

EP COUNCIL 12/28/22 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Doug Simpson called the meeting to order. Present was Ms. May, Mr. Povenski, Dr. Rocco, Mr. Runnion, and Mr. Walker. Mayor Conaway was not present; his absence was excused on a motion by Dr. Rocco seconded by Mr. Runnion. Also present was Interim Village Manager/Finance Director Traci Spratt, Police Chief Jim Brown, Fire Chief Keith Drabick, W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe, Law Director David Powers, and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the 12/12/22 meeting were approved on a motion by Dr. Rocco, seconded by Ms. May. There were no agenda items, Clerks, or Mayor's reports.

MANAGER: Interim Manager Spratt stated the Water Department is working on locating water loss issues from the freeze over the Christmas Holiday. W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe stated that as we are in Northeast Ohio the water lines can handle temps going down to even 0 degrees but once it gets into the negatives there become a lot of problems with freezing and breaking lines. He said over the long weekend his guys were called out eight separate times for broken lines; these were all in rental properties. Ultimately it was neglect on the part of the landlords, with one of the homes having no heat at all in the basement, he said there are still some leaks that they are looking for but they have recovered a few including a major leak at the trailer park. He feels the landlords need to be held accountable for the condition the properties in as well as straight up neglect; these issues end up costing the Village overtime. Mr. Wolfe stated that the public should know that when it gets in the negatives even if a faucet is kept on at a trickle that will keep the lines from freezing. Spratt stated she met with Hayden Panzeott of the Land Bank and Bobby Richey of the Port Authority; they are going to work on improving communication with some ideas for the future new manager to help work with the businesses in town. She stated W/WW Superintendent Wolfe has applied for a \$5700 grant through the EPA for a tracer to help locate water mains & service lines. She said the Fire Chief is working on the training grant reimbursement for the State Fire Marshalls Office as well as a reimbursement grant from the Ohio Division of EMS. Spratt noted she will be busy the next couple weeks closing out year end for finance and payroll and she has notified department heads to start working on year end reports. She said the Police Department has signed a contract with Ohio State Water Proofing to address some of the water issues in the basement and will hopefully start in the next couple months. Property owner and resident Terry Keresty asked if he had a major leak in any of his properties if could give basically "blanket permission" to the water department to go out and shut the water off at the property that is having the issue. Spratt said no, we are not permitted to terminate service at a property that has tenants (unless it is for nonpayment of a shut off notice) until the property owner is notified, it would have to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Attorney Powers agreed.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers stated we need legislation to allow us to replace lead lines in certain parts of town (at our cost) on private property as a part of the water line replacement project. W/WW Superintendent Wolfe stated this will be done with grant money that is a part of the waterline replacement project.

STREET: NO REPORT

PARK/REC/CEM: Dr. Rocco thanked the FD for their work in having Santa at the Brick Pavilion for the community, it was a good idea.

DEVELOPMENT: NO REPORT

UTILITY: Mr. Simpson stated the Water Dept as well as the Street Department did a great job during the freeze/snow event over the weekend. Mr. Simpson stated that in reference to the boards/commissions reappointments as well as council committee assignments should be dealt with at the next meeting when the Mayor is present. In reference to a packet received from resident Don Elzer, Mr. Simpson stated Council should read/digest the information before comment is made.

SAFETY: NO REPORT Fire Chief Drabick stated that Covington Nursing home is still without a fire suppression system as they had a broken water line which was also a part of the water loss issue. He said he has been asked why they have not taken a truck up there

THERE WERE NO VISITORS COMMENTS ON CURRENT LEGISLATION

VISITORS: CH McCutcheon, Jerry Coblenz, Dave Biggins and Terry Keresty

LEGISLATION: Ms. May introduced Ord. 22-2022 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance adopting a wage scale to be incorporated into the personnel policy handbook (white book).** Ms. May called for a vote on Ord. 22-2022. Ms. May-y, Mr. Povenski-y, Dr. Rocco-y, Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Walker-y. Ms. May introduced Ord. 23-2022 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance enacting Chapter 832 of the Codified Ordinances of the Municipality of Ohio related to licensing of solicitors, peddlers and door to door sales persons.** Ms. May called for a vote on Ord. 23-2022. Mr. Povenski-y, Dr. Rocco-y, Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Walker-y, Ms. May-y. Ms. May introduced Ord. 24-2022 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance vacating McClure Avenue from the eastern line of Ellis Street, east to its terminus.** Ms. May introduced Ord. 25-2022 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only. **An ordinance amending §452.14 (limited parking areas) of the Codified Ordinances of East Palestine, Ohio.** Ms. May introduced Ord. 26-2022 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance authorizing the position of Finance Clerk and creating a job description.** Ms. May introduced Ord. 27-2022 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. An ordinance authoring the Finance Director to make supplemental appropriations for the City of East Palestine, Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2022 and declaring an emergency. Ms. May made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency, seconded by Mr. Runnion. Dr. Rocco-y, Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Walker-y, Ms. May-y, Mr. Povenski-y. Ms. May called for a vote on Ord. 27-2022. Dr. Rocco-y, Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Walker-y, Ms. May-y, Mr. Povenski-y. Ms. May introduced Res. 18-2022 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **The following final resolution enacted by the Village of East Palestine Ohio hereinafter referred to as the Legislative Authority/Local Public Agency or "LPA" in the matter of the stated described project. (Park Drive Bridge Project).** Ms. May called for a vote on Res. 18-2022. Mr. Runnion-y, Mr. Simpson-y, Mr. Walker-y, Ms. May-y, Mr. Povenski-y, Dr. Rocco-y.

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

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR PRO TEM DOUG SIMPSON