



# VILLAGE OF GIBSONBURG

---

## Village Council Meeting – MINUTES

March 19, 2026

6:00 pm

MEETING ROOM – 526 N. WEBSTER ST.

**Call to order:** Mayor Fought at 6:01 pm

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Meeting via Facebook Live also.

**Roll call:** Morelock-here, Katafias-here, Gerwin-here, Kirwen-here, Slack-here, Castillo-here.

**Recognition of Visitors/Special Reports for council meeting.**

- Omni Fiber construction manager spoke to everyone.
- Julie Beuhrle Estep - TNR Program- euthanized 4 sick cats.

**Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Council Meeting:**

A motion was made by Gerwin to approve March 5, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Minutes as written, seconded by Castillo.

Morelock-abstain, Katafias-yes, Gerwin-yes, Kirwen-yes, Slack-yes, Castillo-yes.

**Motion Passed.**

**Correspondence:** none

**Motion to approve payment of invoices reviewed tonight for the Fiscal Officer to pay.**

A motion was made to approve payment of invoices by Gerwin, seconded by Slack.

Roll Call: Morelock-yes, Katafias-yes, Gerwin-yes, Kirwen-yes, Slack-yes, Castillo-yes.  
**Motion Passed.**

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:**

**1. ORDINANCE #5-2026**

AN ORDINANCE RETROACTIVELY AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER, MAYOR, AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO OPEN AN ADDITIONAL ACCOUNT WITH STAR OHIO, TO BE USED TO INVEST THE PROCEEDS OF THE \$2,800,000.00 BAN TAKEN OUT FOR DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS OF THE VILLAGE OF GIBSONBURG. (EMERGENCY)

**A motion was made to suspend the rules, waive the 3 readings and pass as an emergency Ordinance #5-2026 by Kirwen, seconded by Slack.**

Roll Call: Morelock-yes, Katafias-yes, Gerwin-yes, Kirwen-yes, Slack-yes, Castillo-yes.  
**Motion Passed.**

**A motion to adopt Ordinance #5-2026 by Slack, seconded by Castillo.**

Roll Call: Morelock-yes, Katafias-yes, Gerwin-yes, Kirwen-yes, Slack-yes, Castillo-yes.  
**Motion Passed.**

**Mayor's Report:** nothing

**Administrator's Report:**

- **Omni Fiber-** Omni Fiber has submitted a ROW Permit and one set of plans for review for one section of their proposed project. We have reviewed and commented on the plans and sent the ROW Permit and Project Addendum back to them. We will do our best to work with Omni Fiber.
- **Amplex-** No further updates since last meeting.
- **Frontier-** Frontier continues their project inside of the corporation limits. We have daily communication with them on the project. *As a reminder to the public, for any Frontier/Verizon specific issues, they can be reached at 855-266-5649.*
- **LTCP Phase IV Project Update-** D2 continues to work within the estimated 36-day work schedule, but they have encountered rock in certain areas and some other minor

delays, which have slowed their progress may delay the work schedule estimate a little bit.

