

EP COUNCIL 11/24/25 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Glavan, Ms. Herriott, Mr. Povenski, and Mr. Simon. Mr. Blythe and Ms. Stauffer were out sick; their absences were excused on a motion by Ms. Herriott seconded by Mr. Povenski. Also, present was Village Manager Antonio Diaz-Guy, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Officer Chris Weingart, Officer Anthony Monteleone, Law Director David Powers, and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the 11/10/25 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Povenski seconded by Mr. Glavan. Passed unanimously. There were no department reports, law director's or water/wastewater reports.

CLERK: Clerk Misti Martin stated village offices would be closed 11/27 & 11/28 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Shop local for Small Business Saturday on 11/29. The Snowflake Festival would be Saturday 12/6 with various activities throughout the day including the Christmas Parade at 6:00 pm. The December 22, 2025 council meeting was moved to Monday December 29th (to allow additional time for the final appropriations to be presented before the end of the year) on a motion by Ms. Herriott seconded by Mr. Glavan, passed unanimously. Council was also presented with the 2026 meeting dates where the second meeting in May (May 25) would need to be moved due to the Memorial Day Holiday. The meeting was moved to Tuesday May 26, 2026 on a motion by Mr. Glavan seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway stated as of December 6th Police Chief Jim Brown will be retiring and Officer Chris Weingart with 20 plus years with the department will be sworn in as Chief the same day. We thank Jim for his years of service and look forward to Chris to continue moving the department in the right direction.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy stated his applying for a Transportation Alternatives Grant with recommendations received through the Safer Streets for All Grant; the proposed plan is a sidewalk improvement project on the east end of town to fill gaps in areas that don't have them & well as rehabbing existing sidewalks. Phase 2 of the park project is still on schedule; in reference to Phase 3 it was noted that the design cost for the park project was put into the total budget for the project during settlement negotiations which resulted in the need for revisions to the overall plan. In reviewing what did and did not make sense for Phase 3 it was noted that the Brick Pavilion work represented a substantial cost at approximately three quarters of to one million dollars and putting that amount of money into a building that at the end of the day would still not be temp controlled year round, would never ROI if it was private property especially if the Village had to come out of pocket for it. Manager Diaz-Guy stated the simplest and most financially responsible step would be to remove the Brick Pavilion work from Phase 3 and complete the remaining scope of work as planned (site work and playgrounds). If we choose to do in house improvements to the Brick Pavilion in 2026, we will come to Council to ask for an allocation of money from the interest from settlement funds. There were no objections from Council. Additionally, the current parking area of the BP would still be made ADA compliant as that cost was in the sitework budget. Manager Diaz-Guy requested a motion from council to support his application for the 2025-2026 MPP Technical Assistance Request through the Mayor's Partnership for Progress. This is a no match required funding request for design/feasibility for utility extensions throughout the community. Mr. Povenski made the requested motion seconded by Mr. Glavan. Passed unanimously. Before council is legislation permitting the manager to sign an MOU for the new first responder training

center. This MOU is through the Village, the State of Ohio, YSU and NS to support/fund/operate this as an academic institution. There will be a second MOU just between the Village, the State of Ohio and YSU for how the curriculum will be designed and how it will run operationally. The funds are coming directly from NS; they are not a part of the settlement nor are they any part of the existing class action settlement. This facility will be operated as an educational facility during the daytime hours and then the Village and our regional partners have access to the facility after hours/weekends when they would normally train. The goal is to do most of the content in house at a world class facility and also being able to create funnels for our high school students where they can take fire sciences, law enforcement classes. There is not an exact location at this time but there is a primary location of interest as well as three back up locations; geo technical work must be completed before finalizing a location. Finally, in reference to the citizen letter campaign for healthcare that will go to the Vice President's office, the deadline has passed and we are working with the group "From the Wreckage We Rise" to have a joint packaging of the letters to send them to Washington.

STREET: Mr. Simon stated leaf pickup continues through the month of November; leaves must be in paper bags.

PARK: Phase 2 of the park project is on schedule. Pool walls are complete and the plan is to be under roof by the beginning of December.

FINANCE/DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Herriott stated annual budgets/planning are underway. The EP Act Education group held another LTT/TTL event decorating a total of 73 ornaments for the downtown Christmas tree with the ornaments being donated by the EPCIC. Students and community members will meet on 12/6 at 5:20 to decorate the tree before it is lit during the festival. The school will be putting on their Hometown Holiday show after the parade. The EP Act Vibrancy group stated that during the Turkey Trot one runner will receive a 26 lb. turkey for the best outfit during the race; additionally, there will be a "golden leg scavenger hunt" during the race, there will be ten "legs" hidden on the course with those finding one receiving a frozen turkey breast. The group will also be holding an adult only Christmas themed karaoke event on December 10 at the Eagles. The EPCIC is actively working with a commercial realtor to find interested parties for the former Jasar property; they would also like to thank Shirley and Paige Smith for their generous donation of 90-94 N. Market St. to the organization. The CIC will now work on necessary renovations to bring the properties up to code so they can be utilized. The next EPCIC meeting will be 12/9 @ 10:00 a.m.

SAFETY: The Fire Department is applying for a funding through the Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant through ODNR for a mobile operations trailer. If received the trailer will house the new drone equipment but also be used as a mobile work station. This is a 50/50 grant up to \$10,000.00.

STUDENT REP: Ms. Snedeker stated the school Veterans Day program was a success. Students also raised money for the Gates family. Student CPR training will begin 11/25 and the Thanksgiving break will be 11/26 through 12/1. The Hometown Holiday show will be 12/6 @ 7:00 and 12/7 @ 2:00 pm.

VISITORS: Jerry Coblentz, Mark Rhodes, Rick & Karen Gorby, Joe Della Volle, Carol Harvey, Brenda Povenski, Kent Chapman, Barb Kliner, Dot Herbert, John Davis, Ron & Peggy

Caratelli, Dan McKinstry, Christina Dilworth, Dave Biggins, Stephanie Elverd, Robby Hill, Zach Gorby.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 27-2025 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **An ordinance authorizing the bulk sale of water from the East Palestine Water and Sewer Department and setting rates.** Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 26-2025 and made a motion that it be read in its entirety seconded by Mr. Simon. **A resolution authorizing the Village Manager, on behalf of the Village of East Palestine, Ohio to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the State of Ohio, Youngstown State University, and Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation, regarding the construction and operation of a fire and emergency responder training and educational facility.** Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Res. 26-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: Ms. Herriott made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY