

Village of Sebring Council Meeting Minutes July 27, 2026

Call to Order

Mayor Wright called the meeting to order followed by Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken, with Mr. Caughman, Mr. Aberegg, Mr. Walker, Mr. Rouse, Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. Smith recorded as present.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the June 22nd, 2026, regular meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Made by Aberegg, seconded by Caughman, to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed by roll-call vote, all ayes, nays none.

Citizens Comments

Two opportunities for citizens to address Council were announced, one at the beginning of the meeting and one later in the meeting. No citizen comments were recorded during the first comment period.

Reading and Referring of Communications and/or Petitions

An email from Cindy Caufield was reported concerning a vacant house on Wisconsin. The email stated that Heather had completed work at the site and that the site looked satisfactory from start to finish.

An email from Cheryl Egli was reported requesting that lampposts in town be painted black and identifying additional downtown maintenance items. The email was available to be forwarded.

No additional communications or petitions were reported.

Reports of Council Committees and Council Representatives

Finance Committee

No Finance Committee meeting was reported.

Motion: Made by Aberegg, seconded by Rouse, to accept the financial packet as presented. The motion passed by roll-call vote, all ayes, nays none.

Motion: Made by Aberegg, seconded by Caughman, to direct the city manager to pay bills totaling \$302,338.12 when funds become available.

The motion passed by roll-call vote, all ayes, nays none.

Legislative Committee

No Legislative Committee meeting was reported. A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday at 6:30.

Capital Improvements Committee

No meeting was reported.

Annexation, Business and Land Development Committee

No meeting was reported.

Service Maintenance, Stormwater Committee

No meeting was reported.

Safety Committee

No meeting was reported. Council discussed the need to review the fire contract after Springer returns from vacation and to consider a meeting with the township before the August meeting. Terry Chris was identified as a potential participant in that discussion.

Parks and Recreation

A Parks and Recreation meeting was scheduled for July 9th.

The American Legion was considering a roast beef dinner to support park projects. Park Board members were reviewing projects for priority and potential funding.

Key Points:

- Possible projects included an amphitheater at the park and an extension of the concrete area near the concession stands.
- Pickleball courts continued to be considered, and Joe was reviewing the matter.
- A revised quote was being sought for fencing at Northside Park. The original quote included a dog leg that was no longer needed because the trees had been removed. A corrected quote was reported to have been received and the work was expected to move forward.
- Fifty-seven runners participated in the 5K, which raised \$1,000.
- The Sebring varsity and junior high football team assisted with breakfast service.
- The bike parade and sidewalk activities were canceled because of weather. Rescheduling could be considered if there is sufficient interest.
- Pool attendance was reported as 70 or more people each day when temperatures reached 90 degrees or higher.
- Thirty-two children participated in Junior Olympics.
- The farmers markets were reported to be drawing attendees and additional vendors.
- Two hundred and seventy-five seniors participated in senior swim.
- One pool filter broke and was isolated so the other filter could continue operating.

The next Parks and Recreation meeting was reported as August thirteenth.

Planning and Zoning

No meeting was reported.

Civil Service

No meeting was reported.

Veterans Memorial and Firemen's Dependency

Veterans Memorial was reported as likely completed for the year. Firemen's Dependency was reported to meet once.

Manager's Report

The OPWC grant award was signed electronically. The next OPWC funding cycle requires pre-project planning materials by September the eighth and a live three-minute presentation on September twenty-second.

Potential OPWC applications discussed included pumps at the wastewater plant and the Village's twenty percent share of paving for Ohio Avenue. It was stated that multiple applications could be submitted but that an award would likely be made for only one project. Additional information was to be obtained from Lee Patton regarding the pumps before a project was selected. An email was anticipated before the next meeting identifying the project selected for the application. The funding was described as fiscal year twenty twenty-eight funding beginning in July of next year.

A request was made for an update on the South Side roads and bridges project and its budget. It was reported that no emails or updates had been received and that the project may still be awaiting an engineer. Follow-up was to occur regarding the status of the project.

Reports of Other Village Officials

Chief Kelm

Chief Kelm requested a civil service test because no list remained for officers or dispatchers. It was stated that Joanne would be notified regarding the request.

Fire Department

Chief Springer was not present. The June call report reflected 82 calls this year compared with 79 calls last year, a difference of three calls.

Wastewater

The engineer was reported to be on schedule to submit the PTI by the August One deadline. The mayor/manager had signed the PTI documents.

A screening equipment representative was scheduled to bring a portable trailer-mounted unit on August 14th to 15th for review of equipment that may be included in project bidding. A visit to Louisville was planned to review a recently installed unit and discuss it with the superintendent. Wastewater operations were reported to be operating well.

Water Plant

Nothing new was reported.

Service Director

Nothing new was reported.

