

EP COUNCIL 7/28/25 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, Clerk Misti Martin and Law Director David Powers. The minutes from the 7/14/25 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Povenski seconded by Mr. Glavan. Passed unanimously. There were no W/WW or Safety Committee reports.

AGENDA: JANICE CARTWRIGHT & EPMS STUDENTS CHARLOTTE GREEN, SANTANAH POWERS, ARIANA POWERS, AND VIVAN GLAVAN gave a presentation about the “Learn to Teach, Teach to Learn where they and other students learned how to use a Cricut, how to use Canva and how to make home made strawberry jelly and they in turn taught a group of community members how to do those things. This program came about through the educational group of the Think Tank to partner with the school, students, the Village as well as members of the community.

CLERK: Clerk Misti Martin stated the Village sponsored e-waste drop off would be held Saturday August 2 from 11-2:00 pm in the Centenary Church parking lot.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway stated there is a vacancy on the Planning Commission and letters of interest can be submitted until 7/31/25.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy stated the SS4A grant agreement has been signed/executed which allows us to seek an action plan to help prevent road/pedestrian fatalities in the village for a future downtown streetscape. A stakeholder group has been assembled to hold three required meetings in Aug, Nov, & Jan; the meetings will help prioritize projects for the grant. Planning for the new Gov’t Services Complex is moving forward and we have completed the tech survey for the building and the footprint has been finalized; additional geotechnical work is being completed on the property. That property also has an old barn that is structurally unsafe and we are pursuing demolition after asbestos inspection; it will likely be used as a fire training exercise. The target opening for the new sport courts is 8/1. A design meeting was held with MBI as well as members of community in reference to the new playground and what we want to see as far as equipment, safety factors and how to market it and also that there will be an upcoming “Kids Only Think Tank” meeting to get their feedback/ideas on what they would like to see at the new playgrounds. A resolution was on the agenda to allow for a part time financial clerk position. It was noted the current marketing company’s contract expired in June and is currently on a month-to-month basis and we have released RFPs for a person/company to apply for the marketing rep for the Village; applications will be accepted through 8/25. We have received a liquor license transfer request from EP Liquor Stop to Sun EP Inc. This is the transfer of their beer, wine and mixed beverage license; this does not change the function of the store nor does it include high proof liquor. Should council have no objections and not need a public hearing a motion would be needed to approve the clerk to sign and return the appropriate paperwork. Ms. Stauffer made the above motion seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. The EPA is doing additional stream work on Sulphur/Leslie Run creeks which a required part of the action plan, there were still small amounts of sheen which is due to legacy chemicals not derailment so they are required to clean and re-test; a part of the plan requires encasing some parts of private property shoreline to stop historic contamination from getting into the waterways. There will be substantial work behind the old Leake Oil property as well as the Velez Engine property; the action plan is available upon request. In

reference to the demolition of 101 S. Market St. the court has issued a stay on that order until the case is further reviewed. Finally, Manager Diaz-Guy cautioned residents to take what they see on social media/news with a grain of salt, if anyone has questions please contact Village Hall and he will directly respond however we will not engage in Facebook back and forth.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers state legislation tonight included an ordinance ratifying/confirming the settlement payment to the former village manager. A resolution was passed previously authorizing executing the settlement agreement however the state auditors indicated an ordinance approving payment was also needed.

STREET: Mr. Simon stated the Street Dept. completed stick pick up week and continue to pave water ditches throughout town.

PARK/REC/CEM: Ms. Stauffer stated Park Board members were interested in getting ideas for a grand kickoff celebration for when the park project is completed.

DEVELOPMENT/FINANCE: Ms. Herriott stated the CIC continues to meet and Brock Builders has begun selective deconstruction at the depot. Additional discussion continues on fundraising for future projects with the next meeting being 8/26 @ 10:00 am. She thanked the students for the presentation tonight. She stated the education group from the Think Tank is working on another project called "The Path to Bulldog Pride" during the Back to School Bash that includes a scavenger hunt and a prize drawing. An ordinance for supplemental appropriations is on the agenda tonight to be passed as emergency.

VISITORS: Mark Rhodes, Jerry Coblentz, John Davis, Carol Harvey, Barb Kliner, Dot Herbert, Dan McKinstry, Dave Biggins, Roberta Streiffert, Kent Chapman, Nicholas Hamilton, Janice Cartwright, Tiffany Green, Violet Glavan, Charlotte Greene, Santanah Powers, Ariana Powers, Noreen McBride, David Peters.

LEGISLATION: At this time Mr. Glavan made a motion to amend the agenda to add Ord. 13-2025 Supplemental Appropriations, and Ord. 14-2025 Edwards Settlement Payment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simon. All in favor. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 11-2025 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **An ordinance authorizing the Village Manager to enter into a contract with Brodi Conover of the Bricker Graydon Law Firm to serve as the Municipal Attorney for a one-year term commencing January 1, 2026 in accordance with the terms hereto which is hereby incorporated by reference.** Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 12-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance Authorizing the Village Manager and the Village Finance Director to create a special events fund 242, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 5705.09 (F) of the Ohio Revised Code, and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Blythe. All in favor. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 12-2025 seconded by Mr. Blythe. All in favor, Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 13-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Blythe. **An ordinance authorizing the Finance Director to make supplemental appropriations for the City of East Palestine, Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Ms. Stauffer, passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 13-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon, passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 14-2025 and made a motion that it be read in its entirety seconded by Ms. Herriott. **An ordinance ratifying and confirming the settlement**

payment made to former Village Manager Chad Edwards and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Simon, passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 14-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon, passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 14-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **A resolution authorizing the Village Manager to seek applicants for the position of Finance Clerk.** Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Res. 14-2025 seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously.

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

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY