

COUNCIL MINUTES

October 20, 2025

The Archbold Village Council met in regular session on Monday, October 6th, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers with the following members present: Gary Dominique, Vaughn Bentz, Kevin Eicher, Aaron Babcock, Chad Kern, and Karla Ball. Mayor Brad Grime opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence and presided thereat.

There being no corrections to the minutes of the October 6, 2025 Council meeting, Kevin Eicher moved to approve, seconded by Vaughn Bentz.

Roll: Yeas: Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz, Eicher

Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Following a review of the list of bills and payroll totaling \$821,559.51, Karla Ball moved to approve, seconded by Chad Kern.

Roll: Yeas: Dominique, Bentz, Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball

Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

Mayor Grime then provided a THIRD READING on the following items of legislation:

ORDINANCE 2025-37: Third Reading **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A WATER RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE WITH THE JANUARY 1ST, 2026, BILLING/DECEMBER 2025 CONSUMPTION PERIOD.**

Village Administrator Aaron Alt provided an overview including the removal of the minimum 1,000 gallon usage fee and how the "Ready-to-Serve fee" goes toward covering the cost to manage and maintain the distribution system. After a brief discussion, Aaron Babcock moved to pass Ordinance 2025-37, seconded by Gary Dominique.

Roll: Yeas: Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz, Eicher, Babcock

Nays: None. **Ordinance 2025-37 passed.**

ORDINANCE 2025-38: Third Reading **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A WASTEWATER RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE WITH THE JANUARY 1ST, 2026, BILLING/DECEMBER 2025 CONSUMPTION PERIOD.**

Village Administrator Aaron Alt provided an overview including how the increase will help pay for the major repairs to the lift stations from daily wear and tear usage as well as the added definition for "Ready-to-Serve." After a brief discussion, Chad Kern moved to pass Ordinance 2025-38, seconded by Gary Dominique.

Roll: Yeas: Ball, Dominique, Bentz, Eicher, Babcock, Kern

Nays: None. **Ordinance 2025-38 passed.**

RESOLUTION 2025-39: Third Reading **AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH BRUNERSBURG WATER DISTRICT.**

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Village Administrator Aaron Alt explained how Evansport is the community served, Brunersburg the district, and Defiance County the agency. The goal of the resolution is to correct the deficiencies from an outdated agreement. Ownership, maintenance, and repair responsibilities are clarified and rates set to better balance a fair cost to those being served outside the village limits where the major THM issues were found and the residents of Archbold. Kevin Eicher moved to pass Resolution 2025-39, seconded by Vaughn Bentz.

Roll: Yeas: Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz, Eicher

Nays: None. **Resolution 2025-39 passed.**

RESOLUTION 2025-40: Third Reading AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH FULTON COUNTY.

Village Administrator Aaron Alt explained how this creates a single standing agreement with Fulton County for the combined county service areas including that of Elmira, Burlington, and Pettisville. The resolution describes how Archbold is responsible for maintenance and repairs to the lines and Fulton County the cost. The Commissioners have already signed the 10-year agreement. Vaughn Bentz moved to pass Resolution 2025-40, seconded by Gary Dominique.

Roll: Yeas: Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz

Nays: None. **Resolution 2025-40 passed.**

RESOLUTION 2025-41: Third Reading AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH RIDGEVILLE TOWNSHIP WATER & SEWER DISTRICT.

Village Administrator Aaron Alt provided a clarification and record of how discussions between the Village and the Ridgeville Township Water & Sewer Board began in July 2025. The responsibility of Archbold's Administration and Village Council is first and foremost to the taxpayers and residents of Archbold. A portion of the Archbold income tax goes towards roads, water distribution and wastewater improvements within the village. It would not be fair to the taxpayers of Archbold to bear the burden for the costs of maintenance and repair for lines outside village limits. Considering this, the former agreement between Ridgeville and Archbold no longer reflects current financial realities. The goal of this resolution is to establish clear records of ownership and responsibility for the operation, maintenance, repair, and associated costs to do so for these lines and set a 10-year limit to the contract. The updated rates better reflect equitable responsibilities between Archbold and Ridgeville while still providing fair and reasonable rate for those being served outside village limits, especially when compared to similar rates provided by other communities. After discussion, Aaron Babcock moved to pass Resolution 2025-41, seconded by Chad Kern.

