

EP COUNCIL 8/10/26 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Blythe, Mr. Glavan, Ms. Herriott, Mr. Povenski, Mr. Simon, and Ms. Stauffer. Also present was Chief Weingart. The clerk was on vacation. The minutes of the 7/27/26 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Glavan seconded by Mr. Povenski. The July 2026 department reports were approved on a motion by Mr. Simon seconded by Mr. Glavan.

CLERK: Manager Diaz-Guy stated a Planning Commission meeting would be held on Thursday 8/20 @ 7:00 pm to here two requests for lot combinations; one on Ellis Drive and one on West North.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway asked Mr. Glavan to give an update on the Wheels of the Valley event on 8/22/26. Mr. Glavan stated the Chamber has revived the previously held car cruise as the new Wheels of the Valley event. There will be a motorcycle swap meet as well as one hundred bikes along with live music in the American Legion parking lot, the car show will be downtown, Dying Breed Diesels will be bringing in 80-100 semi-trucks coming from as far as Texas, there will be a Jeep Invasion from Cleveland. The EP Amateur Radio club has volunteered to help with the parking of vehicles and Covington Nursing has volunteered two small buses for the day to help with transportation from overflow parking (T & M Hardware and the Park). There will also be food trucks. The EP Eagles have donated the sponsorship cost of the event. The hope is for the event to be held at the park next year.

MANAGER: In reference to the \$100,000.00 State Capital Budget funds we were awarded for work on the Brick Pavilion Manager Diaz-Guy stated there are things he feels we should and should not do in house. Members asked for a breakdown of the costs to prioritize what we should as well as what we are permitted to do in house and what we are not to be presented at the next meeting. The Brownfield Assistance Program (matching funds not required) for the Jasar property is still moving forward; this is to do Phase 2 environmental testing for the western portion of the property to move forward with sales process for the property. A Department of Commerce cemetery grant for \$5,000.00 has been applied for, the match will be in kind labor. This will be used to remove a large tree, remove the fencing and shrub/overgrowth on the hillside, and install new fencing. The W. Martin Street culvert was flagged as deteriorating in its condition, we must develop a plan for replacement within the next five to ten years. The MPP Technical Assistance Funding has provided engineering scopes of work for the project which will get us to 30% design with zero match for the Village, this will save us approximately \$35,000.00. Mr. Glavan motioned to approve the Mayor/Manager to enter into the above-mentioned agreement with MPP, Mr. Blythe seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. The Government Services Complex will have 100% design completed this week, it will go out to bid 8/31 & 9/7, pre-bid meeting will be 9/8, bids are due 9/28 and the award date will be 10/12; construction will begin by the end of the year. Current new businesses include Mama Duke's, LSJ61 and the Antique Annex. Phase 3 of the park project will begin this week. The Duck Pond is fully drained and ready for excavation; Mr. Glavan motioned to use settlement funds to cover the cost of the excavation/rental equipment. It was noted he is working with Kronin to potentially add this as a change order to Phase 3 but if that isn't possible settlement funds would need to be used to complete the project. The motion was seconded by Ms. Stauffer, passed unanimously. A sidewalk repair was made on

Market Street. Four Business Vibrancy Grants are currently being reviewed. It was noted the JEDD map is now complete with the next step being setting a public hearing date.

STREET: The department completed various tasks including cleaning the walking trail parking area, used highway mower to clear vegetation between Market & Sumner, cleaned landscaping at 91 S. Market, tore out the alley leading to 570 East St. Eight water ditches were paved, maintenance work at the cemetery was performed and moved misc. construction materials from the park.

PARK/REC/CEM: Rental revenue for July was \$1,770.00, decorative hydrants/tunnels were added at the dog park. Phase 2 final inspections are all scheduled and should be complete 9/14. Friends of the Park are holding another karaoke event at the park on 8/14. Park Board meets on 8/19, and Friends of the Park meet on 8/26. The EP Eagles donated \$5000.00 to the Friends of the Park to assist in planning future events.

DEVELOPMENT: July saw forty-six miscellaneous residential building permits totaling \$1,756.00 and three commercial permits through Elevate. Contractor registrations totaled \$1,200.00. FB insights were down this month due to a decrease in local events however “likes” did increase. In reference to the EPCIC Plaza it was noted a meeting was held with the lowest bidder to review cost reducing measures; Mike Jacoby is moving forward with the pitch deck for the Vibrant Communities grant for the project. The Depot project continues to move forward including demo of the floors and work on the walls to preserve the old wood. CIC board members toured the Jasar buildings to assist with decision making in the future; they continue working with Platz on the potential sale of the property. Work continues with the Port Authority for the Business Park, and they are in discussions about future fundraising ideas. The next CIC meeting is 8/25 @ 10:00 am. The EP Act group is looking at ways to re-structure to be able to better serve the needs of the community; Roberta Strieffert from RCAP is working on a potential class for any organizations that would be interested in becoming a 501C3 (non-profit status). The EP Education group is working in coordination with the school for the Bulldog Blitz which is 8/21. The decorating contest for Bulldog Pride is still going on with winners being announced at the first home game; there will be a traveling trophy (donated by Hot Turkey Engraving) for the business winner for the year. There will also be a raffle for the kids at the first home game to win various gift cards.

WATER/WASTEWATER: In July, the village produced 10.6 million gallons of water and treated 20.32 million gallons of wastewater. Regarding utility billing, ninety-two initial disconnection notices were mailed and 55 second notices were hand-delivered, leading to six shutoffs for non-payment. Normal operations continued at the wastewater plant alongside tree removal along the fenceline, while service line leaks on Bacon and Hamilton were repaired for a total of \$930.00. On the regulatory front, the NPDES permit renewal process has begun ahead of November 1, 2026, application deadline, and local businesses are reminded that annual backflow inspections must be completed by the end of the year. Finally, Austin Cope passed his OEPA Water 1 exam, everyone in the entire department is now licensed in water, wastewater, or both for the first time ever.

SAFETY: In July, the fire department responded to twenty-three fire calls (11 Village, 8 Unity Township, 4 Mutual Aid) and 138 EMS calls (84 Village, 23 Unity Township, 31 Mutual Aid), with twenty calls dropped due to concurrent calls or lack of on-duty

crews. Brant Moore was hired as a new full-time officer and is currently in the Field Training Officer (FTO) program. Department officers provided security and traffic control for Fourth of July festivities, which concluded with zero incidents, crashes, or injuries. Personnel completed several professional development programs, including Cpl. Koehler and Ptl. Monteleone attending a three-day first-line supervision leadership course in Massillon, and Sgt. Moore attending a three-day D.A.R.E. conference in Sandusky. Overall, for the month, officers managed 406 self-initiated calls and calls for service, generating 151 official reports.

VISITORS: Jerry Coblentz, John Davis, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Dave Biggins, Dan McKinstry, Rick Gorby, and John Cozza.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 24-2026 for a second reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 5-2023, abolishing the position of Fire Department Administrative Assistant/EMS Coordinator, authorizing a sixty-day transition period, directing the removal of the position from the employee handbook and other municipal records, and declaring the Municipality’s appreciation for the service provided through the position.** Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 25-2026 for a second reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **An ordinance amending Section 25 (G), “Training” of the Village of East Palestine Employee Handbook.**

ADJOURN: Mr. Glavan motioned to adjourn seconded by Mr. Povenski. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY