtown storefront presentation. Like it's removed, like the way I'm reading it is like the business owners, like how Jerry and the flower shop did the lights on the top. That's taking all that out.

Beshara – I don't think it meant that.

Huff - what lights do you mean? Like to open signs?

Hayward - it says examples that are encouraged door front presentation may include window displays, seasonal decorations, business branding or informational displays, community event participation displays, interior visibility where reasonable and decorative artistic or beautification elements. It's all been removed.

Huff – what did it get changed to?

Hayward – shall maintain a reasonable, active and maintain exterior street presence.

Huff – so, I mean, to me it just pretty much summarizes it to be tasteful, be classy, be beautiful.

Beshara - I mean, the lights on the building, was a great addition, the lights for Christmas. Yeah, it was part of the display. That's fine. Was that the intent? We have some people from the committee here. I don't know if that was the intent or not. I believe it would be.

Marcum - I think that we're kind of at a disservice with this because we've had it on the agenda, but we haven't had like full discussion about what's actually included in it, what the expectation is of this as a whole, what the businesses could expect or should expect from it. So it's kind of hard for people to just read it and understand exactly what the intention was behind it.

Beshara - and Amanda's not here also to explain. Chrystal is on the chamber this year, so I think you all know what the intent was. I mean, you guys can vote on this another time.

Shows - Amanda can put a presentation or something together to give us a clearer picture. Are there visuals or just something.

Beshara – we can ask her when she gets back, table it to the next meeting, put time for questions.

Sweigert - I also talked to many businesses in the downtown area. One was Chris Reed, who owns the AMO store. And he was asking questions, and I said, Chris, honestly, do you drive in Rittman, is that somewhere you want to shop? And you look at your store, use it as a storage unit. And he agreed, he said, well, I'm going to go down and look at the storage units down on Willow Street. I said, that makes sense. All he's doing is using it for storage and shipping. I said, that's not what we want in downtown, and that's what this ordinance is supposed to do. It's supposed to promote the downtown beautification and that overlay. My understanding on the overlay is alleys on the north, almost like right here on the west, Grant Street on the south, and Industrial on the east. I don't want to stop at Medina. I thought it went all the way to down to Industrial, down at the corner. So that's the footprint that this ordinance is going to cover. So all I have to say is I think we need to move forward and I think this is something that's going to help do that. In reading through it, I want to make sure that it's evenly enforced across all parties, that it's not just a pick that person because I don't like that person or that person rubbed me the wrong way. It has to be fairly enforced across all parties. And I like the idea that it's being renovated or as long as somebody's showing the progress. I mean, yeah, the board on the window down at the tattoo place where I go to get my tattoos has been there for quite a while, but I don't know, obviously she's waiting to get a window in. So as long as she can show that delay is appropriate, they're just not dragging their feet, then that would make sense as long as we take that into consideration. The other

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thing is that Nick just mentioned to me about that there's a fee. I didn't see, I didn't read this. To clarify, if there's a fee, a permit fee for a special event, then the chamber doesn't have to pay the permit fee. Is there any comment on that? It should be for all non-profits, not just the Chamber.

Shumacher - it's more than just the chamber, because you've got it for the Lions for the parade. So, if you extend that, they haven't charged us.

Mayor Arnold - while they look for that, ma'am, I assume this would be enforced by the city, correct? Do you see any additional burden on the police or anyone?

Beshara - no, I mean, it's something that's been needing to be done. Do we need a property enforcement officer other than a police officer? Absolutely 100% a part-time position would be great because frankly it's hard to enforce it. So I don't think it will be any more of a burden than anything else once people read this, know it, especially in this area because then they'll have those right in front of them. That's my opinion

Huff – this all goes back on the landlord too, correct?

Beshara- absolutely.

Simpson - ultimately, the onus is going to be on the lead property owner. And so they're going to have to enforce against their tenants, but we're going to come after the property owner to say, you own the property, you have to fix it, just like we would any other rental property. If it's owned by somebody, they're the ones responsible for it. And if they have a contract that says somebody else is responsible, they can deal with that person as long as it gets done.

Hayward - so in the contract, if the business is actually responsible for all that, it would be the business replacing them.

