

VILLAGE OF PIKETON
January 20, 2026
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Ralph Douthitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jennifer Chandler Dennis Foreman
Ralph Douthitt Jordan Cutler

Absent: Victor Brushart and Ryan Clemmons

Others present: Cheryl King Fiscal Officer/Administrator, Jim Nelson, Police Chief

MINUTES

A motion was made by Jennifer Chandler to approve the minutes for the January 5, 2025 meeting. A second was made by Ralph Douthitt. Chandler-yes, Ralph Douthitt-yes, Dennis Foreman-abstained, Cutler-yes. Motion carried.

FINES & FORFEITURES

A motion was made by Jordan Cutler to accept the fines and forfeitures. A second was made by Dennis Foreman. Chandler-yes, Ralph Douthitt-yes, Dennis Foreman-yes, Cutler-yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- Kent Bryan reported they are installing a new flow meter at the booster station; Moody's will be drilling the wells. The Mayor asked if the wells are lined as they drill them out and Kent explained the process stating it is 48 inches in diameter and then will install the casing. The Mayor also addressed Bryan and asked if he has had any dealings in the past with data centers? Bryan said not personally but his company has been involved. There was discussion about how much water would be used and Bryan said he knows they use a lot of water. The Mayor said that its too early at this time to say much but he does have concerns about the amount of water usage because from what he has heard they can expect to use 1 million gallons a day and that is about 4 times the amount we use ourself. There was more discussion about Kent stated that AEP came in last week with two transformers they are getting ready to install; further saying they are making good progress at the plants.

COMMITTEES

Finance- Ralph Douthitt – Douthitt stated it looks about the same as last month. King stated we will have a single year audit and it will begin the first week of February.

Police & Fire- Victor Brushart-absent. The Mayor reported that we ordered a new cruiser; SUV; it will take a few months to receive.

Utilities- Ryan Clemmons-absent. Mayor Spencer said all hydrants have been flushed in town and after our last test for iron and manganese; the results came back that none was detected.

Streets & Sidewalks- Jordan Cutler- asked if there was money allotted for the area where the Bi-low station used to be or if money was in the project to pave that area. It was explained there is still a lot of work to be done in that area but no funds were allocated specifically to repave that area. The Mayor explained there are still some millings that can be used after the digging and clean up is complete. Douthitt asked if there are any bollards planned for that area and Kent said yes; there will be 6 or 8.

Subdivision-Dennis Foreman asked if the house Justin Brewster posted for rent is zoned for that use. The Mayor stated he will have to check on the zoning.

Community Development-Jennifer Chandler said she did submit the Residential Economic Development District application which was a total ask of \$2,422,900.00 with \$95,000 in administration and \$150,000.00 for technical support and the RFP. They indicated funding announcement would be around 30 days. This included 2,8000 linear ft of roadway.

Chandler asked if it was okay to submit for the 629 project explaining that it does have a match; however, we could request the match from another funding source. The Mayor said he saw the drawings on that and it is not as dramatic as he originally thought; but does straighten it out a bit; stabilizing it more. The Mayor said he thinks we need to do some evaluation for the local share which is around \$400,000.00. Chandler suggested maybe submitting first round caucus and asked if council can provide authorization to apply at the next meeting.

MAYORS REPORT

The Mayor presented Resolution 2026-01; amending salaries by name and title effective January 9th, 2025, noting two changes; a probationary officer Skylar Blair was let go; and Harold Dye who was a captain has been demoted to Lieutenant in rank and pay and also given three weeks off without pay. Chief Nelson explained that Blair was still on probation and he was made aware of possible inappropriate behavior; not during the work place or during work time. Both were called in and both admitted that something did happen and signed a statement to such. Blair was terminated while under probation and Dye was given some consideration due to his length of employment with the Village; however, he was a supervisor in the situation.

A motion was made by Jordan Cutler to approve Resolution 2026-01. A second was made by Jennifer Chandler. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Cutler-yes. Motion carried.

Nelson added that he has received a public records request for the personnel files from Scioto Valley Guardian.

The Mayor read aloud Resolution 2026-02, allowing the Mayor to enter into a supplemental water supply revolving loan account agreement on behalf of the Village of Piketon. This includes funding for the lining of pipe under the highway and for the Village to reimburse operating expenses for the media.

A motion was made by Dennis Foreman to approve Resolution 2026-02. A second was made by Ralph Douthitt. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Cutler-yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2026-03 was presented which authorizes property located at 255 West Street for acceptance of electric vehicle charger. The Mayor explained this is a village lot that runs along the north of the sidewalk where you walk in a go into Rio Grande.

A motion was made by Jordan Cutler to approve resolution 2026-03. A second was made by Dennis Foreman. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Cutler-yes. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS

A motion was made by Dennis Foreman to pay the bills and any that are due before the next meeting. A second was made by Jennifer Chandler. All in favor, Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Dennis Foreman and a second was made by Jennifer Chandler to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Chandler

absent
Victor Brushart

Ralph Douthitt

Cristy Shanks

Dennis Foreman

absent
Ryan Clemmons

All formal actions of the Village of Piketon concerning and relating to the adoption of 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.