

VILLAGE OF MANTUA
PUBLIC HEARING AND COUNCIL MEETING
September 16, 2025

Mayor Tammy Meyer called the public hearing to order at 6 p.m., that pertains to ORD 2025-29 AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING AN OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (DORA) IN MANTUA VILLAGE, OHIO.

Roll Call: Steve Thorn, Kevin Maloney, Denise DiLellio, David Sluka, Chris Novotny

Others Present: Mayor Tammy Meyer, Solicitor Bill Mason, Police Chief Joe Urso, Fiscal Officer Maryann Fabian

Citizens: Tom Aldrich, Tia Rutledge, Terry Hronek, Miranda Brothers, Nancy Whaley, Noelle Evans

Tammy asked if there any comments or questions for the public hearing. There were none.

- ❖ Kevin made a motion to adjourn the public hearing at 6:01 a.m. David second. All ayes.

Tammy called to order the Regular Council Meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Steve Thorn, Kevin Maloney, Denise DiLellio, David Sluka, Chris Novotny, Dawn King (arrived at 6:22 p.m.)

Others Present: Mayor Tammy Meyer, Solicitor Bill Mason, Police Chief Joe Urso, Fiscal Officer Maryann Fabian

Citizens: Tom Aldrich, Tia Rutledge, Terry Hronek, Miranda Brothers, Nancy Whaley, Noell (last name not legible)

Tia Rutledge from Portage County Water Resources gave a presentation of the progress in the village with the water and sewer upgrades. She stated the surcharge would not be increasing for the villagers next year.

Mayor's Report is turned in and on file.

Tammy requested a retroactive approval for the special event of the Potato Stomp, held on September 6, 2025.

- ❖ Dave made the motion. Denise second. All ayes.

Tammy requested approval of a donation from State Farm in Garrettsville for a sidewalk library valued at \$289.00.

- ❖ Steve made a motion to approve. David second. All ayes.

The council approved the sidewalk library with advertisements on the side.

Maryann provided a summary of the Village aggregate program proposal, and Council received printed copies of the details. She explained that the Village may be eligible for the Energy Harbor Grant (estimated at \$2,200–\$2,600 annually) and the buyback program (estimated at \$1,000 annually). However, participation in the Energy Harbor Grant would result in increased costs for residents, which the Village wishes to avoid. As a result, the Village will participate in the buyback program only. Additionally, Maryann reported that she successfully negotiated a fixed natural gas rate for Village of Mantua buildings, reducing the rate from \$5.31 to \$5.14 per Mcf.

- ❖ Kevin made a motion to enter into contract with Integrity Energy pending legislation. Steve second. All ayes.

Maryann reviewed the August financial reports.

- ❖ Kevin made a motion to approve the financial reports. David second. All ayes.

Approval of previous Minutes

- ❖ David made a motion to approve the August 19, 2025 minutes. Dawn second. All ayes.
- ❖ Kevin made a motion to approve the September 10, 2025 minutes. David second. All ayes.

Committees:

Dawn King reported for DMRC and Parks.
Steve Thorn reported for Fire Board and Planning.
Kevin Maloney reported for Landmarks.
Denise DiLellio reported for Service and Cemetery.
David Sluka reported for Safety.
Tammy Meyer reported for Records Commission and PCRCP.
Maryann Fabian reported for Treasury Board.

Department Heads:

Police Chief Joe Urso reported for his department.
Acting Village Administrator, Tammy Meyer, reported for the service department.

Citizens

Tom Aldrich said the curb on the Mats Road bridge is a 50-year flood line. He believes the bridge should be kept and restored.

Legislation:

ORD 2025-29 AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING AN OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (DORA) IN MANTUA VILLAGE, OHIO. 2nd reading. Tammy stated that this would again be a public hearing next month, when it is read for the 3rd time.

ORD 2025-32 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO OPERATE THE VILLAGE OF MANTUA DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st reading. Maryann passed out the missing page 3 of Exhibit A for this legislation. Kevin asked if this included the revenue from the fire department contract, and dispatch. Maryann replied that it did.

Any Other Business

Kevin started the discussion about the Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department (MSFD) Contract for 2026. He asked if there was anything that precluded from accepting the 1-year contract for the MSFD. Tammy said that she could ask for legislation to be drafted for next council's meeting. Kevin thought that would be a good idea. Steve agreed.

- ❖ Kevin made a motion to accept the 1-year contract with the MSFD to accept the proposal of \$55,500, plus the AT & T contract for 12-months. Steve second.

Dawn inquired about the benefits and drawbacks of retaining dispatch services. Chief Urso stated that David recommended a careful and deliberate approach, emphasizing that once dispatch is eliminated, it cannot be reinstated. Chief Urso expressed support for accepting a one-year contract despite a small loss, as it would prevent a larger financial impact and allow time to evaluate alternatives. He noted that the \$55,500 offered by the fire department is likely their final offer.

Dawn expressed concern that the village was being undercut, especially given that the fire department is willing to pay a higher amount to another provider but not to the village. Chris noted that the \$55,500 proposal would still result in a smaller loss than the village experienced over the past two years.

David suggested the village issue a Request for Quote (RFQ) for dispatch services and take time to assess the options. Tammy stated the current dispatch contract estimate from the Sheriff's office is \$18,200; however, Chief Urso clarified that the figure is outdated, as any new entities joining the Sheriff's dispatch must help cover recent wage increases. Tammy noted that the village also budgets for 3% wage increase. Tammy stated that legislation should not be drafted unless there is confidence it will pass.

- ❖ All ayes, except Dawn was nay.

Dawn brought up an email that she had received in August about RITA tax. Kevin explained that the resident is asking for the village to increase the credit that is given to taxpayers that live in the village, but work elsewhere. It was decided that the village would not consider it.

Tammy requested a motion to go into executive session at 7:31 p.m. for complaints against a public employee.

- ❖ Denise made the motion. Steve second. Roll call vote: Steve – aye, Kevin – aye, Dawn – aye, Denise – aye, David – aye, Chris – aye.
- ❖ Dawn made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:04 p.m. Steve second. All ayes. Roll call vote: Steve – aye, Kevin – aye, Dawn – aye, Denise – aye, David – aye, Chris – aye.

Adjournment

- ❖ David made a motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Denise second. All ayes.