Roll: Yeas: Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz, Eicher, Babcock

Nays: None. **Resolution 2025-41 passed.**

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Mayor Grime then presented the following items of legislation:

RESOLUTION 2025-42: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT FUNDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF RUIHLEY PARK PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Village Administrator Aaron Alt explained the process of “declaring an emergency” for certain resolutions as compared to the three-reading process for others and a brief explanation. Kevin Eicher moved to suspend the rule that requires a resolution of general nature to be read on three separate days. Chad Kern seconded the motion.

Roll: Yeas: Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz, Eicher

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Vaughn Bentz moved to pass Resolution 2025-42, seconded by Gary Dominique.

Roll: Yeas: Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz

Nays: None. **Resolution 2025-42 passed.**

RESOLUTION 2025-43: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CHANGE ORDER 1, FINAL FOR SHORT BUEHRER ROAD SIDEWALK, CONTRACT 6-2025 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

After brief explanation by Village Administrator Aaron Alt, Karla Ball moved to suspend the rule that requires a resolution of general nature to be read on three separate days. Kevin Eicher seconded the motion.

Roll: Yeas: Dominique, Bentz, Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Gary Dominique moved to pass Resolution 2025-43, seconded by Aaron Babcock.

Roll: Yeas: Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz

Nays: None. **Resolution 2025-43 passed.**

RESOLUTION 2025-44: ACCEPTING BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHEMICALS FOR THE WATER AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2026, AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR & FINANCE DIRECTOR TO CONTRACT THEREFORE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Kevin Eicher moved to suspend the rule that requires a resolution of general nature to be read on three separate days. Chad Kern seconded the motion.

Roll: Yeas: Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz, Eicher

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Karla Ball moved to pass Resolution 2025-44, seconded by Aaron Babcock.

Roll: Yeas: Dominique, Bentz, Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball

Nays: None. **Resolution 2025-44 passed.**

RESOLUTION 2025-45: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF

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FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR AN EMPLOYEE WAGE INCREASE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2026 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

After a brief explanation and discussion, Vaughn Bentz moved to suspend the rule that requires a resolution of general nature to be read on three separate days. Kevin Eicher seconded the motion.

Roll: Yeas: Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball, Dominique, Bentz

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Karla Ball moved to pass Resolution 2025-45, seconded by Gary Dominique.

Roll: Yeas: Dominique, Bentz, Eicher, Babcock, Kern, Ball

Nays: None. **Resolution 2025-45 passed.**

Council reviewed and discussed the following Committee, Board & Department Reports:

- Park Board Minutes – October 1, 2025
- Finance Committee Meeting Minutes October 6, 2025 – Wage Adjustments
- Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes October 6, 2025 – Speed Limits

Council comments included Councilman Aaron Babcock agreeing with a comment from Meet the Candidates about creating a stronger partnership between Archbold and Sauder Village. He asked if the walking trail could be improved and widened to create greater access to town from Sauder Village. The path only allows pedestrians or bicycles through. Planning Commission has discussed recommendations for better connections and possible future golf cart access. Councilwoman Karla Ball and Councilman Vaughn Bentz suggested revisiting the Archbold Comprehensive Plan to review updates on the progress made and refresh priorities, especially on the extensive ideas for building synergy between Sauder Village and Archbold.

Councilman Vaughn Bentz shared his notice of improperly placed snipe signs popping up around town. Council candidates, however, were complimented on the proper placements of their election signs.

Councilman Aaron Babcock complimented the wall that went up on Lutz Road. The addition is a huge safety improvement.

Mayor Brad Grime shared that it is nice to see a few new homes built around town.

There being no further business to discuss, Kevin Eicher moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Aaron Babcock. All agreed; meeting adjourned.

Council President

Mayor

Clerk