RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION

The Legislative body of the Village of DeGraff convened in regular session on September 15th, 2026, from 7:00p.m. to 7:39p.m. at 107 S. Main St., DeGraff, OH 43318.

Mayor Orsborne called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. with the following Council Members and staff present:

Mayor Stephanie Orsborne – Present
Gabe Kean, President Pro Tempore – Present
Nancy Hall, Council Member – Present
Heidi Duckro, Council Member – ABSENT
Jenny Purtee, Council Member - Present
Amber Armbruster, Council Member – Present
Wesley McBean, Council Member - Present

Staff Present:
Clinton Buchenroth – Assistant Fire Chief
Carol Stewart – Utility Clerk

Ms. Hall made the motion to excuse the absence for Ms. Duckro for Senior Night, seconded by Mr. McBean.
Roll Call – All ayes.

MOTION

Ms. Armbruster made the motion to suspend the reading and accept the September 1st, 2026, minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Kean.
Roll Call – All ayes.

MOTION

Visitors – None

Zoning – Mayor Orsborne advised there are no updates at this time.

Solicitor – Mayor Orsborne advised there are no updates at this time.

Village Administrator – Mayor Orsborne advised of the following updates from Ken McAlexander:

- Earl Dodds easement needed for connecting water/sewer lines. Ken will have more to present at the next council meeting.

Safety Committee – Assistant Chief Buchenroth provided the following updates:

- Run Update, see the attached sheet.
- Breathing Air Test complete.
- SBA's tested and no issues.
- Another resignation due to health issues, waiting for letter.
- New battery for grass truck has been taken care of, Wren's is trying to have it covered by warranty.
- Replace lights for Engine 32. Should be around $50.00.
- Donation agreement ready for solicitor.
- Hydrant flushing should be done next week.
- Will be present for the homecoming parade.
- Good on gear for this year.
- Looking at a grant for turnout gear for next year.
- Had a couple of Marc's radios deactivated so Greg is looking into that situation.
- Mr. Kean advised there is nothing new from the last meeting.

Mr. Kean made the motion to purchase new lights for Engine 32, seconded by Ms. Armbruster.
Roll Call – All ayes.

MOTION

- Mayor Orsborne advised working through numbers for the new fire house. Ken is working with Earl Dodd's and the easement for lines going to the new build. Earl is requesting a reimbursement for the easement and this is in discussion.
- Gabe advised that the trucks have still not been serviced. They will check to see if they can get them into Ford's Garage.

Finance – No updates at this time.

Park Committee –

- Dugouts are moving along, frames are up.
- Ms. Purtee said that trash cans are full at the park and in front of her building downtown. Mayor Orsborne advised the village has been short staffed but they should let Ken know when there is an issue. Ms. Purtee also asked who is responsible for cleaning the park bathrooms. Mayor Orsborne stated they are only unlocked when the shelter houses have been rented but it's the maintenance staff that clean them. They are supposed to be checked every morning. Send pictures and an email to Ken. Ms. Purtee advised of lots of gravel in bathrooms and she tried to sweep it out.
- Ms. Hall mentioned someone using a leaf blower.

Cemetery – Ms. Armbruster proved the following updates:

- Only Ms. Armbruster and Steve Saunders in attendance. Steve is frustrated over the funeral procedures. Mayor Orsborne advised that board members are not employees. Mr. Kean advised it is a trustee responsibility. The township will need to hire someone if they need help.
- Ms. Purtee received a text from a resident stating they had been trying to reach someone at the cemetery regarding map of plots (laying of wreaths across America) but was not receiving a return call. Ms. Hall stated.

Joint Sewer Board – No updates at this time. Next meeting to be held October 5th, 2026.

Ordinances & Resolutions –

Ordinance 2026-21

AN ORDINANCE REALLOCATING FUNDS FROM PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE AND AMENDING THE APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR PURPOSES PAYING OPERATING EXPENSES FROM APPROPRIATED FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF, OHIO.

Mr. Kean made the motion to suspend the 3 readings of Ordinance 2026-21, seconded by Ms. Hall. **APPROVED**
Roll Call – All Ayes.
Ms. Purtee made the motion to approve Ordinance 2026-21, seconded by Ms. Hall. **APPROVED**
Roll Call – All Ayes.
Ms. McBean made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2026-21, seconded by Ms. Armbruster. **APPROVED**
Roll Call – All Ayes.

Old Business:

- Derric Andrews proposal, under "Buckeye Land Management". Ms. Purtee thinks it is a good idea. Mayor Orsborne stated that the solicitor advised it can't be one person as it's a monopoly, there has to be an opt out option. Ms. Hall believes it would be a burden to the office staff and can't see everyone playing $30.00, especially if they only have 1 bag to throw away like she does. Mayor Orsborne said we already have recycling contract with Solid Waste District but what if they cancel? Mr. Kean stated that the program would have to be put out for bid with an opt out. We cannot push through, need to have a special meeting so it can be discussed. Ms. Purtee said it's a good program and some people would like it with an opt out. Mayor advised that village would need software to run it and Derric Andrews offered to make a donation to go towards the software (village cannot make money from this). Discussed the workload for the clerks. Carol explained the process just for the meter reads. Mr. Kean advised could work with Derric about invoicing, thinks the price is a little high and would definitely need to be bid out.

Mayor Orsborne advised that Belle Center and West Liberty do their own and explained how it works. Mr. McBean advised if it's bid out the guy with the old rusty truck will be the lowest. Mayor Orsborne stated the state requires us to take the lowest bid. Ms. Purtee advised we should review the service more before making a decision. Mayor and administrator are concerned with the added workload. Mr. Kean and Ms. Hall feel the public should be asked for what they want. Discussed ways to ask public what they want (via f/b, Survey Monkey, etc.). Mayor Orsborne advised she will discuss it with Ken, as will it really be beneficial if half of the town doesn't want it. Mr. McBean brought up the option of why does this need to go through the village? Can't he go door to door to ask residents if they would like to use his service? Ms. Hall wants the survey done first. Mayor Orsborne advised that more discussion needs to happen but Derric is welcome to take his business cards to folks.

New Business:

- Carol Stewart asked about Dynergy contracts as residents are asking about the timing with letters being received and options are running out. Mayor Orsborne thought it was a 3-year contract with the program. She will discuss this with Ken as well. Mr. Kean found 29 months on his bill but the Mayor will check the contract with Ken so he can call Jordan who does the negotiating on our behalf. Carol said the ordinance 2025-17 states 1-3 years. Mr. Kean is certain we did not accept 3 years. Carol asked if the village should be told to contact Dynergy, Mayor Orsborne said yes. She will check with Ken and make sure it's not a scam.

Ms. Purtee made the motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Kean.
Roll Call – All Ayes

MOTION

Mr. Kean made the motion to adjourn at 7:39p.m., seconded by Mr. McBean.
Roll Call – All Ayes

MOTION

Next regularly scheduled Council meeting is October 6th, 2026 at 7:00p.m., at the Village Hall.

Stephanie Orsborne
Mayor Stephanie Orsborne

Gabe Kean
Gabe Kean, Council Pro Tempore

Stephanie A. Knight
Stephanie A. Knight, Fiscal Officer

All formal actions of the VILLAGE OF DEGRAFF COUNCIL concerning and relating to the adoption of Ordinances, Resolutions 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.

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Date	September 15th, 2026	Location	Village Hall
Start Time		End Time	

Name	Address
No visitors	