Simpson - yes, but we're still going to. The only pressure we can put on is on the landlord is that you have to get this fixed. Ultimately, it comes on them because if there's going to be any sort of enforcement, it's going to be against the landlord. The landlord can then, you know, file a lawsuit or whatever he has to do against his tenant, but we don't have anything to do with that contract. We're not part of that.

Sweigert - Mayor, one more thing, and I know that the next ordinance, 8536, is a sign ordinance. And one of the questions I'm going to have is because there's sign stuff in this one and sign stuff in that one, is that being coordinated at all between the two, so we don't contradict each other?

Beshara - I'd like this to just be moved to the next reading until Matt and I have a chance to look at that.

Simpson - the short answer is I have not done side by side. I didn't draft the ordinance. I reviewed it, but I didn't look. I also didn't expect the sign ordinance to be on the last meeting, so I did not.

Sweigert - I mean, if we pass this one tonight, then we may have to modify the sign ordinance next meeting.

Mayor Arnold - So 8531, any additional discussion for the overlay district? All right. I believe the motion was to adopt?

Simpson - if somebody makes a motion to table until the next meeting, that will take priority over his motion to withdraw.

Hayward – I'll make the motion.

Simpson - If the motion is postponed until the next meeting, as I understand it, that would be the motion.

Mayor Arnold – Nick's is null?

Simpson - well, it depends. If this motion fails, then his is the next one that's being heard, but this one takes priority over that one.

Mayor Arnold - so there's a motion to table it. Ok, then please call the roll.
Upon roll call Schumacher – Yes, Huff – No, Shows – Yes, Hayward – Yes, Sweigert – No and motion carries.

b. Ord. No. 8536 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, amending Chapter 1325 Sign Regulation of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Rittman. Second Reading. Res. No. 8536 was second on first reading. Schumacher moved to place on third.

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Hayward - so, with 1535.06, it would be 4 b. Sorry. After the B, there's two, like talking about the exterior wall, being flat, the pole, C & J sign. You have it in front of you, Matt.

Simpson - I have that in front of me. I'm not familiar with the sign.

Huff - the sign comes off the corner, and it's probably like a thirty-six by thirty-six inch square. Are you talking about that sign? Yeah, it's probably 8 foot tall.

Simpson - so just like something, it would be grandfathered in. If that were to fall off in a storm or something, they couldn't put it back up, but we're not going to go in and make them take it down. We can't make them go and take it down because we've enacted the ordinance. It doesn't immediately apply to everything, but to anything new or anything being rebuilt, then they wouldn't go to that.

Mayor Arnold - If you don't mind, I've had a couple things that I've written down that I have some concerns with. Similar to Sonya, but the first thing was it defines a flag as a banner and then a banner as a sign. And again, we're going back to the American flag thing. Then second, 1325.04 authorizes flags in every district but 1325.06 permits only listed signs in residential districts. Flags aren't on that list. If they are, a standard residential flag is a 3 by 5, which is 15 square feet. We say 1 foot in the ordinance. Third, churches. The chapter allows church one announcement sign at 10 square feet. So no changeable letters or electronic boards and the in the residential areas, which all the churches are. Section 1325.09 puts every sign that doesn't comply on a 10-year clock. So it doesn't, it's not one of those where if it's up, it stays. You have 10 years for it to come down. Right? So it's not, reaches every church sign that's standing today. Four. 1325.03 and 1325.10 say unattended signs on public property may be disposed of without notice and no appeal. We have more than 250 flags flying right now along our streets, which the citizens are very proud of. As written, the ordinance reaches them as well. So I may be wrong, but I don't believe that's the intent of this council. And so I have four questions. One, does the definition of banner to capture the American flag display of a private resident.

Simpson - I would imagine it would, yeah.

Mayor Arnold - may a resident lawfully fly a standard 3 by 5 American flag at their home under this chapter as it's written? No. Does the ten-year amortization provision require our churches to remove existing signs larger than 10 square feet?

Simpson - I'd have to get into that to look at it.

Mayor Arnold - and do the abandoned sign provisions reach the 250th anniversary flags in our right-of-way?

Simpson - I'd have to look at them.

Mayor Arnold - so I'd ask council to consider amending the exempting official government flags and protecting the signs of our churches that are already there. So in addition, it's my opinion that the American flags shouldn't need a permit to be flown in our city.

