

EP COUNCIL 6/22/26 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, Police Chief Chris Weingart and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the 6/28/26 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Glavan seconded by Mr. Simon. There were no mayor's, water/wastewater, or safety committee reports.

AGENDA: Jerry Coblentz E-Bike Safety Concerns: Mr. Coblentz stated something needs to be done with e-bikes/scooters as they have become a big safety concern. He added there are laws to help with this problem and if there isn't the Village should make an ordinance to address the issue, Manager Diaz-Guy stated he feels we should default to ORC on this issue for the sake of consistency. Discussion followed as to rules/regulations for the different classes of bikes/ages of riders as well as potential solutions including designated routes, mandatory safety classes, etc. Sgt. Brian Moore stated PD does stop e-bikes/regular bikes to give verbal warnings for traffic violations; kids can receive traffic violations, but they would not do that on first offense. Parents/guardians would always be notified prior to a citation being issued to a child. Officer Moore also stated they received a grant from the EPCF to purchase gift cards to hand out to kids they see riding & obeying laws as positive reinforcement goes a long way. He feels if they can talk to the kids/parents who are not riding correctly and reward those who are it will go a long way.

CLERK: Martin stated Planning Commission met on 6/18/26 to review an alley vacation request by the EPCIC for an alley located within the former Jasar property. Commission members voted unanimously to recommend the council move forward with the vacation request. A Charter required public hearing in reference to the same alley vacation request will be held on 7/27/26 @ 6:30 pm prior to the regular council meeting. The final 2026 Charter Review meeting is 6/23/26@ 6:00 pm.

Manager Diaz-Guy stated he will be submitting EP for Opportunity Zones 2.0. The state/federal government offer these incentives which are specific census tracts across the country eligible for capital tax abatements for large investments; our area would be east of Market St. & south of Rt. 14; this would be immediately adjacent to but exclude the new business park so we are lobbying for a contiguous exemption to bring that property in. When trying to bring economic development and housing to the community federal/state tax incentives will only help us. Mr. Glavan made a motion in support of this submission seconded by Mr. Simon. All in favor. He noted he would be sending a letter of approval for the 2nd Annual Kevin Baird Music Festival (9/19/26) in the park; this letter allows them to file their temporary alcohol permit for the event. There is legislation before council tonight transferring a now unneeded sink from the park project to the EPCIC. Thank you to Taha Alkarain/Swift for a \$2500.00 donation to the downtown Pocket Park project as well as the same amount to the K-9 program. The July 4th schedule is now available on social media and will be in the paper. The Wheels of the Valley event on 8/22 is a modification of the car show in the past, it will be bigger/livelier. The RFQ's for infrastructure project have been reviewed with interviews to follow. The 2026 paving of E. Main & Brookdale are complete except for striping; the job was very well done. Manager Diaz-Guy is recommending the Village adopt International Property Maintenance Codes for both commercial/residential; this is the standard across many municipalities. We have stopped the downward trend of commercial buildings, and this will help us repair/improve them. Finally, a motion was requested to pay for the memorial plaque for Karen Gorby at Glenview Cemetery out of the General Fund. Ms. Stauffer made the requested motion seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously.

STREET: Mr. Simon agreed that the paving this year was done well and we received a quality job.

PARK/REC/CEM: Ms. Stauffer thanked the Friends of the Park who put on the Music in the Park event this past weekend. It was a great event with a good turnout. They are working on fundraising to hold more events like this in the future. They are also selling raffle tickets for the 250th flag blanket made by Tina Dilworth. Mr. Glavan added the event was almost flawless and thanked everyone for their hard work.

DEV/FIN: Ms. Herriott stated a meeting was attended for an update on oil/gas activity by the Ohio Oil and Gas Association. She stated she attended the Planning Commission meeting in reference to the Jasar alley vacation and the lot split. Commission members tabled the split so as to get more information on the project. The Plaza bids are due 6/23, it was noted the CIC has also applied for the Vibrant Communities Grant for this project (this grant is no matching funds required). In reference to the Depot Strollo has recommended Dynamic Structures as the GC as they were the lowest/best bid, the project is scheduled for 7/6/26. There are no updates on the former Jasar property but there is a lease for 94 N. Market St. The next EPCIC meeting is 6/23 @10:00am at the Municipal Building. Mr. Glavan stated the EP Act group is excited to bring back the Bed Races as an event on July 4th. In reference to the Wheels of the Valley event on 8/22 Mr. Glavan added they did not want to see the car show die off so they are making it bigger and better by teaming up with Dying Breed Diesels who will be bringing 100 semi-trucks, the owner of Armando's Trucking will be bringing back 250 jeeps for another jeep invasion, the American Legion will be hosting a motor cycle swap meet that morning, bands throughout the day, they are looking at those who have golf carts be Uber's for the day.

VISITORS: Mark Rhodes Jerry Coblentz, Mike Dugan, John Davis, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Joe Della Volle, Barb Kliner, Dot Herbert, Carol Harvey, Amy Creaturo-Moore, Officer Brian Moore, Carol Harvey, Dan McKinstry, Endia & Trent Wisser, Jill & Steve Baird, Jenny & Mike Placer, Holly Lewis, Dave Biggis, Payton Sherry, Kerri Stewart and Officer Jake Koehler.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 16-2026 for a third reading and motioned it be read in its entirety seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance dedicating the stage located at the East Palestine City Park as the "Kevin Baird Memorial Stage" an authorizing a sponsorship program of said facility.** Mr. Glavan called the vote seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. At this time Steve Baird stated with the proceeds from this year's event the foundation's goal is to give a \$5000.00 scholarship for the trades at the high school, they will start a pool of money for the band for kids who cannot afford instruments or band trips, diabetes research and part of the money will go back to the park. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 18-2026 for a second reading and motioned it be read by title, only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance vacating a public right of way within the Jasar plat, near the corner of Glenwood Ave. and Parkview, commonly known as Jasar Alley in the Village of East Palestine.** Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 20-2026 for a first reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance approving the execution of a Community Reinvestment Area agreement among the Village of East Palestine, the East Palestine Community Improvement Corporation and Small Batch LLC DBA as Full City Roastery.** Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 28-2026 and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Povenski. **A resolution authorizing the transfer of certain surplus equipment to the East Palestine Community Improvement Corporation.** Mr. Glavan called to vote seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 29-2026 and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **A resolution authorizing the abatement of a nuisance condition consisting of litter, debris, rubbish and other unsanitary or unsightly materials located at 303 N. Walnut St., East Palestine, Ohio 44413, parcel # 68-02229.000, authorizing the Village Manager to cause such abatement to be completed, and authorizing the certification of costs to the Columbiana County Auditor pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 731.51 through 731.54.** Mr. Glavan called to vote seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. At this time resident Dan McKinstry stated he feels that the Village should hire more people to help care for the new park after it is completed. Manager

Diaz-Guy stated that it is also a concern of the administration. Mr. Blythe also reiterated the need for additional trash cans in the park to which Manager Diaz-Guy stated there is now an open change order for Phase 2 of the park project to add additional trash cans. Mr. Glavan stated he was asked about street signs in the park that could also be used as a sponsorship possibility.

ADJOURN: Mr. Glavan motioned to adjourn seconded by Mr. Simon. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY.