

EP COUNCIL 12/29/25 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, Ms. Stauffer and Student Representative Olivia Snedaker. Also, present was Village Manager Antonio Diaz-Guy, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Police Chief/ Chris Weingart, Law Director David Powers and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the 12/8/25 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Glavan seconded by Mr. Powers. There were no department reports as it was the second meeting of the month; additionally, there were no reports from Law Director, Park/Rec/Cem, Finance, Water/Wastewater or Safety Committees.

AGENDA: STEVEN TELISCHAK-EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT: Mr. Telischak stated that he is a member of Boy Scout Troop 22 in New Waterford and his proposed Eagle Scout project is building a new flag pole at Reid Memorial Stadium; the pole will be 35 ft tall to allow better visibility. He will also be contributing three park benches near the pole. The benches will stand for God, Country, and Family. The budget for the project is \$6,538.00; fundraising efforts will begin soon.

CLERK: Clerk Martin stated the Village will begin a live Christmas tree pick up service on Friday January 2, 2026. Trees must be placed at the curb and then residents can call Village Hall or fill out a public service request form on our website at www.eastpalestine-oh.gov.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway swore in newly elected Council members John Simon, Barb Herriott, Tom Povenski and Erin Stauffer.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy thanked the returning Council members for their continuing service and also thanked Law Director Dave Powers for his years of service with the Village as this will be his last meeting before retiring. Mayor Conaway added Powers helped guide the village through some very dark times and his dedication is greatly appreciated. Starting January 1, 2026 Brodi Conover from Bricker Graydon will be the new law director. In reference to the PFAS Class action update, the Village is now included and signed on with Shumaker to assist with paperwork. Village employee health, dental and vision insurance are all going with Anthem and will go live 1-1-26. Ord. 29 is retiring municipal debt, as a municipality we are regulated as to what we can invest funds in. Best case the market will give us around 3.75 to 4% return at best however there is debt on the books that exceeds that amount. Practicality tells us we should retire the debt and save money. The 2025 annual report will be coming in the near future. Finally, Manager Diaz-Guy stated that we do have parking ordinances on the books pertaining to length of time cars can be unattended on roads, after hours street parking and street parking during snow emergencies. During covid enforcement of these ordinances became laxer but it does cause issues especially during snow emergencies when we need to plow safely and effectively. These ordinances will first be enforced with a gentle hand and if that doesn't work, they will be enforced with a tow truck. Updates will be posted on social media. The new Government Service Center is at the end of final design with the potential for going out to bid in February. FOP and Teamsters contract negotiations are ongoing. Kat's Krystal's is moving further down-Market Street adjacent to 1820 Co., it will now be Kat's Krystals'/Vendor Vault; their grand opening is Saturday January 3, 2026.

STREET: Mr. Simon asked residents to please move vehicles off the street during snow events; he added he has heard some complaints about cars being on the street overnight by the school making it difficult for parents and busses to maneuver around.

DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Herriott stated the EP ACT LTT/TTL group made cards/ornaments for shut ins at Christian House and Covington. The scarf making event has been rescheduled for January 13 @ 6:00 pm. In reference to the EP ACT Vibrancy group Mr. Glavan noted the first annual adults only karaoke nite at the Eagles was a huge success; the event will be back next year. The CIC had a special meeting on 12/15 where a resolution was approved entering into a real estate agreement with Platz for the former Jasar property; a resolution was also approved for the demolition of the former PNC drive thru building. A second special CIC meeting was held 12/29 to finalize lease paperwork. Tenant announcement to follow. The former Kat's Krystals owned by the CIC is also available to rent. The next EPCIC meeting will be Tuesday January 27 @ 10:00 am.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: Ms. Snedaker stated EPHS invites the community to come support the basketball teams. School is out until January 5th and when they return it will be two weeks before the end of the quarter and almost time for midterms.

VISITORS: Mark Rhodes, John Davis, Carol Harvey, Tina Dilworth, Dan McKinstry, Steve, Michelle & Stephen Telischak, and Officer Anthony Monteleone.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 29-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance authorizing the Village Finance director to payoff certain debts from train derailment settlement proceeds.** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 29-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 30-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Blythe. **An ordinance adopting a wage scale and other updates to be incorporated into the personnel policy handbook (white book).** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Ms. Herriott. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 30-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 31-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance authorizing the Finance Director to make supplemental appropriations for the City of East Palestine, OH and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 31-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: Mr. Glavan made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Ms. Herriott. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY