

EAST PALESTINE VILLAGE COUNCIL APRIL 23, 2015 7PM 85 N. MARKET ST.

Mayor Zuch called the meeting to order, present were Mr. Elzer, Mr. Figley, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Tyger and Mrs. Wisser. Also present was Village Manager Pete Monteleone, Finance Director Traci Thompson, Law Director Dave Powers and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the Development Committee and Regular meeting on March 23 were on a motion by Mr. Elzer seconded by Mrs. Wisser. The March monthly department reports (with the exception of the Fire Report) were approved on a motion by Mr. Elzer, seconded by Mr. Cohen. At this point Mayor Zuch presented a Welcome Certificate to Craig (Amy) Yoho of East Palestine Antiques and Variety Store.

AGENDA: Chief Kevin Dickey & Commissioner Tim Weigle on 911 changes. – Commissioner Weigle stated there are upcoming changes to the 911 system and as policy they have to go to all of the government entities in the County and ask them to pass the major amendment resolution. The upgrades to the system would give 911 the ability to receive text messages and pictures/video. He said the current equipment is 11 years old with one router with no backup system in the EMA building, the new system would have redundancy built in with fail over routers. He said in passing the resolution it will allow the county to begin the selection process for a vendor. Mr. Elzer asked the cost and Mr. Weigle said it wouldn't cost the municipalities anything, it would be paid for by the funds collected from wireless and landline phones, Mr. Weigle said in the end the cost should be around \$700,000.00. Mr. Cohen said at one time there had been issues regarding funding of 911 because people were getting rid of land lines. Mr. Weigle said that situation has stabilized and in looking at the funding they receive 35% to 40% more funding from cell phones than landlines and it is rumored that the state legislature is looking into a tax on electronic devices that would go toward 911 systems.

CLERK: NO REPORT

MAYOR: Mayor Zuch asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add two additional pieces of legislation tonight, the first ordinance is to amend the employee handbook and the second ordinance is regarding the Vargo settlement. Mr. Cohen made that motion seconded by Mr. Elzer, all in favor. Mayor Zuch thanked the churches for ringing their bells on April 9 to commemorate Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox. She also thanked Manager Monteleone, Chief Dickey, and Chief Brown for speaking at the Senior Fun day Lunch.

MANAGER: Manager Monteleone they have three of the new signs completed to put at the entrances coming into town (there will be seven in total), and that he passed around the design for the new banners for the downtown area. Mr. Elzer made a motion to allow the manager to move forward and order the new banners, seconded by Mr. Cohen. All in favor. Monteleone thanked CSI for their work during the Spring Clean Up. Mr. Elzer asked where things stood with the walking trail. Monteleone said he spoke with Greg Gurney from ODOT, he told him the design was improper because it has to be 10 ft to qualify for the funds and the engineers condensed it down to 6ft which doesn't qualify for the grant guidelines. Gurney also said they are running out of time and soon the funds will go to someone else.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers stated the Carroll County is getting a gas fired electric generation plant, they said it doesn't have anything to do with the fact that there are gas wells everywhere, it has to do with the fact that the plant is right next to a gas line and high tension electric wires. He stated he drew up a road maintenance agreement that was sent out to council for review. Mr. Elzer told Mr. Powers that they wanted legislation to put the review process into ordinance form; Mr. Cohen said he would send him the information.

STREET: Mr. Figley stated he hasn't seen work being done on potholes and Monteleone said they are scheduled to be out Tue through Fri this week weather permitting. Monteleone said they had to work on the Splash Pad today. Mr. Figley asked why we hired a "street superintendent" and he is working at the park. Monteleone said he is "street, park & cemetery" superintendent, Mr. Figley said his wages come out of the street department. Mr. Figley said he gets a lot of complaints

about the streets, Monteleone said they planned on patching last week but it rained all week. Mr. Figley said patching is just as important as the Splash Pad.

S/P/R/C: Mr. Cohen said that ground was broke for the Splash Pad and is progressing very well; it should be finished in a week or two. He said it will be a major improvement with the park. Monteleone thanked Lynn Gould, Scott McCrea and the entire community for pulling together to make the splash pad a reality.

DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Elzer thanked CSI for the Clean Up day and Rotary for the Easter Egg Hunt. He said we shouldn't be charging these people to use the Community Center, we have had legislation to remedy the situation and it is repeatedly shot down. Mr. Cohen asked if there could a compromise reached when an event involves the entire community that we might be able to wave the fee, he said he isn't suggesting the service organizations could meet there for free on a regular basis, only if an event is open to the entire community. Mr. Elzer agreed with Mr. Cohen. Manager Monteleone asked if the Village partnered with an organization if that would make a difference. Mr. Cohen said we could come up with legislation where if an organization is holding an event where the entire community is invited that there would be no cost for use of the community center.

UTILITY: MRS. WISSER HAD NO REPORT, but Mr. Elzer brought up the report by MS Consultants that was given to Council and submitted to the EPA for final approval in reference to the EPA mandates, he said we are committed to spending money and going down a path he doesn't feel is correct. He the report is done well but feels the conclusions are wrong. He said he agrees with the EPA that the problem needs fixed but spending four and half million dollars on an EQ tank isn't going to do that. An extensive discussion followed with Mr. Figley stating that MS has by their own admission said the EQ tank will not solve the problem, all it would do is satisfy the EPA and his feeling is that the money should be spent making repairs and corrections to the system and to individual problem areas. He feels they should continue to look at options other than the EQ tank. Mr. Cohen stated now the next three months will be spent waiting to see if the EPA will approve the proposed plan so we can comply with the mandates. Atty. Powers stated his understand was MS would not submit anything other than the report with the EQ tank, and if we wanted something different we would have to find another engineer to do it, Mr. Cohen agreed with him. Manager Monteleone said that MS has said that other communities have tried what Figley and Elzer are suggesting and have ended up having to put in the EQ basin in addition to the repairs which cost a lot more money and that this way (the plan from MS) is the most cost effective. Mr. Elzer said we could line half of our pipe in the worst areas for four and a half million dollars that would fix the problem. Mr. Cohen feels we would miss the 2016 deadline, spend the money and then still have to put in the tank and would be eight million in the hold instead of four. Monteleone said according to MS's amortization scale that raising the rates would cover the cost of this project and then in 2018 & 2020 when some debt service is paid off there would be money to apply to the repairs of the system. Mr. Cohen said that he feels we should do what MS is suggesting and what Mr. Figley and Mr. Elzer are suggesting at the same time. Mr. Figley and Mr. Cohen both agreed the mandate is to solve the problem not build an EQ tank. Mr. Elzer said it could cost approximately 7 million dollars to reline all of the pipes in the village. Mayor Zuch stated the village was in trouble with the EPA in the past and they stopped us from building any new homes until the village complied and she didn't want to see that happen, Mr. Elzer said there is three quarters of a million gallons going into the plant a day and it can handle four million if we can eliminate this water, he said they EPA isn't trying to create problems they are trying to protect the environment. Monteleone said the EPA wouldn't normally go for a tank designed to a two year storm but they are considering because of the additional repairs in the plan. Mr. Elzer asked County Commissioner Tim Weigle what was happening in other communities, and Mr. Weigle said similar situations, he said the village should look at turning the ice skating pond into a retention pond with a floating cover as a temporary measure and then fix the problems in the system and eventually reconstruct the ice skating pond. Mr. Figley said all of council should look into these things and they should

continue this discussion. Monteleone said that at this point MS has given their recommendations , the EPA will come back as to whether they will accept them or not and at that point they will be done with the contract with MS and that is the point at which council will vote as to whether or not to move forward with the plan.

FINANCE: NO REPORT

VISITORS: Dianna Elzer, Dan Scott, John & Dot Herbert, Tim Vargo, Rick & Karen Gorby, Terri Ward, Mark Walker, Chief Kevin Dickey, Commissioner Tim Weigle, Mary Beth DiCello, John Davis, Steve Baird, Mary Anne tiger, Brett Todd and Katie White.

LEGISLATION: Mayor Zuch introduced Ord. 4-2015 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance acknowledging receipt of the notice of intent to acquire and good faith offer from the Ohio Department of Transportation for purchase of Village property in connection with State Route 170 repair and improvement project (col-170-13.62), and accepting the amount offered as just compensation.** Mayor Zuch introduced Res. 7-2015 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **A resolution in support of an amendment to the Columbiana County's existing 911 final plan.** Mayor Zuch called for a vote on Res. 7-2015. Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Figley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mrs. Wisser-y. 5 yes to pass. Mayor Zuch introduced Ord. 5-2015 for a first reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance to approve a settlement of a dispute regarding the providing water and sewer services to permanent parcel numbers 68-00427000, 67-00384000 and 67-00384003 owned by David and Michelle Vargo.** Mayor Zuch introduced Ord. 6-2015 for a first reading and made a motion that it be read by title only, seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance adopting amendments to the Village of East Palestine employee handbook.**

ADJOURN: Mr. Elzer made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Cohen. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR MARGO ZUCH