- **Downtown Improvement Project-** We continue to meet with Collier's weekly on the project and have been meeting with Downtown Business Owners and Property Owners to review the project and have Right of Way Work Documents signed. We anticipate having the majority, if not all of the Right of Way Work Documents back to Colliers and ODOT by the end of this month.
- **BAN Process-** All requested paperwork has been submitted to the Bond Counsel and we have closed on the process. Funds will be transferred to STAR Ohio.
- **State Capital Budget-** No word yet on our application for the coming 136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Capital Budget. Application was submitted to both Senator Reineke and Rep Click by the posted March 12, 2026, deadline and we have submitted an application for \$500,000.00 to be used with the Downtown Improvement Project.
- **ARPA Funds Compliance-** The US Department of the Treasury notified us last week that we have successfully submitted a compliant final report for the funds received and there is no further action that will be required.
- **Health Dept District Advisory Board-** We attended the annual meeting on the morning of March 9<sup>th</sup>. Nothing else to come from the meeting, but we do have a copy of the Sandusky County Health Department 2025 Annual Report on file if anyone would like to review it.
- **ODNR Catchable Release Program-** ODNR has notified us that Williams Park will be a site again for their Catchable Release Program. ODNR will be at the park on the morning of April 10<sup>th</sup> to release Rainbow Trout (10-13 inches in length). This is a free program, and the only stipulations are that there is a limit of 5 Trout per person per day and all anglers over the age of 16 must have a valid Ohio Fishing License.
- **OWDA Loan Portal-** There have been no issues with pay request submittals through the new loan portal.
- **Vibrant Community Grant/Pharmacy-** The Memorandum of Understanding between all parties involved with the project has been finalized, signed and submitted. We are just waiting on JobsOhio at this point.
- **Sandusky County Comprehensive Plan-** At each of your places there is a flyer with the details to participate in the Comprehensive Plan Survey. Please consider participating.
- **Trash and Refuse Transition-** As a reminder to residents:
  - o If they would like an additional can (at no cost), are in need of a smaller can, or have any other trash related issues or questions, to please contact Stevens at (734) 279 2611 or [support@stevensdisposal.com](mailto:support@stevensdisposal.com)
  - o For all Bulk Item pickups, they will also need to contact Stevens directly. Pickup and payment will be handled directly through them, and tags will no longer be available at Town Hall.
  - o All trash must be inside Stevens cans. Bags, boxes, etc... not in a can will likely not be picked up.

- **Ohio EPA Source Water Protection Grant-** No further information on the grant submittal in the amount of \$16,880,00 for the purpose of adequately tiling and draining the perimeter of the well field along S. Main Street.

**Fiscal Officer's Report-**

Received notice from Ohio Department of Commerce in regard to retail liquor permits. If we have any objections to any license renewal, we must let them know before May 4, 2026.

State auditors are in the process of finalizing the bi-annual audit. Estimated cost is \$4,200.00.

We received \$2,800,000.00 from BAN proceeds on March 17<sup>th</sup>, which were deposited into our Star Ohio account. Funds are in a separate account to assist in recording all transactions relating to the BAN and the downtown improvement project.

Presented an Ordinance to open new Star Ohio account to record and invest BAN proceeds.

**Committee Reports:**

- Economic Development-Kirwen-** nothing
- Finance- Gerwin-** nothing
- Joint Cemetery Board-Slack-** met on 3/5/26 nothing new to report.
- Planning Commission- Morelock-** nothing
- Public Service Parks-** appointed Katafias to this committee.
- Public Utilities- Gerwin-**nothing
- Recreational Committee – Castillo** –purchasing jerseys and supplies

**Individual Council Member Report:**

- Slack-**nothing
- Katafias-** nothing
- Gerwin-**nothing
- Morelock-** nothing
- Kirwen-** nothing
- Castillo-** nothing

**Report of Officials: Police – Chief Don Karr-** nothing

**Residence- Open Forum/Comment:** nothing

**Kirwen requested an executive session regarding personnel with no action taken, seconded by Slack at 6:29 pm.**

Roll Call: Morelock-yes, Katafias-yes, Gerwin-yes, Kirwen-yes, Slack-yes, Castillo-yes.

**Motion Passed.**

**Return from executive session by Kirwen at 6:46 seconded by Slack.**

Roll Call: Morelock-yes, Katafias-yes, Gerwin-yes, Kirwen-yes, Slack-yes, Castillo-yes.

**Motion Passed.**

**A motion to adjourn at 6:47 pm was made by Kirwen, seconded by Slack.**

Roll Call: Morelock-yes, Katafias-yes, Gerwin-yes, Kirwen-yes, Slack-yes, Castillo-yes.

**Motion Passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

---

Jeff Holcomb  
Fiscal Officer Village of Gibsonburg

---

Steve Fought  
Mayor Village of Gibsonburg