

EP COUNCIL 4/8/24 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Blythe, Mr. Glavan, Ms. May, Mr. Povenski, Dr. Rocco, and Mr. Simpson. Also present was Village Manager Chad Edwards, Law Director David Powers, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Chief Jim Brown, W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe, Street Superintendent Steve Baird, and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the park/Rec/Cem Committee meeting and the regular meeting of 3/25/24 were approved on a motion by Dr. Rocco seconded by Mr. Glavan. The March 2024 department reports were approved on a motion by Dr. Rocco seconded by Mr. Glavan. There were no Clerks or Mayors reports.

AGENDA: MICHAEL BAKER INT. TO PRESENT PHASE 1 PARK DESIGN. Wendy Burl of Michael Baker began by stating the process begins with a conceptual design, then 30% design followed by review and approval, move forward with bid documents/find a contractor, put the project to bid/select a contractor and finally construction. They hope to bid Phase 1 in May and begin construction after July 4th celebration. Next Jason Wagner of MB gave a presentation about the overall design including relocation of the sport courts, a stage going in on the NW corner of the field area, re-grade the center field area to alleviate the drainage issues, extending parking along both linear sides of the oval and add new parking and improve lighting at the dog park. None of the existing courts will be removed until the new courts are completed, the stage area will have power and ramps for equipment and will be about four feet off the ground. The walking path will tie into the existing path (with lighting). The new parking will be installed as aggregate during phase 1 and at the end of the entire project everything will be re-paved. The dog park parking area will be expanded/paved. New stormwater systems will be installed to improve drainage, there will be a temporary retention area that will remain dry unless there is a storm event. A brief discussion followed as to the feasibility of Rotary Soccer this fall due to the grading taking place in the center field. Street Superintendent Baird said they could use the upper fields of the park for soccer to which Mayor Conaway added we will make it work one way or another. The ballfield at the South end of the loop will require the infield to be regraded but will end up with a better product in the end. Most of the trees around the perimeter will have to be removed but the ones with plaques will be preserved with new trees installed in kind and overhead electric lines will be removed and replaced with underground conduit. The timeline is hopefully starting in July and completed around November. At this point Dr. Rocco made a motion to approve Phase 1 of the park project and move on to Phase 2 design. The motion was seconded by Mr. Povenski and passed unanimously. Next a brief update was given on the aquatics building design (Phase 2), the plan is to move from 30% design to final in April and go to bid in July and hopefully be complete by pool season in 2025. Updates include canopies on the interior (facing the pool) and the exterior of the building, restrooms on the exterior side of the building, the event space on the pool side of the building will now be an indoor/outdoor space, the concession stand will serve the pool and the park. In reference to materials/color scheme they are looking at field brick, metal roof, aluminum/glass store front door system as well as painted hollow doors for interior areas, anti-graffiti coating on all masonry surfaces, new pre-fab restrooms on the south side of the oval and by the community center. Mayor Conaway asked Park Mgr. Brennen Harvey to get contact information for any of the dedicated trees in the park to discuss moving them. Mr. Simpson asked if the flow coming into the park was still going to be reversed and was told yes. The final presentation was in reference to the "Welcome" sign at RT. 14, it was noted they have to coordinate with ODOT as that is their property. They hope to be in a bid process in June and start construction at the end of the summer. The new design mimics the existing sign in that it has three sides but it is three separate pieces to allow for maintained, the architecture pulls cues from the high school design however the footprint is the same as the existing sign. The whole area is separated by a one-foot curb, there are flag poles as well as a tree for the center (gravel in the center area to keep weeds down) and landscaping but those items are all flexible. Dr. Rocco made a motion to allow sign project to continue moving forward, the motion was seconded by Mr. Blythe and passed unanimously. **ANDY MAGUIRE-USEPA & TIM FISHER-ARCADIS WATER MGMT AND STREAM CLEANUP Mr.** Fisher stated recently the village received over 4 ¼ inches of rain which caused a flooding at State Line Lake; it overflowed and connected with the fire suppression pods located near Brave Industries. The pods have pumps that catch water from Sulphur Run and bypass the site and then discharge back into Sulphur Run by Strohecker Industries. At one point dead fish were discovered during routine monitoring; EPA and

