

MALVERN VILLAGE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

May 4, 2026

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Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mayor DeLong, Burgess, McCort, Hubbard, Wackerly, Holmes, and Wadsworth were in attendance. Kaltenbaugh and Neading were also in attendance with Murdock attending via Teams.

Motion by Wackerly, second by Holmes to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of April 20, 2026. All council members approved.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: John Champer was in attendance to discuss various concerns within the Village. He inquired about the Village Dump Truck being left in the park area over the weekend. It was explained that the Village had picked up the mulch to be used on the bank between Dairy Queen and the park. He discussed the gazebo and surrounding area. He asked if pot holes could be repaired in the area, as well as getting curbs painted downtown, prior to the Memorial Day parade. He highlighted that Malvern's council is making \$350 per month while surrounding Councils are making significantly less. He discussed the plans for the fencing in the park and expressed concerns with the current workload not being accomplished, and the fencing causing additional work. He further discussed that the stump grindings had not been cleaned up in the park. He also noted concerns with family of council members being employees of the Village.

Nolan Champer was in attendance. He discussed a maintenance plan for completing outstanding work. He asked if there was an update on what the plan was and a priority list for completion. Kaltenbaugh explained that there is a plan, and that patching roadways is the top priority. He also discussed that he has tasked the service department with cleaning and prepping curbs to be painted. Champer requested that a plan be shared with the community.

Several community members were in attendance to discuss the tree removal project in the park. Diane Yost spoke on behalf of the group. She expressed concerns over the removal of any of the trees. She suggested possibly moving the walking track and re-routing it to avoid trees. She discussed the benefits of having portions of the track shaded. The grant funding was discussed and Neading explained that Vasco, who she met with to discuss the track repairs, suggested that the removal would improve the life of the track, due to not having root damage and also the sunlight helps the surface cure properly. Yost felt that the decision to remove the trees without community input, put council in a bad light with the community. Wadsworth discussed that he had contacted the ODNR, Army Corps of Engineers, the EPA, and the Carroll County Urban Management office to discuss concerns he had with the tree removal. He explained that he was told the Village would need to consult an arborist to assess the trees. Also, there are concerns over bird nests and bats. He included that the canal is historic and due to the proximity of the trees, there is potential that removal would also need approved from the historic standpoint. Wadsworth reported that the closest arborist is Tap Root located in Waynesburg. Mayor DeLong asked if Wadsworth would follow up with them. Yost asked that council do better in making the community aware of projects like the tree removal in the future before proceeding with action. McCort made a motion to rescind the previously passed legislation which approved Bowman's Tree Service to remove the fourteen (14) trees located in the park, second by Wadsworth. All council members approved.

LEGISLATURE: Motion by Holmes, second by Hubbard for the second reading of Resolution 2026-5, A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to apply for financial assistance under the NatureWorks Grant Program. All council members approved.

Motion by Holmes, second by Hubbard to suspend rule 731.17 for Resolution 2026-7, accepting Jeff Burgess' retirement, and accepting his offer to remain part-time at a pay rate of \$19.50 per hour, working 24 hours per week. Holmes, Hubbard, McCort, Wadsworth, Wackerly approved; Burgess abstained.

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Motion by Holmes, second by Hubbard to adopt Resolution 2026-7, A Resolution accepting the retirement of Jeffrey Burgess, laborer, from his full-time position in the Service Department, the Village of Malvern, Carroll County, Ohio, and accepting his offer to stay on as a part-time employee. Holmes, Hubbard, McCort, Wadsworth, Wackerly approved; Burgess abstained.

PARK: Hubbard discussed that the mulching and weeding on the bank between Dairy Queen and the park was worked on over the weekend. She thanked Amy and Keith Mays, Mike and Vickie Campbell, Mike and Michelle Larson, Mike Chiurco, Darrell Lawson, and Joel Bowman for the donation of mulch.

FISCAL OFFICER/TAX DEPARTMENT: Neading provided council with the Appropriations, Revenue, Fund Status, Payments and Receipts as of 5/4/2026. She reported that the website was updated with a new page – “Current News” <https://villageofmalvern.net/current-news>, which she will try to mirror what is being posted on Facebook, for non-Facebook users to stay up to date on information. She submitted the ODOT Salt Contract participation resolution and the requested amount. Neading asked council for any changes for the insurance renewal before it is submitted. McCort asked if the truck and trailer that were going to get listed on govdeals would be included in the renewal. Neading explained that they would be kept on the insurance until sold. She also noted that the insurance company will be attending one of the June meetings to discuss the renewal. She met with Patrick Hickey from the Ohio Fair Plan, the insurance provider for the Village. They are required to meet in person every 8 years, they want to come and look at Village Buildings, parks, etc. Hickey provided the Village with a summary report and would like the Village to respond to the report. Neading presented the updated quote from Seven Springs Fencing. She explained that they would remove existing posts and put the fencing in, the Village would provide sand to fill in the holes from the existing posts. The terms of the agreement would be that the Village would pay for materials upfront and pay for the installation when the job is complete. She detailed that the black coated 4ft high chain link fencing from the hill towards DQ to the road near the baseball field that goes back to the service garage, totaling 1,505 feet would be \$34,436.29, including the double gate that would allow for equipment access. The second option was to end the chain link fencing at the corner, after the double gate, 865 feet of fencing, 640 feet of bollards, and then run bollards the rest of the way to the road, which would be \$24,360.50. The total with black chain link to the road and then bollards \$48,121.29 (1,505 feet of black coated chain link fencing, 1,631 feet of wooden bollards). The total for black chain link to the gate and then bollards \$38,045.50 (865 feet of black coated chain link fence and 2,271 feet of bollards). Hubbard made a motion to proceed with the installation of the fencing not to exceed \$48,121.29, for option 1, running 4ft black coated chain link fencing from the corner closest to Dairy Queen to the service road, then switching to bollards, to be paid from the general fund; second by McCort. Hubbard yes, McCort yes, Wackerly yes, Wadsworth no, Holmes no, Burgess no, Mayor DeLong yes. Neading reported that she had continued working on the easements for Phase 2, and she has provided copies to the property owners.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR: Kaltenbaugh discussed that the Service Department has been working to patch. There was an issue with Newton Asphalt being down due to equipment issues. They are currently getting patch from Osters in Massillon. The Bolivar plant is to contact the Village when they start producing. Street signs are being replaced, and the new signs look nice. The stops signs were delivered to Brown Township. They will be distributed soon. There has been an issue with Kidder’s Trailer Park with the leak. Kaltenbaugh turned off the water at the park until repairs are made by the park owner for the safety of other residents and to not put additional strain on the plant. He explained the park used 1.4 million gallons two months ago, and even more over the last month. He is trying to work with the owners, but could not risk public safety. He sent Wallace a letter regarding his

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property. The mulching will be finished by the service department. He is waiting to hear back on the EPA grant awards and expects to hear something in the next month.

DeLong asked if grant funding was received from the EPA, when would the project start. Kaltenbaugh explained that if the award was made, the project could start late in 2026 or early 2027. Hubbard asked what Phase 2 would cover. Kaltenbaugh explained that the project would cover every branch off of the main line that was installed on Porter, which would cover the south side of town.

McCort discussed the backhoe and asked if Kaltenbaugh had an opportunity to review the quote from R&J Machine. Kaltenbaugh discussed that he had not had much time to review the quote, as his time has been spent at the Water plant in recent days. McCort discussed that the quote was \$9,000 for parts and included an estimate of 160 hours in labor to complete all necessary repairs. The quote was approximately \$20,000. He further explained that if the hoe attachment was not repaired that the cost to repair would be significantly less. It was also discussed that when transporting or mobilizing the machine, there is a lockout pin that needs to be used to prevent the arm from swaying, which will help with the drifting issues. It was also discussed that the parts were quoted through Ohio CAT utilizing the Village's account and government pricing for parts. Holmes asked if the hoe attachment could be removed and use the machine as a loader. DeLong asked if the tires were included in the quote. Kaltenbaugh was unsure if it included tire replacement. McCort made a motion to proceed with repairs of the backhoe by R&J Machine not to exceed \$23,000 and to be paid from the general fund, second by Burgess. All council members approved.

MAYOR: Mayor DeLong asked for an update on medical insurance for employees. Hubbard discussed that the quotes were included with the packet. She explained that the employer would be required to pay at minimum 50% of the policy. She also discussed that the representative, Quinn Parker, was willing to attend the next council meeting to discuss the policies further and be able to answer questions. It was agreed that Parker would attend the next meeting. DeLong also noted that the bickering and arguing amongst council members needed to end.

COUNCIL: Holmes discussed that he recently checked the culvert on Easton Street that has been discussed multiple times. He suggested that the piping be run to the creek, or erosion will continue. He also suggested looking into hiring an excavation company to complete the work, as they will know and understand the project well. He also noted that the mowing on the right side of Easton needs to be resolved. The grass is getting high and whoever is responsible needs to cut it back.

Hubbard discussed that she attended the recent fire board meeting. There had been 14 incidents since the previous meeting. She also reported that the board approved the purchase of turn out gear at a cost of approximately \$15,000; which is mostly covered by a recent grant the department received. She also reported that there has been no change in the recycling center.

Wackerly discussed a large pot hole on Wood Street near the Methodist Church. He further discussed the walking track and certain concerns. When mowing, grass is being left on the track and the service department is turning mowers around in the middle of the track. He expressed that it is essential to keep the heavy equipment off the track, and especially not turn around on the track. He asked that the workers mow away from the track or blow the grass clippings off once done mowing. Wackerly also discussed the lighting downtown and expressed his gratitude for the completion of the project along with noting that he has received compliments from community members.

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McCort discussed that he would like to see the curbs and crosswalk completed downtown before Memorial Day. He also asked if the alley between the post office and gazebo could be graded due to large holes. He asked about catch basins in town and expressed concern over certain damaged catch basins. Kaltenbaugh requested that the service department compile a list of the catch basins and current conditions. McCort discussed the catch basin near the library and explained that the asphalt and concrete has broken away, leaving a small hole. He is concerned about it expanding and being a hazard. He also discussed the ditch behind the Christian Care Center that is along the old railroad bed. He explained that the water from East Porter drains into the ditch. He asked that the ditch be cleared out and possibly made deeper.

Wadsworth made a motion to enter into executive session for the employment of a public employee or official, second by McCort. All council members approved. At 8:38 all council members and the mayor entered into executive session. The meeting resumed at 9:05. No action was taken.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Sidewalks were discussed. Kaltenbaugh and Wackerly would like to attend a Commissioners meeting, with the school, to discuss grant options.

FINANCE: Motion by Burgess, second by Hubbard to pay the village bills from the appropriate funds for: \$36,225.62 approved by the Finance Committee 4/30/26 and \$3,033.43 approved on 5/4/2026. Also, bi-weekly payroll of \$5,932.00 paid 5/7/26. All council members approved.

QUESTIONS: It was reminded that cleanup day is May 9th.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Holmes, second by Hubbard to adjourn. All council members approved.

Next regular council meeting will be Monday, May 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Malvern Village Hall.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer