

EP COUNCIL 6/10/24 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Blythe, MR. Glavan, Ms. May, Mr. Povenski, Dr. Rocco, and Mr. Simpson. Also present was Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Law Director David Powers and Clerk Misti Martin. Manager Edwards was on vacation. The minutes of the regular meeting of 5/28 and the special meeting of 6/3 were approved on a motion by Mr. Povenski seconded by Dr. Rocco. The May 2024 department reports were approved on a motion by Dr. Rocco seconded by Mr. Glavan. There were no agenda items, clerk's or utility reports.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway stated there is an open seat on the Planning Commission, deadline for letters of interest is 6/21. Atty. General Dave Yost will be at the HS Auditorium on 6/15 from 2-4 pm to speak on the settlement with the Dept. of Justice.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers stated the State of Ohio is requesting that the DOJ settlement with NS be subject to review for a longer period of time than the original 30 days; they are asking that it be until at least August 1st, 2024. He also added a special election was to be held Tuesday June 11 to vote for Johnson's replacement.

STREET: Mr. Glavan stated the Street Dept spent most of May helping get the park up and running; water ditches and potholes were repaired around town. The railroad crossing at Market St. was painted, new street signs were put up on W. North Ave, storm damage was cleaned up, cleaned catch basins/jetted lines, sweeping the streets downtown every Friday and two alleys were repaired and some problem areas on Brookdale Ave are being prepped for repair.

PARK/REC/CEM: Dr. Rocco stated the park is looking nice and the pool is up and running. She added for residents to watch the EP Information FB page for notifications that the pool is closing early. She said attendance is okay and everything appears to be running well. The Summer Kickoff Festival sponsored by NS was very well attended. Mayor Conaway asked about the attendance of the Water Walkers since the heater is down this year, Dr. Rocco stated their attendance is down for now.

DEV/FIN: Ms. May stated they are continuing to work with a number of agencies on various issues. Next week they will be meeting with the Lake to River group in reference to potential EPCIC involvement. The RCAP/Think Tank group will be meeting to kick off some of the programs that have been in discussion.

SAFETY: Mr. Povenski thanked Police and Fire Departments for their quick response at the structure fire last week. The adjoining property suffered minor heat damage but was spared from anything major. Both departments helped with the Street Fair. The PD participated in the "Click It or Ticket" campaign which resulted in 53 traffic stops and 25 citations and one arrest warrant, they also responded to 626 calls for service resulting in 223 reports; 54 of those reports were zoning related. In the month of May the FD responded to 130 calls; 12 were fire only, 101 were ems and 17 were combined. They transported 58 patients.

THERE WERE NO VISITORS COMMENTS ON CURRENT LEGISLATION

VISITORS: John Davis, Mark Rhodes, Jerry Coblenz, Dan Sebrell, Lisa Mahoney, Owen Mahoney, David Mahoney, Dan McKinstry, John Hamner, Shane Hamner, Tami & Bob Harris, Joesph Della Volle, Dave Biggins, Steph Elverd, Crystal Mackall, Bill Thompson, and Traci Spratt.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Simpson introduced Ord. 8-2024 for a first reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **An ordinance adopting the budget and estimated resources for the Village of East Palestine, Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025.** A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for 6:00 pm on the 24th prior to the next regular meeting to discuss the budget. Mr. Simpson introduced Ord. 9-2024 for a first reading and made a motion that it be read in its entirety seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance amending ordinance 1951, passed February 14 1977 in reference to permitted uses of proceeds of the electric utility plant sales fund. Whereas upon sale of the municipal owned electric utility plant, a special fund was created to receive said funds; and Whereas ordinance 1951 was [assed February 14 1977 which authorized the said funds to be used for the payment of electric utility charges incurred by**

the City, now Village; and whereas said funds have never been used for the purpose authorized. Now therefore be it ordained by the Council of the Municipality of East Palestine, Ohio: That ordinance 1951, passed February 14, 1977 is hereby amended as follows; That the sole purpose of said Electric Utility Payment Transfer Fund shall be the payment of capital improvement projects, as may from time to time be approved by the Council of the Village of East Palestine, Ohio. All parts of said ordinance 1951, in conflict with the above amended section 2 are hereby repealed. At this point Dr. Rocco asked about addressing concerns of business owners on Taggart St. near the derailment site in reference to taking care of the parking lots as well as what can be done to help them in support of the train derailment. She added she didn't know what that would look like or what is feasible but the concern has been raised. Mayor Conaway stated those concerns would have to be taken up with NS as taxpayer money can't be used for private business/private property; he added that if a list of owners with the concerns is given to the village, we will take the issue to them.

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

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY