

EP COUNCIL 8/24/26 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Pro Tem Barb Herriott called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Glavan, Mr. Povenski, Mr. Simon, and Ms. Stauffer. Mr. Blythe was not present, his absence was excused on motion by Mr. Glavan, seconded by Mr. Povenski, passed unanimously. The minutes of the 8/10/26 were approved on motion by Ms. Stauffer seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. There were no reports from the following: clerk or mayor, Street, Water/Wastewater or Safety committees.

AGENDA: Erin Haynes-University of Kentucky Ms. Haines stated that in July 2023 Univ. Ky collected nineteen urine samples to measure potential Vinyl Chloride exposure. Of those 19, 14 had detectable levels of these metabolites (these levels were barely detectable but still present) which equates to 75% (the national average with the same detectable level is 5%). They are working on a new large-scale study with tests that will include a fibroscan of the liver, a lung function test, arterial stiffness testing as well as additional blood/urine testing. These tests will all be done at the East Palestine Clinic and are at no cost to participants. It was noted these metabolites have short life cycles, testing positive for the metabolites indicate recent exposure which in turn means in the new study if testing is negative, it means no recent exposure. In reference to the urine sample, it was stated the samples are immediately frozen, freezing/thawing can result in some degradation of the sample however that is considered during the analysis process. To be a part of the study residents should go to the University of Kentucky website to express interest and fill out a survey; those participating will receive \$200 in gift cards. Children under 8 years will not be accepted. In reference to the interpretation of results received from these studies Manager Diaz-Guy noted the contextualization of these results is extremely important; there should always be distinction between an ongoing threat or an existing background threat.

MANAGER: Legislation for tonight is to create a Dispatch Supervisor position that includes an MOU for the FOP. For the JEDD we are still waiting on a final hearing date. The MPP grant for the W. Martin Street Culvert for 30% design is moving forward with an initial meeting scheduled. The ODNR Brick Pavilion grant for the Brick Pavilion projects that still meet the grant specs include ADA compliance, year-round heat and bathroom renovations which could be done in one outsourced contract. One single contract could include new windows/doors, redo electric with heaters, potentially insulating the ceiling and with any leftover funds renovating the restrooms; other small projects such as the floors and counter tops can be done in house. Gary Linhart will be putting in a petition to have the alley behind his house vacated. The wetland credit for the new government services complex has been paid; the project is on pace to go out to bid. Kemple Drive will be chip/sealed this week. In reference to Ems staffing, he is working with Chief Drabick to develop a new schedule to help eliminate the increasing number of dropped calls; the plan is to move to a 36-hour mandated part-time positions. These positions will be eligible for specific tier of benefits which will help increase staffing. Additionally, a wage increase should also be regionally comparable.

PARK/REC/CEM: Friends of the Park will be holding a free yoga event on 9/4 at 10:00 am that is free to the community, they will also be focusing on fundraising which includes selling raffle tickets for a gift card basket. They will be selling EP garden and full-size flags online and at Fall Fest. The final gas inspection for the new pool is still in

limbo, final electrical inspections are scheduled for 9/8, plumbing is finalized & approved and the Dept. of Health inspection will be mid-September. Phase 3 of the park project has begun with multiple trees being removed, site work will be on the lower half where the baseball field will be and grade leveling for the playground. Playground equipment should begin arriving in the next four weeks and will be stored in the former Jasar property. A change order can be made to add a permanent fence around the retention pond and around the slide. The Duck Pond is drained, and we will be working with Cronin to do the dredging work. Mr. Glavan asked about a potential donation to build a handicapped accessible pier at the Duck Pond, Manager Diaz-Guy will check in with Elevate about what would be needed.

DEV/FIN: Ms. Herriott stated costs have been received for the Plaza project; they are working on potential changes to reduce cost. They are still waiting on a date for the pitch deck for the Vibrant Communities Grant. The Depot project is moving forward with plumbing and electrical work. The former Jasar property has been awarded the EPA/TBA grant for routine environmental studies, work should begin in September. There were no new updates to the business park project. Some minor repairs are needed at 94 N. Market St will all the recent rain. EPCIC will meet on 8/25 @ 10:00 at the Municipal Building. EP Act along with RCAP will be hosting a training session at the Community Center on 9/10 @ 6:00 pm for any established group interest in becoming a non-profit (501c3), the session is at no cost to attendees. Bulldog Blitz was a success with Mike & Tiffany Greene winning the home decorating contest and Sparkle Market winning the business contest, gift cards were also raffled off for students.

VISITORS: Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Joe Della Volle, Barb Kliner, Juliane Beier, Erin Haynes, John Davis, Carol Harvey, Misti Allison, Chris Weingart.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 24-2026 for a third reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **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 called to vote seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 25-2026 for a third reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Stauffer. **An ordinance amending Section 25 G, "Training", of the Village of East Palestine Employee Handbook.** Mr. Glavan called to vote seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 26-2026 for a first reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance approving a memorandum of understanding with the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc.; creating the position of dispatch supervisor; adding the position to the village employee job descriptions and classification plan; establishing compensation for the position; and authorizing the Municipal Manager to implement the same.** At this time Mr. Glavan thanked everyone involved in making the first Wheels of the Valley event a success. Mr. Glavan motioned to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 G2-to consider the sale of property, inviting in Manager Diaz-Guy, there would be no further business afterwards. The motion was seconded by Mr. Povenski, passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: Mr. Glavan motioned to return to regular session seconded by Ms. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Ms. Stauffer motioned to adjourn the meeting seconded by Ms. Herriott. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR PRO TEM BARB HERRIOTT