Simpson - we cannot exempt government flags. You can't, it has to be content neutral. We cannot look at what is displayed on the item and call and say that this sort of thing is.

Mayor Arnold - It's not. There's multiple cities that in their ordinances relate to that, including Richfield Township. So just an FYI. I'm just letting you know that this is one of those where I hope we're representing our citizens when we present these. So I think the motion was moved to third.

Schumacher - I'm in favor of modifying the ordinance on the flag, because the residential American flag is 3 foot by 5 foot. So we have to allow that. And I don't know whether that we have to then change the definition to other flags so that it's content neutral to match, but we have to be able to allow that, was not the intent of pushing or having the sign on this. I'm tired of all bickering and fighting about signs in this town, and we cannot have an ordinance that is unconstitutional, and so we just got to figure out a way to make a constitutional.

Simpson - so if anyone has thoughts, Mayor, I'd appreciate if you send me all of your thoughts in writing so that I can incorporate them into amendments. I'm seeking amendments for this, but I wrote it forward. It's not a proposal of the final Ordinance. That's what we're trying to get input. So these are excellent thoughts and questions. I appreciate them. So this

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needs to be crafted for the city. Yes. And thus far, this is the first excellent substantive input that I've gotten. So I will happily make all those changes.

Shows - again, I think we should put it off and do a workshop with some of the audience because I have additional concerns on down the list. I mean, I think this is a good springboard and a lot of good content here, but I think we need to spend a lot more time polishing it, changing some of it, because I have the application fee, there's all kinds of things in here that I have questions about. It refers to the zoning official and property maintenance inspector decision. We don't have one. Those are the kinds of things I think we need to iron out before we move forward.

Simpson - I agree. This was intended to be a springboard. So all the input that you guys can provide, I would absolutely appreciate and incorporate.

Beshara - how about we put it on the workshop for the next meeting? Workshop for the next meeting.

Schumacher - I will modify my move to third to move to delay until the next meeting and have a workshop so that we're not voting on this too soon.

Hayward - I just have one other question. You said with the church signs and, what are the measurements on the school side, the right side, and the police department? I have no idea what those measurements are.

Mayor Arnold - municipal parks, commercial are I believe 50 square feet as it's written. That sounds right. Okay, so that would fall in there. I would assume that's smaller than 5 by 10 now. I would assume it's smaller.

Simpson - but those are excellent questions. If what's written in there is not sufficient to support what we actually already have, change it. Change it to 100 square feet, whatever it needs to be.

Mayor Arnold – the motion is to table. Upon roll call, all Yeas and **motion carried.**

New Business

a. **Res. No. 8537 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, certifying that when a Municipal obligation was incurred sums were lawfully appropriated in the funds to satisfy the obligation according to the attached sheet(s) and declaring an emergency.** Three Readings. Res. No. 8537 was read on first reading. Shows moved to suspend the rules.

Sweigert - I have a question, was it just one that was? Okay, and that was... The invoice was May.

Marcum - The invoice date was May 31st and the due date was June 20th.

Sweigert - Okay. The question is, why did we agree to 20-day terms? Everything else is 30-day terms, but I don't know why we agreed to 20-day terms. Do you know, Crystal?

Marcum – I have no idea.

Sweigert – Okay. And then that just list. The last couple of meetings to pay or?

Marcum - I checked with this and I talked to Ohio Billing and they said that the first bill was not paid, but the second bill was. So I checked with Shelley and we looked and we did not have this first bill in hand. So when I looked at the purchase order, the purchase order was put in in June. And that was after our discussion at council for the new rates to go through for the EMS billing. However, the bill date for the Ohio Billing was May 31st, so that is outside of that month for me to put the purchase order in.

Sweigert – Gotcha.

Mayor Arnold – any additional discussion?

Sweigert – if I can continue to ask?

Shows – you have to suspend the rules first and then discussion.

All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Shows moved to adopt.

Sweigert – part of this goes under the finance report that we approve later, but because I saw there is a large bill paid Ohio Billing. In June I think we talked about that we hadn't collected much, I mean like \$5,000.00 or \$6,000.00 on EMS billing, and we normally collect \$180,000.00 to \$200,000.00 a year on EMS billing. So has that now that we paid this bill, which is \$3,000, and the other bill, which must have been around \$4,000, have we collected more money now that they've been collecting for us?

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Marcum – hold on, I will tell you the exact figure that we're at. So as of the end of July, we have collected \$93,135.97. In June, we collected \$59,000, and in July, we collected \$27,000. So they bill us per bill that they send out, and they were taking that December 15th-ish number through current to start billing. So yeah, it's going to be a huge bill right off the rim, but it should level out once they get caught up.

All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

b. **Res. No. 8538 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Rittman, Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio, Authorizing the Finance Director to make advances and/or transfers to or from appropriate accounts and declaring an emergency. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8538 was read on first reading. Sweigert moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Schumacher moved to adopt, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

c. **Ord. No. 8539 An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Rittman Wayne and Medina Counties and State of Ohio amending the annual Appropriation Ordinance No. 8492, as amended according to the attached sheet(s) and declaring an emergency. Three Readings.** Res. No. 8539 was read on first reading. Shows moved to suspend the rules, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.** Huff moved to adopt.

Shows - Crystal, can you explain what some of those are? There's a big long list for that one. Some of that in this separate. If you could just explain a little bit more of that for me.

Marcum - so since we're more than halfway through the year, I took a look at every line in our budget and kind of did a guesstimate on where we might be if we keep spending this way through the end of the year. And do we have enough money in that line? And I actually discussed it with department heads to just see, am I overestimating, underestimating? And these are the areas that I felt that we should put some additional funds in or that we had put a larger amount in and we can take it from there. So I'm just moving things around. The only one that is not me moving anything is the police capital and that is for the potential replacement of the vehicles just that were damaged in the incident that happened in July. I did not want to have it be held up because there wasn't any money in that line. No decision had been made yet. So I put it here so that it was available and up to council as to whether you wanted to go through this way or not. But since it's not a planned capital, it was not in our budget. This is something we couldn't plan for. But I would be, it would be a straight appropriation from our carryover. So I did want to clarify that before this was passed or not.

Shows - you're still working with the insurance because they're going to total those, right? I mean, obviously we're still going to have expenses associated with, but.

Marcum - correct, correct. The insurance claim is still pending. Bobbie and Shelley are handling that. And there are options out there for the replacement of these vehicles, but this is just the amount for one of those options is the highest amount, but I wanted to have the funds available once a decision was made.

All Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

City Manager's Remarks

Hickin Road, from Rittman Road to Sterling Avenue, pre-construction meeting takes place on Monday, August 17th. Melway was the lowest and best bidder, and the bid came in under the engineer's estimated cost. This is an Ohio Public Works Grant project.

The train depot will be moved this Wednesday, August 19th to its new location on Erie Street. The city has been involved in assisting the committee and will be on site Wednesday for the move. Erick Shreve is the point person from the Service Department for the move and will work with police and fire, so we are 100% prepared for any issues or emergencies that may occur.

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The S. Main waterline replacement construction will begin in the fall of this year. Waugh Construction had the lowest and best bid and came in under the engineer’s estimate. This is through an Ohio EPA loan.

I want to thank all the organizations, non-profits, church’s, residents and our staff for their involvement and assistance during the last month since the tragedy in Rittman taking the lives of Rittman Police Sgt. Scott Ries and Christy and McKinley McWilliams. Whether it was a phone call, a card or a quick visit, it is truly appreciated. The fundraisers were very well attended and meaningful to the McWilliams and Ries families.

Finance Director’s Remarks

Currently in the finance department, we are working on the capital improvement plan. I put it out to our directors in a different form this year. I asked them for more information than we usually do. I asked for the project to be described, what was the need, what's our current, like how is the equipment or your building, how is it currently and what would happen if you don't get this project done? What would be the consequences to the city? So I put that out there and our department heads came through. I'm so proud of the work that they did. Many of them came and sat with me and talked about their projects and tried to figure out is this something that should be capital? Is this something that should just be in the budget? Is this something that even needs to be on the radar? And I want to take this time to commend the rec department and the police department. for taking those questions that I asked and really running away with it. They gave me bullet points. They gave me full descriptions of what projects they wanted to work on and why. So it makes it easier for me to present it to you guys for our budget and it helps us communicate it better to the residents to understand what we're doing and why we're choosing these projects over others. So next meeting will be the capital improvement plan that needs to be approved. So that will be two workshops in one meeting. So you should be getting the packets beforehand so you can see it before you come into the meeting. But I am really excited to be able to show you guys the hard work that went into this. It's going to be a really positive change for the information going out to you and all of the residents.

- a. **Approval of Financial Report for May, 2026.** Huff moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**
- b. **Approval of Financial Report for June, 2026.** Shows moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**
- c. **Approval of Financial Report for July, 2026.** Schumacher moved to approve, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**

Second Citizens Forum

None

Council Remarks

Schumacher - thank you all for coming. This has been an emotional month. We had a fantastic parade that the Rittman Lions put on and was supported greatly. I want to add a special thank you to Meredith Craig, who made a donation of ribbons for all of the people that were in the parade to wear. And we had extras left over. It was given out at the class of 1976, she's hiding back there. 50th reunion, we gave out some there. And we also gave the rest to the chicken BBQ fundraiser. So it was a fantastic thing. Meredith Craig was nice enough to say that she's been in a lot of parades and ours was the best planned. So I take that as a compliment of a job well done by the Rittman Lions and my team, the Rittman Lions. So we appreciate it. There are some concerns that I have and I hate to bring it up in public forums but I think it needs to be addressed. There's been a number of, I've been called by a

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number of people who have been taken, I took a tour of the William J. Robertson Nature Preserve and it's not looking good. And I'm hoping that the stuff that was put out there, people and that work has been done to upgrade that facility and get it taken care of.

Beshara – may I address it?

Schumacher – yes you may.

Beshara - so I had read about it on Facebook, and it's unfortunate that we don't get phone calls, but they put it out there. And as you all know, during the month of July, there was a lot going on. First of all, our rec director was on vacation that week. He came back, and he and Moose are the two that mow that vast area on both sides. He came back, and then we had the fundraiser on Monday with the food trucks and just catching up on other things. It was mowed last Thursday. I asked him to take me for a ride today to see it. We went down and looked at everything. The lawn is mowed everywhere. What needs to be done next is to push back the weeds that need to be knocked down a little bit and to open up by the water. And that will happen as soon as we get a piece of equipment. Is Erick still there? Yes. So Twig is working on the boom mower, I believe it is. Erick Shreve – Twig is working on the boom mower, the part has been approved to purchase, and he said it should be here next week.

Beshara – the only trail that really needs more work is the natural trail on the north side, which is the Ken Mann Trail. So that'll be taken care of. But I made sure I went out there today to see how it looked. It looked great.

Schumacher - I'm really glad to hear it because the tour that I took, there were benches and all you can see was the Phragmite.

Beshara - We can do more with Phragmite, but it's going to cost a lot more. Phragmite is a really tough one to knock down, as you know, s we certainly can do our best, and that's what the guys do. And again, it's two people that take care of that entire park.

Schumacher – I know. And maybe we should consider volunteers. And I know that everybody immediately says liability, but I am aware that the city has liability insurance for volunteers to help.

Beshara - volunteers can help. The equipment, you could talk to Garrett more about this where I can, but for the weed whacking, etc. Yes, ss far as mowing and being on our equipment, I have a little bit more of a hard time with that, and I think he does as well. The friends group needs to get together and come up with a plan, because that's what they're there for, and there hasn't been a meeting in a while, and I think that's where we need to start, is with the Friends Group.

Schumacher - there needs to be a bridge between the Friends Group and Parks and Recreation. I can tell you that we need to have a bridge.

Beshara - well, then I'll be the bridge.

Schumacher - thank you. Thank you. So, also I know that there's other trails as well that are rustic, like even there's a trail going up to Mount Ritman. Has that been taken care of?

Beshara -yes, we didn't go up it today, but he said it was mowed. Did you go there today, Sonya? Okay, well, it was mowed. Everything was mowed.

Schumacher - That's all I want to know because, I don't utilize that part as much as I would like to.

Beshara – Please contact me when you see something on Facebook like that so that we can discuss it and I can show you what happened.

