

EP COUNCIL 12/28/23 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Ms. May, Mr. Povenski, Dr. Rocco, Mr. Runnion, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Walker. Also, present was Village Manager Chad Edwards, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe, Law Director David Powers, Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the regular and special meetings of 12/11 and the special meeting of 12/18/23 were approved on a motion by Dr. Rocco seconded by Mr. Walker. There were no department reports, agenda items, clerk's, mayor's, street, park/rec/cem, utility or safety committee reports. At this time Mayor Conaway swore in newly elected council members Linda May, Tim Blythe and Lenny Glavan. Next Mayor Pro Tem Doug Simpson swore in Mayor Conaway for a new term. Mr. Simpson then made a motion to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 to discuss boards/commissions appointments, inviting in Manager Edwards, Mr. Runnion seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Shortly after Dr. Rocco made a motion to return to regular session seconded by Mr. Walker. At this time Manager Edwards stated he has appointed Becky Westover and Karen Gorby to the Park Board. Mayor Conaway stated that for his Planning Commission appointment he chose Jon Varley and for the Library Board Council chose Misti Allison, Stephanie Elick, Charlsi Lehman, and Beth McTrusty. Dr. Rocco made a motion to approve the appointments seconded by Ms. May. Passed unanimously.

MANAGER: Manager Edwards stated the CIC has been approved. He said he and Street Superintendent Baird are working on quotes to get the duck pond and City Lake dredged. He said a new logo and phrase have been decided on for the advertising firm to begin working with; it will say "Pride, Tradition, Progress", with a color scheme of navy and brown. In reference to the upcoming anniversary of the train derailment it was decided that an hour-long update would be held in the auditorium at the school for the public with a reception in the gym afterwards. W/WW Superintendent Wolfe stated the new carbon filters are in place and that they should be up and running in approximately two months.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers stated that in reference to the OPEC Auditors issue the newest update is that the auditors don't plan on having any sort of report for at least a year.

DEV/FINANCE: Ms. May stated the Think Tank would be meeting again soon to review information from RCAP.

VISITORS: John Davis, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Jon Varley, Rich Spratt, Crystal Mackall, Elizabeth Powers, Thomas Powers, Brenda Povenski, Lenny & Addison Glavan, Ashley McKim, Tim & Larissa Blythe, Zach Gorby, David Peters, Teresa Trosky, Officers Weingart and Coontz.

LEGISLATION: In reference to the park project Manager Edwards stated NS has committed to two pickleball courts (separate from the tennis courts), four tennis courts and two basketball courts. Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 26-2023 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance to amend chapter 882 of the codified ordinances of the Village of East Palestine regarding municipal income tax.** Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 26-2023. Passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 27-2023 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance authorizing the Finance Director to make supplemental appropriations for the City of East Palestine, OH for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Runnion made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency, seconded by Dr. Rocco. Passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 27-2023. Passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion introduced Res.21-2023 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **A resolution authorizing the Village Manager, in consultation with Michael Baker International to implement improvements to the East Palestine Park.** Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Res.21-2023. 5 yes to pass with Mr. Walker abstaining.

ADJOURN: As this was Mr. Runnion and Mr. Walker's last meeting Mr. Simpson thanked them for their service on council and then made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Walker. All in favor, meeting adjourned.
