

**Village Of Castalia
January 13, 2026
Meeting Minutes**

The Village of Castalia Council met in Regular Session on January 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Castalia Hall located at 126 Main Street, Castalia, Ohio. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Johnson with the following in attendance: Barb Weyer, Si Nicholson, Cindy Crawford, Jake Smith. Georgia Artrip was absent. Fiscal Officer Kathy Niehm was not in attendance due to an emergency at her residence. Financial Consultant Diane Schaefer in attendance via telephone. Also in attendance was Legal Counsel Randy Strickler.

Mayor Johnson mentioned that the Agenda was amended adding Section F-Traffic Control Grant and Section G- Resolution to Create Fund #4201 Capital Project for Safety Grant.

Mrs. Weyer Swore in Mayor James Johnson. Mrs. Weyer Swore in Members of Council: Cindy Crawford, Si Nicholson, and Jake Smith.

Mr. Smith Made a Motion to Nominate Barb Weyer to President Pro Tem of Council. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mrs. Weyer, yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Nicholson Made a Motion to Nominate Jake Smith to Vice President of Council. Mrs. Weyer seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Weyer, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mr. Smith, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Crawford Made a Motion to Excuse Georgia Artrip and Kathy Niehm. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion Carried.

Mr. Nicholson Made a Motion to Approve the 12/16/2025 Minutes. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion Carried.

Mr. Smith Made a Motion to Approve the Finance Report Dated 1/8/2026. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion carried.

Mrs. Weyer Made a Motion to Approve the Warrants Dated 12/28/2025-1/8/2026. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion carried.

Mrs. Weyer Made a Motion to Accept the Receipts Dated 12/15/2025-12/31/2025. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. Motion carried.

Mrs. Weyer Made a Motion to Approve the Filing of the 2025 Annual Financial Report Using the Regulatory Method to the State of Ohio. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Roll

Call: Mrs. Weyer, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Crawford, yes. Motion carried.

Financial Consultant Diane Schaefer stated Council need to accept the Traffic Safety Grant and to will need to be set up a fund for it as a Capital Project, Fund #4201 for \$820,000.00. Mrs. Schaefer also noted that the Fiscal Officer has submitted the 2025 carry over balances to the Erie County Auditor's office and the Auditor's office has not returned the Amended Certificate to the Village office yet.

There was a discussion on Short-Term Rentals Policy and Zoning Inspector Tom Johnson stated that it will need to be updated in the Zoning Book and Mr. Johnson stated it will need to be completed this Spring.

There was a discussion regarding the Planning Commission members and Board of Zoning Appeals members.

Margaretta Township Road Superintendent Bob Biglin stated the posts and street signs are being delivered. There was a discussion on the video of the storm sewer on Depot Street. There was a discussion on sidewalks in the Village and the cost to repair. Mayor Johnson thanked Mr. Biglin for the snow removal in the Village. Mrs. Weyer stated she received a telephone call from Village resident Kevin Nemitz regarding stones and mud from the Trout Club on the roads. Mrs. Weyer stated she posted on social media (after a resident had posted) that residents can attend Village Council meetings and she stated the date, time and location.

Mrs. Weyer stated the Fiscal Officer received the invoice from Lake County Sewer Company. Mrs. Weyer stated the Fiscal Officer is in the process of closing 2025 and opening 2026. Mrs. Weyer stated the Fiscal Officer received notification regarding the closing of the COVID 19 account, but the Village cannot close out the account until they contact her to close it out. Mrs. Weyer stated Ms. Niehm completed the December 2025 bank reconciliation and it balanced. There was a lengthy discussion on the quote from Gysan Landscaping for Village debris pick up for \$12,245.00 for the year. It was decided to table the discussion until the next meeting for an adjustment to the dates of service for the year.

Mrs. Crawford Made a Motion to Accept the \$815,000 Traffic Control Safety Grant. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mr. Smith, yes; Mrs. Weyer, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Crawford Made a Motion to Create Fund #4201 Capital Project for the Traffic Control Safety Grant. Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mrs. Crawford, yes; Mr. Nicholson, yes; Mrs. Weyer, yes; Mr. Smith, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Weyer stated the audit is still being reviewed and the supervisor who is reviewing it is requesting more information. Mrs. Weyer stated Ms. Niehm has re-submitted several pieces of

information. There was a discussion on Cyber security. Mrs. Weyer contacted Firelands IT and left a message, Mrs. Weyer received an email from the owner of the company stating that the company had been trying to contact the Village. Mrs. Weyer is working on the winter newsletter regarding House Bill 331 and how it relates to the Village.


Mr. Smith stated he is working on his spreadsheet. Mr. Smith stated he will not be at the next meeting.

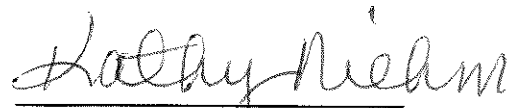
Mrs. Crawford stated she was excited the safety grant was approved.

Mrs. Weyer stated to Mr. Strickler that resolutions are needed for the upcoming 2.75 Mil Road Levy and the Street Lighting assessment.

Mr. Lowery, 711 Main Street, stated he is working on cleaning up his property.

With no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Nicholson Made a Motion to Adjourn. Mrs. Crawford seconded the motion. Roll Call: Yeas, unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.


James Johnson
Mayor


Kathy Niehm
Fiscal Officer

*****Minutes were taken from a recording.**

