

EP COUNCIL 12/8/25 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, and Ms. Stauffer. Also, present was Village Manager Antonio Diaz-Guy, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Law Director David Powers, Clerk Misti Martin and Officer Chris Weingart. The minutes of the 11/24/25 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Blythe seconded by Mr. Glavan. The November 2025 department reports were approved on a motion by Mr. Povenski seconded by Mr. Glavan. There was no law director's report.

CLERK: Clerk stated the next council meeting would be Monday December 29 @ 7:00 pm. In reference to boards/commissions Mayor Conaway nominated Gary Linhart and Karen King for the available Planning Commission seats (these are mayor appointment with council approval). Mr. Glavan motioned to approve the appointments seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mayor Conaway appointed Stephanie Elick for another term on the CRA Housing Council (this is a mayor appointment). Ms. Stauffer nominated Stephen Hill, Geraldine Guy and Dot Herbert for the Library Board (these are council appointments), the motion was seconded by Mr. Glavan. Passed unanimously. It was noted there is one seat still available on the Zoning Board of Appeals and on the CRA Housing Council.

MAYOR: At this time Mayor Conaway swore in officer Chris Weingart as the new chief of police due to the retirement of former chief Jim Brown.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy stated that in reference to the SS4A grant, the final committee meeting will be held on 1/26/26 at 5:00 pm. This will be a set of project recommendations from ODOT (12 to 20 projects) and the consultants; these projects can then be used to apply for project grant dollars in 2026/2027. For the majority of this year, we have been an unofficial part of the Mayor's Partnership for Progress, this week it has been made official. This group was founded at Ohio University for municipalities in the foothills of Appalachia to worry about small town problems; this includes access to funding for technical assistance or the front side engineering of projects.

STREET: Mr. Simon stated the month of November saw the department work at cleaning curb areas with excessive leaf build up as well as hang/remove flags and Christmas decorations downtown. Crews aided in clean up projects at the Train Depot and the old Jasar property. Another section of alley was ripped out and re-graded, and creek walls next to the old Chinese restaurant and the Veterans memorial were cleared of brush, debris and scrub trees.

PARK/REC/CEM: Ms. Stauffer stated park rentals for November totaled \$90.00. Fall decorations were removed from the park/downtown areas. Assisted Street Dept. in various projects. Prepped for the Turkey Trot as well as continued work on removal of dead/dying trees in the park. The Community Center will be closed from December 7th and will re-open in the Spring.

DEV/FIN: Ms. Herriott stated that Ord. 28-2025 was on the agenda to replace previously passed Ord. 26-2025 due to an error and Res. 27-2025 is the first of two resolutions need to place the police levy renewal on the ballot for May 5, 2026. Finance Director Melissa Hiner has request approval by motion to sign the memorandum of agreement with Balestra & Co who won the bid through the State Auditor to perform mandatory audits of the Village for the next five years. Mr. Simon made the requested motion seconded by Mr. Glavan, passed

unanimously. She also stated building/zoning had 17 miscellaneous permits for the month of November totaling \$585.00; additionally, there were \$300.00 in contractor registrations and one solicitor permit at \$400.00. The EPACT, Learn to Teach, Teach to Learn group put 73 hand decorated ornaments on the Christmas tree during the Snowflake Festival. The next class will be 12/16 learning to make a yarn scarf with Bettina Dilworth. The EP Eagles was thanked for a generous donation to help with future projects for the group. Mr. Glavan also thanked Sparo & Marlene Figley for helping out with the caroling at the festival; he also noted they are partnering with the Eagles on 12/20 for a Naughty Karaoke event. The EPCIC had a walkthrough at the Depot as well as the Plaza, designs are nearly complete; the county has made application for CDBG funds for the CIC to assist with construction. In reference to the former Jasar property the CIC will be reviewing a proposal from a commercial real estate broker and will be sold in three separate pieces to different users. The group also has a proposal to assess structural/plumbing/electrical/ hvac issues at 90/94 N. Market St. The goal is to make the repairs so the properties can be occupied by commercial tenants to drive additional traffic downtown to help create jobs. The gift of the properties is greatly appreciated however there is a lot of work that has to be done to bring them up to code for tenants. The next EPCIC meeting will be Tuesday 12/9 @ 10:00 am.

WATER/WASTEWATER: Mr. Blythe stated there were 87 mailed disconnections notices, 67 second hand delivered notices resulting in 3 accounts being shut off for nonpayment.

SAFETY: Mr. Povenski stated Chief Brown and Lt. Johnson volunteered at the Heros/Halos event, officers volunteered for traffic control at the 18th Annual Turkey Trot, Sgt. Moore completed renovations at the department's dog kennel which included a new roof to provide shelter for dogs who are temporarily in the care of the PD. November saw 366 self-initiated calls resulting in 119 reports at the PD. The FD had a total of 105 calls for the month of November; 65 of which were in the Village, 10 in Unity and 30 mutual aid. Of the 105 calls 8 were fire only, 82 were Ems only and 12 combined. Training in November included drivers training for fire apparatus and V.E.S training held at Village owned property on Market St.

VISITORS: Heather & Sherrill Milliken, Trish Wilson, Ken & Sue Wilson, Jerry Coblents, Officer Don Johnson, Kent Chapman, Joe Della Volle, Nicole & Keith Drabick, Barb Kliner, Dot Herbert, Officer Brian Moore, Carol Harvey, John Davis, Dan McKinstry, Dave Biggins, Steph Elverd, Tom Brittain, Officer Jake Koehler.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 27-2025 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance authorizing the bulk sale of water from the East Palestine Water and Sewer Department and setting rates.** Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 27-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 28-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Stauffer. **An ordinance to repeal and replace Ordinance 26-2025, adopting the appropriation for the current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of East Palestine, Ohio, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 28-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 27-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **A resolution requesting the County Auditor to certify certain tax valuation information in anticipation of levying a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation (Police Levy Renewal).** Mr. Glavan

called for a vote on Res. 27-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Blythe asked for an update on 101 S. Market St. Manager Diaz-Guy stated the property was under a demolition order, since then legal counsel has been working together and the home is now cleaned out and has been structurally evaluated; it is stable but requires additional work to make it suitable for habitation. Atty. Powers added in discussion with Attorneys for the owner there have been extensions granted to the appeal process; the goal is to obtain a remediation agreement that will be required to remove the demolition order.

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

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MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK	MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY