

## **Village of Shawnee Hills Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 13, 2025**

Mayor Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council in Attendance: Mary Gates, Kathy Isern, Justin LaRosa, Renee Matney, Robert Thatcher and Todd Zimmerman

Absent: Brian Zets

Also Present: Fiscal Officer Shirley Roskoski and Administrator Russell Baron

### **Minutes**

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Matney to approve the minutes of September 22, 2025. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern, Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

### **Agenda**

It was moved by Thatcher, seconded by Gates to add Ordinance 33-2025 to the agenda. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern, Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

It was moved by Matney, seconded by LaRosa to approve the agenda as amended. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern, Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

### **Village Administrator**

Russ said he attended the America in Bloom National Conference and Awards Symposium. It was very fruitful for our village. We are doing a lot of good things. We received two awards. One is recognition for our Urban Forestry Program and the things we are doing with trees and the Arboretum and Tree City. The major class award that we received, competing with cities like Topeka, Kansas, Milwaukee, several large communities like that, and we won the award for Urban Forestry overall. We had several honorable mentions for awards, mainly the plantings, pots and flowers and things we are doing in the community. It is great sitting in a ballroom of about 600 people to see Shawnee Hills honored and pictures of our village shown to people from all over the country and Canada.

A big shout out to Tom and Morag Miller who were a finalist in the Community Champions Category. There were ten folks in that category.

Working with Blooms on the report that went out. Hopefully we will be able to implement some really fun things in 2026 and in the future.

Pump Station – As most of you know John Kincaid has been our pump station operator of record for many years. John has retired and we have found ourselves without an operator of record.

Mark and I have met with seven or eight different companies. We thought we had one lined up but that fell through. Initially, the conversation with UST was; can we handle this in house? The answer is yes and no. We can handle some things but we need someone with a pump station operator's license. It takes 3-4 years to get that license. I met with a gentleman today who was with the Village of Ashville. He is over certified for what we need. I am thinking 4 hours a week maximum. He will come and do the weekly checks or Mark can do them. For the first couple of months he wants to come and do them so he can get familiar with what we are pumping and how we are doing. He can do routine maintenance. Any major repairs we will have to hire a contractor. I think this is the best route for us, having someone in house, and the cost will be less.

Council member Matney asked if we have an emergency on the weekend, would we call him or call a contractor.

Russ said we would call him and he would respond. He does have another job doing the same thing full-time and works the midnight shift for another municipality.

Paving – We are only doing three areas, 600 feet on W. Old Powell, Shawnee Trail at Glick Rd. and widening of the first 50 feet of E. Old Powell.

Submitted our Tree City USA and our Growth Award for 2025.

#### Upcoming Dates

Trick or Treat – October 30 from 6-8 p.m. Tailgate at 5:00 p.m. at Wyandotte and Shawnee Trail

Veteran's Memorial – November 8 at 11:00

Tree Lighting – December 5 at 5:30 p.m.

#### Visitors

Carol said the Chamber is holding their Annual meeting as a dinner, on November 12 and it is going to be a murder mystery dinner theater called Dinner with Murder and Mayhem at El Vaquero beginning at 6:30 p.m. We have 40 seats available. Please register if you would like to attend. There is no charge for this.

Carol- I do want to comment on the Fall Festival. It seemed like it turned out nice.

Rumpke Representative – The current agreement expires at the end of January. I sent to Russ the five-year extension of the current contract. The first year will be a 0.15 cent increase. Years 2-5 will increase by 4.0% each year.

Council member Zimmerman asked if the senior citizens will still receive 10% off. The answer is yes.

#### Communications

Mayor Mathews said I appreciate all the work that Blooms does.

I presented to a Boy Scout Troop about being a good citizen and how you can contribute to your community. I actually brought up Blooms and a young boy that lives on E. Hiawatha knew everything about Blooms.

### **Pro-Tem Report**

Pro-Tem Thatcher said I am working on the Veteran's day Program. Working on a couple of speakers and I have the National Anthem wrapped up.

### **Committee Report**

Council member LaRosa said Russ talked about everything we discussed.

Council member Zimmerman said the Public Arts Committee will be meeting this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Russ mentioned that the Village approved the mural for Hummingbird Tattoo Studio.

### **Legislative Actions**

First Reading – Ordinance 30-2025 – An Ordinance to reappropriate funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Shawnee Hills, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025 and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Isern, seconded by Gates to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 30-2025 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

It was moved by Matney, seconded by Zimmerman to adopt Ordinance 30-2025 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

First Reading – Ordinance 31-2025 – An Ordinance amending the Village of Shawnee Hills Police Department Staffing Matrix and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Larosa to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 31-2025 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

It was moved by Isern, seconded by Thatcher to adopt Ordinance 31-2025 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

First Reading – Ordinance 32-2025 – An Ordinance confirming the Mayor's appointment of Kyle McCoy as a full-time Police Officer for the Village of Shawnee Hills and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by LaRosa, seconded by Gates to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 32-2025 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Larosa to adopt Ordinance 32-2025 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

First Reading – Resolution 11-2025 – A Resolution that the Village of Shawnee Hills host an employee and volunteer appreciation dinner.

**Bills**

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Isern to pay the bills in the amount of \$222,113.08. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

**Treasurer’s Report**

It was moved by Matney, seconded by Isern to approve the following treasurer’s report:

|                      |            |                    |            |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|
| General Fund         | 512,784.24 | Fire Fund          | 129,201.82 |
| Street Fund          | 107,443.73 | Weed Fund          | 258.33     |
| State Hwy.           | 52,892.40  | TIF                | 110,971.84 |
| PD Body Armor        | 3,956.88   | TIF 2              | 70,053.17  |
| Cont. Prof. Training | 13,207.47  | Police Dist. Fund  | 230,717.10 |
| OneOhio              | 771.04     | Veteran’s Memorial | 298.97     |
| Drug Law Enfct.      | 534.41     | Sewer Operating    | 84,218.34  |
| Indigent Drivers     | 385.84     | Sewer Replacement  | 7,506.08   |
| Law Enfct. Trust     | 3,852.20   | Storm Sewer Fund   | 35,700.77  |
| Am. Rescue Plan      | 0.00       | Enterprise Improv. | 23,419.00  |
| Enfct, & Education   | 1,795.98   | Debt Service Fund  | 84,710.02  |

For a total of \$1,479,076.46.

Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Gates, seconded by Zimmerman to adjourn. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Gates, Isern. Larosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.