

VILLAGE OF MANTUA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2026 @ 6:00 pm

Mayor Tammy Meyer called the Council Meeting to order at 6 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for Rose Henniger

Roll Call: Steve Thorn, Zak Colegrove, Marty Fergus, Denise DiLellio, Dave Sluka, Chris Novotny
Others Present: Mayor Tammy Meyer, Solicitor Bill Mason, Fiscal Officer Maryann Fabian, Acting Chief
Acting Chief Clemens Clemens, Lieutenant Rodney Terry

Citizens: Linda Clark, Jacqueline Rooth, Sandy Hershberger, Terry Hronek, Roseanne Maloney, Kevin
Maloney, Jen Sobczak

Mayor's Report

Tammy gave a report reflecting on the progress the village has had the past year.

Tammy requested a motion to dispose of the obsolete copier at village hall. It did go up on an auction site, but there were no bids.

- ❖ Steve made the motion. Dave second. All ayes.

Tammy requested a motion to hire the following part time police officers:

Officer Ben Gribik
Officer Terrel Marshall
Officer Fred Miavitz

- ❖ Marty made the motion. Denise second. All ayes.

Financial Reports

Maryann reviewed the financial reports.

- ❖ Dave made a motion to approve the financial reports. Zak second. All ayes.

Correspondence

Maryann stated that she included information on council training in the council packet for any members who may be interested.

Approval of previous Minutes

Tammy requested the December 16, 2025 minutes be amended to correct the spelling of Zak.

- ❖ Dave made a motion to approve as amended. Denise second. All ayes.

Tammy requested a motion to amend the October 21, 2025 minutes.

- ❖ Marty made the motion. Dave second. All ayes.

Amendments to be included are as follows: under Charge 5, revise the roll call vote to change Denise's vote from yes to no. Additionally, in the motion to adopt Resolution 2025-38, change Kevin's vote from yes to no.

- ❖ Dave made a motion to approve as amended. Chris second. All ayes.

Acting Chief Clemens presented a report on his department. Tammy then asked the citizens if they had any questions for Acting Chief Clemens before he was excused from the meeting. Linda asked whether Officer Villanueva would be serving as the School Resource Officer (SRO). Acting Chief Clemens stated that she was hired as a police officer. Kevin noted that it had been presented that she was hired as an SRO; however, the school board indicated that she was not. Acting Chief Clemens explained that he could not speak on behalf of the school, but he did communicate with them. He stated that the school interviewed Officer Villanueva and sent a letter indicating they were pleased with her interview and were agreeable to her serving as the SRO.

Kevin then asked whether Officer Villanueva had completed SRO training. Acting Chief Clemens responded that she had received SRO training in a previous SRO position, but he was unsure when the certification expires. Acting Chief Clemens stated that he would provide Kevin with a definitive answer.

Acting Chief Clemens was excused from the meeting and Lieutenant Terry remained to answer any further questions

Committees:

Steve reported for Planning.

- ❖ Steve made a motion for the Village Council to authorize a preliminary feasibility review of a potential downtown streetscape concept for East Prospect Street, involving a possible one-way traffic configuration, retention of existing diagonal parking, and sidewalk widening, for the purpose of improving pedestrian safety, accessibility, and business district functionality. The Planning Commission further recommends that this review include input from appropriate village staff, public safety services, business and the general public, and that no final decisions regarding traffic direction, design, or implementation be made at this stage. Zak second. All ayes.

Dave asked whether there had been any safety incidents that led to consideration of making East Prospect a one-way street. Steve responded that the proposal was intended to improve pedestrian safety and that he was not aware of any incidents.

Maryann asked if there would be a cost associated with the survey. Steve stated that there is no cost at this time, but if any costs arise, he would bring the matter before council.

Denise reported for Processes and DMRC.

Dave reported for Finance and Safety.

Chris reported for Service.

Steve reported for Fire Board.

Tammy reported for PCRCP.

Tammy reported as Acting Village Administrator for the service department. She explained that the second phase of the county water project is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2026 and asked council to determine how the trench repairs would be handled.

- ❖ Marty made a motion to approve the trench repair from the back of the trench to the road edge for an additional cost of approximately \$100,000. Dave second. All ayes.

