

**Council Meeting #765 Minutes
March 18, 2026**

Mayor Heather Jansen called the March 18, 2026, Meeting of City of Villa Hills Council (Meeting #765) to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Dennis M. Stein Municipal Building, 719 Rogers Road, Villa Hills, Kentucky. Mayor Jansen led Council in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Lipson called the roll. Those in attendance:

Mayor H. Jansen
S. Kennedy
S. Ringo
C. Stover
S. Thompson
S. Wadsworth

Craig T. Bohman, City Administrator
Jennifer Lipson, City Clerk
Matt Hall, Police Chief
Derick Yelton, Public Works Director
Mary Ann Stewart, City Attorney

Mr. Bilz was absent

A quorum was present.

The first order of business was approval of the minutes of the February 18, 2026, Special Council meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Ms. Stover, seconded by Ms. Wadsworth. A vote was taken. All voting in favor. Motion passed.

The next item was approval of the minutes of the March 11, 2026, Caucus meeting.

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Ringo, seconded by Mr. Thompson. A vote was taken. All voting in favor. Motion passed.

Mayor Jansen asked Chief Hall to come forward for presentation of awards to officers.

- First was the Governor's Impaired Driving Enforcement Awards, which has been awarded to Officer Ciancanelli.
- The Second award was the Department Life Saving Award, which was presented to Officer Ciancanelli and Officer Snider for their actions during an incident that occurred on January 22, 2026.

In the late evening hours of January 22, 2026, a traffic stop was made on south I-75 for a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Unbeknownst to Officers Ciancanelli and Snider, the operator of the vehicle was attempting to get to the nearest hospital as a rear passenger, who was 1.5 years old, was in active seizures. EMS was requested, but due to the location of the stop and severity of the situation with the patient losing consciousness and having agonal breathing, Officer Snider took the 1.5-year-old into his arms and positioned himself and the patient in the rear of Officer Ciancanelli's patrol vehicle. Officer Snider secured the child's airway as Officer Ciancanelli proceeded to the nearest hospital at St. Elizabeth Florence. The hospital was notified ahead of time and were able to quickly start more advanced life saving measures once the officers arrived.

The swift and decisive actions of these officers had a direct impact on the positive outcome of this child and for their family. We are proud of the courageous level of professionalism and dedication that both officers displayed!

Next Mayor Jansen welcomed Eagle Scout Lucy Vick, who presented her ideas for improvements to Harry Rigney Park. She would like to add a Gaga pit to the area, pressure wash the basketball court and repaint the lines, pressure wash the retaining wall and possibly add a mural to the wall. She would like the Gaga pit to be a larger size with 8 sides, to accommodate more children playing together.

Ms. Stover informed Ms. Vick that if she hasn't done so already, to reach out to Home Depot for donation for supplies, as they often will donate to projects like this.

Council gave full support for Ms. Vick to proceed with her project and asked that she return when completed to share her work.

Mayor Jansen recognized City Administrator Craig Bohman for being named the Northern Kentucky City/County Manager of the Year by his peers. Mr. Bohman was humbled by the recognition and stated he is appreciative of receiving the award and the recognition that he has received.

Committee Reports:

Police:

- Chief Hall presented the Power Point of the February 2026 Police report; the department had 1,168 calls for service. There were 9 reported crimes, 20 traffic collisions, 78 citations and 132 courtesy notices issued, 4 JC-3 reports filed, 0 E-Call responses, and 1 E-Crisis calls.
- Chief Hall reviewed the current investigations and reported 15 cases open. Sergeant Detective Lucas is continuing to work on subpoenas and having warrants issued. Sergeant Detective Lucas also responded to a possible arson investigation in Erlanger; that fire was determined to be accidental due to wiring.
- All officers reviewed videos for training on Ch 21.1 Vehicle Operations. Officer Bullard attended training on Leadership is a Behavior, Officer Snider attended training on Interviews and Interrogations, and Sergeant Black attended training for KYPCIS.
- There was 1 canine deployment, with 1 arrest, and 1 charge.
- Sergeant Dooley has begun the process of applying to become a NAPWDA certified K-9 instructor. Once he becomes a certified trainer, he would be able to help train the next K-9 for Villa Hills. There was a question raised about this taking him away from regular police work. Chief Hall advised that K-9 units in the area train one day a week, which is already a part of his weekly schedule.
- Chief Hall reported the department had 34.5 hours of overtime for the month, which included 14 hours for court, 4 hours for investigations, 3 hours for late calls, 9 hours for shift coverage and 4.5 hours for TI Simulator training.
- Council asked about the status of Onexx. Chief Hall advised that Onexx is almost 9 years old, and he is not doing as much tracking. He is looking for funding from Commonwealth Attorney's Office, asset forfeiture money, grants and donations, with plans to obtain a new dog in the 2027/2028 Fiscal Year.
- Chief Hall announced that the newest hire to the Police Department is Bryce DiMuzio, and he started this date. He will be sworn in towards the end of his academy training, as he has not yet turned 21, however, he will be able to start academy in May and will finish in

November. Chief Hall thanked City Attorney Mary Ann Stewart for her assistance with writing the new 5-year contract for Academy hires.

- Safety Night will be held in August on the first Wednesday night.

Safety Committee:

- Ms. Wadsworth reported that there was discussion about a vehicle in the area that has a modified exhaust system that has an intentional backfire in rapid bursts. This modification is not legal, and police are asking for residents who hear this to note the date, time and location, so they can attempt to locate the vehicle. The vehicle has been described as a pink Barbie car.
- Ms. Wadsworth advised that her Shadow Student has inquired about having signage placed at Doriel and Amsterdam, such as "Children at Play", to alert drivers to children in the area.
- Next meeting is scheduled for April 14th at 3:30 pm.

Public Works Committee:

- Mr. Thompson reported that the City was asked by KYTC to sign a direct contract with the company doing the Environmental Review. This contract has been signed by the Mayor.
- Mr. Thompson followed up on discussion by Council at the Caucus Meeting and asked Council to verify that the consensus was to replace the Rogers Road bridge and incorporate the pedestrian bridge with the new bridge. Council confirmed that this was the option that made the most sense fiscally.
- Mr. Thompson advised that the committee has reviewed the draft of the 5-year Plan for streets. The Street condition survey was received, and it shows that Eastland Drive and Braun Court were rated very low, so those roads are proposed to have full depth reconstruction this summer.
- Mr. Thompson advised that Council was provided with information on having the engineering firm complete Valley Trails phases 2 and 3 together.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to accept the Scope of Services and Fee for designing the full depth reconstruction of approximately 350 feet of Braun Court, Seconded by Mr. Ringo. A vote was taken. All voting in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to accept the Scope of Services and Fee for designing the full depth reconstruction of approximately 1,050 feet of Eastland Drive, Seconded by Ms. Stover. A vote was taken. All voting in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to accept the Production Hours and Fee Schedule for Compass Infrastructure Group for Valley Trails phases 2 and 3 full depth reconstruction, Seconded by Mr. Ringo. A vote was taken. All voting in favor. Motion passed.

- Ms. Stover requested an update for Meadow Wood. Crescent Springs has asked if Villa Hills would want to start work when the builders are on the last street of Crossings. Mr. Thompson advised that the committee was looking at budgeting in the next fiscal budget for 2027/2028. He advised that Crescent Springs area looks to only need a mill and overlay, but Villa Hills area will need a full depth reconstruction. Woodhill Drive entrance will be included in the work.

Public Works Director

- Mr. Yelton reported that Public Works has used approximately 600 tons of salt this winter.
- Crews have been out patching potholes, servicing lawn mowers, and started work on the fields. Restrooms will be opened once weather conditions allow. Prior to their opening, there are portable restrooms in place at both fields.
- Public Works Staff have started working on irrigation systems at all fields and islands.
- Corey and Matt recently attended the Safety Conference.
- Mr. Yelton announced that Wayne Slusher has returned to assist with field maintenance and began his work this week.

Finance Committee:

- Mr. Bilz was not present and had not forwarded the minutes to the committee or staff.
- Mr. Thompson advised that the committee had discussed review of the preliminary budget, prior months financials, and the sustainability account.
- The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 13th at 7:00.

Administration Committee:

No Report

Recreation Committee:

- Mr. Ringo advised that Longhorns have sent a list of improvements that they would like to have done at the fields and Public Works will be working on several items. One item was a new fence that will be 20 feet tall and will protect children playing at the playground next to the field. Villa Hills Civic Club will be reimbursing the City for this. It is estimated to cost \$9,000.
- Fields will be in use once they have dried out.
- Opening Day Parade will be on April 11th at 10:00 am. They are expecting 800 players, parents, grandparents and others. Potentially over 1,000 people will be present.
- Soccer will also be starting their season soon.
- Mr. Ringo is glad to see Wayne back for another season.
- Mr. Ringo announced that a group of from an organization called F3NKY may be seen on the fields in the early hours. F3NKY is a community-focused men's fitness, a workout group that focuses on fitness, fellowship, and faith. They typically meet before sunrise.

Fire Authority:

- Mr. Ringo advised that financials were reviewed and approved by the Board.
- The Fire Department has sent out RFPs for their audit.
- Mr. Ringo announced that the fire department has authorized funding for cancer screening for their firefighters.
- Mr. Ringo reported that the Fire Department budget for next fiscal year will cover anticipated overtime, but the budget is unsustainable. A recent study shows that Northern Kentucky will see a shortage of 179 firefighters over the next 5 years.
- The Fire Authority Board has asked Chief Wendt to come back with ideas for recruiting and retaining staff. They will be adding additional full-time staff.
- Ms. Stover inquired if there was any way to even out contributions for the ILA for Villa Hills and Crescent Springs. There was discussion about Madonna Manor being located in Villa Hills and that it is a large percentage of the call volume. Mr. Ringo did report that they have only been sending an engine for calls, such as lift assists, which do not require emergency medical personnel, but calls are still up from the same time last year.
- Next meeting will be Monday, April 20th at 6:00 at the firehouse.

City Attorney:

No Report

City Clerk:

Ms. Lipson reported that Ms. Bailey will be filling in for her for the April meeting, as she will be out of town for training.

City Administrator:

- Mr. Bohman appreciates the acknowledgement of his award.
- Mr. Bohman reported that a project starting on Amsterdam will be closing one lane of traffic during the morning and early afternoon. Marathon is doing a pipeline inspection and were advised of the traffic situation with River Ridge. They should have both lanes re-opened by the time school is out.

Mayor’s Report:

- Easter Egg Hunt will take place on March 28th at Lou Hartfiel Park. The Easter bunny will be there for picture opportunities.

Legislation:

Ms. Stewart presented the following Legislation:

2nd Reading and approval of draft Ordinance 2026-A

An Ordinance of the City of Villa Hills, in Kenton County, Kentucky Amending Table 4.01, Section 4.05 And 10.05, Table 10.1, And Article 14 of the Villa Hills Zoning Code Regarding Qualified Manufactured Homes.

Ms. Stover made a motion to approve draft Ordinance 2026-A, seconded by Mr. Thompson. A roll call vote was taken, all voting in favor, the motion passed.

This will become Ordinance 2026-1

2nd Reading and approval of draft Ordinance 2026-B

An Ordinance of the City of Villa Hills, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Amending the City’s Budget and Ordinance 2025-6 by adjusting revenue and expenses in the General Fund. This is an amended budget ordinance of the City of Villa Hills, in Kenton County, Kentucky, pursuant to KRS 91A.030(10) for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, by estimating revenues and resources and appropriating funds for the operation of city government and providing that no monies shall be expended by or on behalf of the City of Villa Hills except in accordance herewith.

Mr. Ringo made a motion to approve draft Ordinance 2026-B, seconded by Mr. Thompson. A roll call vote was taken, all voting in favor, the motion passed.

This will become Ordinance 2026-2

Discussion and approval of draft Resolution 2026-D

A Resolution of the City of Villa Hills, in Kenton County, Kentucky, approving the City’s participation in an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Campbell County, Kenton County, and other cities, and special purpose government entities, in order to form the Northern Kentucky S.W.A.T. Unit, and authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City, an Interlocal Agreement and subsequent amendments, for the creation and operation of the Northern Kentucky S.W.A.T. Unit.

Ms. Stewart explained the process and that this is a combination of previously existing units that were separate entities in Kenton and Campbell Counties, it will now be a joint unit.

Chief Hall informed Council that this will make the S.W.A.T. unit more efficient. By being a part of the interlocal agreement, the City will not be charged for a call-out, which could cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000 per call.

Ms. Wadsworth made a motion to approve draft Resolution 2026-D, seconded by Mr. Ringo. A voice vote was taken, all voting in favor. Motion passed.

This will become Resolution 2026-4

Old Business

Ms. Stover informed everyone that it looks like the River Ridge parking lot will be expanded soon, as she was there this week and noticed that equipment has been brought in to start the work. It was also noted that Kenton County Planning Commission has put out the agenda for their upcoming meeting, and there is a facility review on the agenda for the parking lot at River Ridge. This meeting is scheduled for March 30th.

Mayor Jansen thanked Ms. Stover and Mr. Ringo for their work on Shadow Night.

Ms. Wadsworth advised Council that Mayor Jansen is in the final four in a friendly competition among staff at Villa Madonna.

New Business

Mr. Thompson inquired about who to contact regarding street lights being out. Ms. Lipson requested the information and told him that staff would make the notification. She noted that Duke has a website to report lights that are out or malfunctioning.

General Comments

Chief Hall informed everyone that they can view plans for the upcoming bridge work at brentspencebridgecorridor.com. He recommends that everyone watch the KYTC online information, as there will be total I-75 shutdowns over weekends, once the project starts.

Resident, Ms. Carol Fenbers, inquired about who would need to contact property owners adjacent to an island in the cul-de-sac of her street. She was told that the island is the responsibility of homeowners nearby to maintain. She inquired about who would send letters asking for help with maintenance. It was determined that it would come from someone, such as herself, who could oversee the maintenance and upkeep. Ms. Stover informed her that she has the same issue on her street and has little to no help with hers, so she maintains it herself.

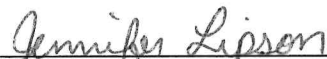
Mr. George Bruns, President of Villa Hills Civic Club was present. He updated that City on new officers of the club. He informed council that the membership appreciates the City for taking on the role of handling the grant money received for them to build a new playground near the Civic Club building. He also advised that they are seeing a jump in rentals for this year. They had 11 total rentals for last year. They already have 40 events booked this year and are opening the calendar for more to be booked later in the year. Rentals are only available to those who are members of the Club. He also informed everyone that the Golden membership is going away in 2027, and that everyone will need to pay to be a member. They do not feel this will be a problem, since many of those who

signed up as gold members have made donations to the civic club and they feel that the people will still be members.

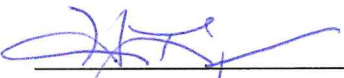
At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Stover, seconded by Mr. Thompson to adjourn. A voice vote was taken, all in favor. Motion passed.

Time of adjournment was 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Lipson, City Clerk



Heather Jansen, Mayor