Letters concerning water-meter replacements were to begin distribution during the following week. An August 31st shutoff date was planned for properties that had not responded regarding required meter replacement.

All Drive was identified as the contractor performing meter-replacement work for the Village. Approximately 250 people had not responded. The contractor was not expected to perform work in the Village during the current month or the following month and was expected to return in September. The stated goal was to obtain replacements for at least 125 of the 250 properties before that time.

It was reported that the meter list may contain inaccurate owner-occupancy information. Several properties had been removed from the list, including one property without a meter since 1999 and one property where the house had been demolished. Council discussed rental registration as a means of improving property information.

Finance Director

Bill volume was reported to have increased. Work continued on bills and on identifying other ways to run data while catching up on outstanding work.

Solicitor

The deed for JSI was filed and recorded. Two personnel matters were identified for possible executive-session discussion. A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday to review new legislation.

Mayor's Office

The deed for JSI was recorded in Youngstown. A self-addressed stamped envelope was provided for return of the recorded deed. A reimbursement request of \$39.50 for the recording fee was made and was expected to appear in future bills.

Work associated with the JSI property was expected to begin no later than sometime around the 1st of August. It was stated that the contractor had approximately 45 days and would first remove vegetation before demolition of the building. Vegetation and trees growing inside and outside the building were expected to be removed. Future maintenance may be needed to control weeds at the site.

A First Energy package was provided to Council concerning proposed investments of \$625 million over the next three years for service reliability, \$230 million for growth, and \$325 million in 2030 for reduced outages. The total investment was described as \$1.2 billion from 2027 to 2030.

Code Enforcement

A code-enforcement memo was provided in Council packets. Work was planned over the following month to develop an Excel spreadsheet showing property progress and activity.

Key Points:

- Thirteen properties were reported to be permanently mowed every two weeks.
- The proposed spreadsheet was expected to be similar to the vacant-property list and available for Council input.
- Current work included junk vehicles, vacant properties, door hangers, nuisance abatements, and grass maintenance.

Legislation

Motion: Made by Aberegg, seconded by Rouse, to read legislation by title only pursuant to section 4.05 of the Charter of Sebring.

The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Mr. Caughman, Mr. Aberegg, Mr. Walker, Mr. Rouse, Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. Smith voting aye.

Resolution 41-2026

Resolution 41-2026, introduced by Council as a whole, was entitled: "A resolution to proceed to renew tax exceeding 10 mil limitation purposes of providing for the general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repair of streets, roads, and bridges in the municipal corporation."

It was stated that an emergency clause had been omitted in error and would be added. The resolution was described as a renewal of the road levy.

Motion: Made by Aberegg, seconded by Caughman, to adopt Resolution 41-2026 as read by title only and declaring an emergency.

The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Mr. Caughman, Mr. Aberegg, Mr. Walker, Mr. Rouse, Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. Smith voting aye.

Resolution 42-2026

Resolution 42-2026, introduced by Steve Smith of the Service Maintenance Committee, was entitled: "A resolution approving a water tap application for new water service at a location on Oak Street in Smith Township, Mahoning County, Ohio."

It was stated that an emergency clause had been omitted in error and would be added.

Motion: Made by Phillips, seconded by Smith, to adopt Resolution 42-2026 as read by title only with the emergency clause.

The motion passed by roll-call vote, with Mr. Caughman, Mr. Aberegg, Mr. Walker, Mr. Rouse, Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. Smith voting aye.

Old Business

No other old business was reported.

Citizens Comments

A second opportunity for citizens to address Council was provided. No citizen comments were recorded.

Executive Session

Motion: Made by Aberegg, seconded by Caughman, to enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. It was stated that no action would be taken.

The executive session was stated to include Council, the mayor, Chief Kelm, Mr. Dean, and the city manager.

The motion passed all ayes, nays none

Executive session began at 6:55.

Action Items

No formal action items were recorded.

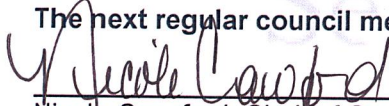
Announcements

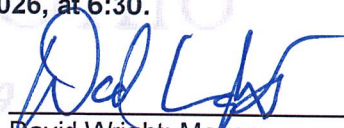
- Legislative Committee meeting: Wednesday at 6:30.
- Parks and Recreation meeting: July 9th.
- OPWC pre-project planning deadline: September the eighth.
- OPWC live presentation: September twenty-second.
- Screening equipment review: August 14th to 15th.

Adjournment

Motion: Made by Caughman, seconded by Aberegg to adjourn at 8:03 P.M. All ayes, nays none.

The next regular council meeting will be August 24, 2026, at 6:30.


Nicole Crawford, Clerk of Council


David Wright, Mayor
Village of Sebring