Citizens

Kevin Maloney requested clarification regarding the School Resource Officer (SRO). He stated that an SRO position at \$25 per hour had been approved at a council meeting; however, the Crestwood School Board indicated that they have not hired an SRO at this time. Tammy explained that the school cannot hire an SRO unless the village hires one first. She also stated that the village received a letter indicating that Officer Villanueva had been selected as the SRO.

Kevin also asked whether a competitive bid was conducted for the Hiram dispatch contract. Tammy explained that she did submit a bid and that the village's bid fell in the middle range. She further explained how she arrived at the bid amount. Kevin asked whether the dispatch contract on the agenda that evening reflected the same cost as the bid, and Tammy confirmed that it did.

Linda Clark stated that this was the fourth month she had raised concerns regarding Bill Mason's contract, Legislation 2025-14. She noted that the contract references ORC 733.48(A), which limits such contracts to a maximum of two years; however, Bill's contract is for three years. She asked council members whether any of

them had reviewed the issue. Denise stated that she had, and it states two years. Steve apologized for not having reviewed it previously but said he now had the document and confirmed that the ORC specifies a two-year term. Linda asked whether Tammy intended to take action on the matter, and Tammy referred the question to Bill. Bill stated that he would look into it.

Linda also expressed her satisfaction that the village had received the H2O ODNR grant for the removal of the Mats Road Bridge. She questioned why the funds would be processed through the Road and Bridge Fund, noting that Ordinance 2014-30 does not reference bridge demolition or removal. Maryann stated that Bill had been consulted regarding which fund should be used and that he advised using the Road and Bridge Fund. Maryann also noted that when she contacts the auditor with similar questions, she is referred to the village solicitor, who has final authority on such matters. Linda's time expired.

Terry Hronek commented that the service department employees did an excellent job maintaining the roads during the recent snowstorm. He also stated that Maryann has done a good job challenging Middlefield Bank to secure a better interest rate for the village.

Legislation:

ORD 2025-46 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA AND THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, PORTAGE PARKS, AND DOWNTOWN MANTUA REVITALIZATION CORPORATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd reading.

- ❖ Dave made a motion to suspend the rules. Zak second. All ayes.
- ❖ Dave made a motion to approve. Chris second. All ayes.

ORD 2026-01 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st reading. Tammy stated the following changes:

- Section 2.2(B) change “or” to “and/or”
- Section 2.3(B)(3) remove “(Amended Ord, 2016-57, eff.12/15/16)”
- Section 2.4(A)(1) remove “(Amended Ord 2020-14, eff. 4/21/20)”
- Section 2.4(A)(3) removed duplicate sentence “Appointment, and the Mayor’s approval thereof, shall be in writing and filed with the Fiscal Officer”
- Section 2.4(A)(6) remove entirely and renumber the items in that section
- Section 3.2(B) remove “(Adopted Ord. 2013-28, eff. 6/18/2013)”
- Section 3.3(A) remove “with the exception of the K9 vehicle which shall be used to drive to and from work. (Amended Ord. 2022-50, eff. 7/20/2023).”

Tammy also requested a note at the bottom of chapter three that chapters 1-3 were reviewed and passed on February 17, 2026. Maryann requested that the dates also be at the end of each part that was revised, because it would be difficult and very time consuming to go back and see when certain items were revised. Tammy felt that it was not needed. This legislation is going to second reading.

ORD 2026-02 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2026 APPROPRIATIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st reading.

- ❖ Chris made a motion to suspend the rules. Dave second. All ayes.
- ❖ Dave made a motion to approve. Denise second. All ayes.

Maryann made a request to write the following checks:

Portage County Regional Planning Commission for \$5,547.90, which include \$959.55 in annual dues, and work performed from 10.13.2025-12.7.2025,

- ❖ Marty made a motion to approve. Chris second. All ayes

The Village of Hiram for the first quarter of the contract for \$42,500.00.

- ❖ Steve made the motion. Dave second. All ayes.

RES 2026-03 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st reading.

- ❖ Dave made a motion to suspend the rules. Marty second. All ayes.

- ❖ Marty made a motion to approve. Zak second. All ayes.

Any other business

Denise said that she would like to attend the OML March 7th training.

Adjournment

- ❖ Marty made a motion to adjourn at 6:49 p.m. Chris second. All ayes.