Schumacher - and I gave you some grace because the city did go through what it went through. And I know what the city was doing and dealing with for the last month. So I was trying to be graceful about it, but it's one of those things where it's starting to develop some energy of its own just like the dreaded potholes, and this year there has been very few complaints about potholes, and we've made it, not that there's always going to be something, I know that, but there's been very few complaints about them.

Beshara - and Moose took what's called a renovator, which again, it's a term I don't know, but he took it and he worked on the parking lots to make it better for parking, because they're all gravel lots. So, Moose did that as well.

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August 10,

20 26

Huff - I want to thank the Lions Club for the parade. It was a good parade, long parade. It was nice to see everybody out in the community. I know man did some stuff down at for the sleepwalker at First Street Park. Hopefully next year we can build on that, keep making that better. I want to thank Steve Hunter back there, Officer Hunter, for the first night out. National night out. So I was up there making cotton candy and snow cones and got to see a lot of people, a lot of kids. It was good. I want to thank everyone who's here. It's good to see some new faces and even just the same old faces. It's good to see people here. Thanks for taking your time to do what you do. It is nice when you get a job and see the pots and stuff like that. So thank you for that. And that's all I got.

Hayward - I want to thank everybody for coming out. When we have ordinances passed and the mayor has signed them, can we put those ordinance out?

Clerk Challinor – they are, they are on the website. If you go into ordinances, they're under other ordinance that's not published and they're by date. So they're on there.

Hayward - just to kind of inform some citizens. And then the Orrville North Lions Club. and myself, we have been raising some money to do two memory benches, one for Christine and McKinley McWilliams, and would like to put those at industrial. And I've talked with Landon and he has talked with his grandparents and his uncle Wes that I graduated with. They gave permission for us to do that. I talked with Michelle at Sparky's fundraiser about that. She gave permission for us as well. We would put Ries over at Charlie's puddle.

Beshara - so we'll have to get together so we can talk with ^{Garrick}Erick and see where exactly they should go. Because we have another event, I believe, that's coming on, and that one's going to go at the police station, I think. There's another one, so we've got to be very mindful. Well, it's the first time I'm hearing about it. Right. So normally you would talk to the director of the department and that would be Garrick. So as a Lions Club member, yeah, I mean, I would always caution to do anything before you talk to the city just to make sure that whatever, for whatever purpose is going to be allowed.

Hayward - I just wanted permission before I went to the city and then we got back with the family without the permission. And then with the nature preserve, I went out last night for a tour. Is there a way we can get them to blow the grass off? Like where people, like that hole where the kayak is, you're supposed to be able to see all that water. You can't see it because everything's built up.

Beshara - if we can do it, we'll get out there. We could have service department go out there and take a look at it and help, because we don't have the service department work on it at all. Again, it's Garrick and Moose, so they only have so many hours in the day, but we'll do the best we can. But we're good today.

Hayward - the educational lab, you can't get around it.

Beshara - So the educational lab has, we talked about that today, Erick and I. He said, I don't know what to do here, are these wildflowers? Because I remember when Jim Trogden was planting some. So all around the building, they look like wildflowers. So that's something that we need to knock down. If people want to go around there and we're not disturbing what was planted, then certainly that could be knocked down as well.

Hayward - I was told one of the volunteers had went out and he was told not to come back with his equipment.

Beshara - well, there's a lot of rumors out there, Sonia. So, as I said, come to me and we can talk about it, okay? And volunteers have to get clearance through the city to go anywhere and work on properties. About liability and knowing who they are and filling out a volunteer form, things like that.

Hayward – who do they go for that?

Beshara - well, they're going to have to go through Garrick. But we have to have like a list for them to do. It's not just go out there and weed wack an area. It's got to be, we're the ones who have to designate this is what we need done. And that's why Friends Group is a good place to start.

Sweigert - we approved an appropriation amendment back in June, May or June, for the city manager's vehicle, and I just want to know what the status of that is.

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Marcum - There was no movement. We opted to not go through with that purchase. It's now pending on the capital plan for 2027.

Sweigert – okay, and then is the new fire truck in service yet?

Beshara – it's going to be soon. They are working on the items that still have to be put in there.

Sweigert - on October 3rd, as a Moose member, they'll, I'm sure, send out some more information. This is really preliminary. October 3rd, the Moose Lodge 860 will be hosting a benefit for the victims of our tragedy. It'll be noon to 8 o'clock. It's A Saturday. It's still really being organized, but they've already assembled 20 or 25 baskets. There'll be 50-50. There's going to be live music. There's going to be a DJ all day. There's bouncy houses, face painting. kids' activities throughout the day, and then there'll be a hamburgers and hot dogs, and they stop during the day, and then there's going to be a chicken BBQ, and it starts like 4 or 5 or 4 to 6. We're hoping to get a touch of truck so we can get some fire vehicles and police in front of vehicles there. So, anyhow, that's planned for October 3rd. So it's a month and a half, two months away.

Shows - I thank all that attended tonight, the special presentation was beautiful. The two plaques and other families were able to join us. I know that things are still absolutely flowing in for the families. I've seen some beautiful pieces. I absolutely encourage everybody to step down the police department and look at the slate that Chief Shows got this week. It is gorgeous and the I forget the other company, but they also made one for Michelle and her family. The outpouring and support is still so abundant in this town. It is just absolutely amazing to see. Sad that it takes such a tragedy to bring everybody together, but just knowing that we're here for the families they're reaching out with cards, everything else. The chicken benefit that Kim Sparks from Sparky's Pizza started, she just kind of rolled with it, brought in the police department, fire and EMS. There was literally dozens of volunteers. We were there all day long. The citizens that came out in the support that was there was just absolutely phenomenal. And still seeing repercussions of that. She still has people coming into the stores making donations. We have people going downtown making donations, people calling the police department talking to Donnie and just continuing to offer support. I want to acknowledge the Cambridge Police Department. They came up a week and a half ago and donated a 2019 Ford Explorer. They really showed up and knowing that we were down two and only have six, they dropped one on Chief Shows that morning. All we needed was these, whatever the radio company and put our computer in and it's pretty much ready to go. He's got the wrapping coming and being volunteered. So that will get on there quicker for us, but that was an amazing donation for them to walk up with. The golf outing recently, the restaurant fundraisers that are going on in Don's fundraiser coming up. It has just been absolutely amazing. There's so much good things going on in this community from a tragic event. So I want to thank everybody for continuing to support those in their families. I have not talked to the Steese family in a while, but, Michelle and her girls are just absolutely overwhelmed and it's daily they're getting back to their normal routines, but they're still touch like her coming in tonight right from work. It really means a lot to them and to us. And my final, unfortunately, I have to announce school starts Tuesday, which means the children are going to be out on the loose. But, so watch your speeds and just keep an eye out for them as they start navigating their way back on Tuesday. We're looking forward to it.

Beshara - I just wanted to pass this around to council. I had a pin made in memory of Sergeant Ries. It says end of watch, July 5th, 2026. And what I had put on here was a deer and fish and water and the sunset. And I intend to give these to all the employees and council members and mayor. I needed to do something as a remembrance of Scott. I haven't done what I'm going to do for Christy and McKinley, but I just wanted to make sure I said that she would also, I know a lot of police departments that have reached out to me and they're still coming up with ideas and want to help out. So I forgot to mention that before, but Missy reminded me of that in a way. So thank you.

Mayor Arnold - well, as everyone else has mentioned, thank you all around. One that I'd like to mention was the officer from Hinley. that was injured on July 5th. He and his

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brother-in-law donated a check which was really impressive. He came up to the National Night Out to do that. Speaking of National Night Out, thank you to everyone that attended and everything that went into that. Another great community event along with the sleepwalker Festival and the Lions Parade, of course. But really, I appreciate the coming together, everyone coming here, everyone being active on social media, similarly. That's what it takes to move us forward. Same thing when there's disagreements in here, differing ideas, those types of things. Civil discussion is what's going to move us forward. So it's appreciative on my part that when we have differing ideas or opinions that we're able to talk through it and when we leave here we're still one big community working together. So again, thank you. I appreciate everyone and we'll move to adjournment.

Adjourn: 8:23 p.m. Schumacher moved to adjourn, all Yeas on roll call and **motion carried.**



Mayor



Clerk of Council