ODNR were contracted and found it was obvious that the fish died of physical means. The fish found were bluegill and perch which are not normally found in streams so the issue was definitely a result of flooding. As many dead fish as they could find have been removed from the water ways (per ODNR it was okay to either leave them or collect them) to prevent any odors from developing. Resident Peggy Caratelli asked about screening for the pumps to prevent this from happening in the future; Mr. Fisher said that is being looked into. Mr. Glavan noted a week prior to the rain there was a halt to the reopening of the waterways and asked about that. Mr. McGuire said yes, that the cleanup halted due to the collection process of the sheen materials, the plan has since been re-written and has conditional approval pending some minor changes; they should be authorized to begin again by the end of the week. Mr. Glavan stated there is still not an exact remediation plan that is know to work; Mr. Fisher said it is an iterative process and they will constantly evaluate to see what works and make changes if necessary. Mr. McGuire stated the ditches are being opened section by section and added that approximately 200,000 gallons a day is now flowing a day. Mr. Glavan questioned the gravel being installed by Stroheckers and asked if that is just covering up what is there; Mr. Maquire said they are collecting samples there and the gravel is placed to give the geo-probes a platform to work from but also gravel needs to be placed there as part of the reconstruction process. They are close to being able to release water in two more ditches. The culvert that runs under Taggart is the longest at approx. 800 ft in length, there have been issues in working there but additional methods will begin (for cleaning) at the end of the week. Ms. May asked about the possibility of getting info out to the public. Resident/business owner Melissa Smith asked how many fish were involved in the incident; Mr. Maquire said approximately 1025. The water/sheen that is removed by the vac trucks is driven to the large blue tanks and then transported offsite.

MANAGER: Manager Edwards stated the first CIC meeting was held. There was a Time Magazine photo event held at the library in reference to derailment photos. He directed BZ Inspector McCutcheon to make a form to hand out to anyone who wants to purchase a condemned property and the steps that will need to be followed within a six-month time frame. He and Chief Brown are discussing the possibility of having a human trafficking training for village employees and if it's successful possibly opening it up to the community. He said he completed the 300 & 400 System Command Incident Training. Street Superintendent Baird is getting quote for the cemetery work and the quote for straightening headstones at Glenview is around \$250,000.00; they are looking into a contract to do smaller sections each year. In reference to the proposed public safety center on the newly purchased land on Market St., the consultants estimate is approx. \$47,000 and he would need councils' approval to pay the fee to keep moving forward. Mr. Simpson made a motion to move forward and pay the estimated amount to MS Consultants for the proposed safety service complex. The motion was seconded by Ms. May and passed unanimously.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers stated he has been in discussion with Atty. Harris of Bricker Graydon in reference to the JEDD agreement, he stated he will be working on it so the Village and the Township can begin moving forward. He also requested an executive session at the next meeting to discuss real estate acquisition matters.

STREET: Mr. Glavan stated the downtown is put back together but it's not to anyone's expectations. The Department is further ahead this year due to a mild winter; they are trimming trees and have dug/restored the alley between Taggart and Alice St. He stated that in the future we should not take into any consideration Marucci & Gaffney doing any more work for the Village as what they have left for the last month is unacceptable and unsafe. Mayor Conaway stated that is Mr. Glavans personal opinion as that is opening him up to litigation although he agreed that the work is not correct. W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe stated the downtown is not done, he has reiterated that multiple times, it is not finalized and they have not been paid. He said they will do a final walk through with MS Consultants and Marucci & Gaffney with a punch list that is anywhere from a pebble in someone's yard to a road that needs ground down and paved again. Mr. Wolfe stated he is not sitting back and ignoring these issues and that he has a list of names of people on his desk that have issues that need and will be addressed.

PARK/REC/CEM: Dr. Rocco stated the Easter Egg went well and was well attended. Pool prep has begun and the park is looking good.

DEV/FIN: Ms. May stated the next CIC meeting will be the last week of April or first week in May and that On April 10 the Think Tank group will be meeting RCAP to finalize plans for a final opportunity for the community to express what they would like to see in the downtown area.

UTILITY: Mr. Blythe stated hydrant flushing will be April 15 – 26. He added the contractors are still cleaning things up after installing over 19,000 ft of waterline and finally he noted the EQ Basin handled all of the rain from the last event without any loss of solids. W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe stated they pumped over one million gallons out of the basin and there was not a single overflow in the system.

SAFETY: Mr. Povenski stated that in March the FD ran a total of 102 calls resulting in 42 transports and the PD received 634 calls resulting in 150 reports.

VISITORS: Abbey Palmer, Jason Wazelle, John Davis, Dan McKinstry, Missy Smith, Mike Dugan, Christina Dilworth, Jerry Coblentz, Rich Spratt, Mark Rhodes, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, CH McCutcheon, Wanda Wolfe, Andy McGuire, Tim Fisher, Crystal Mackall, Adyson Glavan, Steph Elverd, Brennen Harvey, Traci Spratt, Officer Weingart

LEGISLATION: Mr. Simpson introduced Ord. 4-2024 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance authorizing the payment of wage bonus to temporary summer employees.** Mr. Simpson introduced Ord. 5-2024 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **An ordinance establishing pool rates for 2024 and thereafter.** Mr. Simpson introduced Ord. 6-2024 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Glavan. **An ordinance amending section 1060.01 (C) of the Codified Ordinances of the Municipality of East Palestine, Ohio. to permit the possession, use, sale and sale of intoxicating liquor and beer in the Municipal Park in certain circumstances.** Mr. Simpson introduced Ord. 7-2024 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance authorizing the Finance Director to make supplemental appropriations for the City of East Palestine, Ohio for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2024 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Simpson made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Dr. Rocco. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simpson called for a vote on Ord. 7-2024. Passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: Dr. Rocco made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr. Simpson. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY