

EP COUNCIL 6/23/25 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, Police Chief Jim Brown, Clerk Misti Martin. In reference to the 6/9 minutes Mayor Conaway noted that Mr. Povenski was not listed however he was present; the minutes were then approved on a motion by Mr. Glavan seconded by Mr. Blythe. All in favor. There were no law director's, street, w/ww, or safety committee reports.

CLERK: Clerk Misti Martin stated that in an effort to simplify things the Village will be moving back to having one Facebook page. The EP Information page will remain online so historical content can still be accessed but any/all new content will be posted on the Village of East Palestine, Ohio Facebook page.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway asked that residents check in on friends, family, and neighbors during the current heat wave.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy congratulated Graeme Oleary for successfully passing his WW2 Plant licensing exam, it makes our department stand out with everyone being licensed. Noreen McBride is celebrating her 30th year at the EP Memorial Library. The 150th celebration is set for July 12th with most events being rain or shine; July 11 will also be the previously re-scheduled Sizzle-n-Sing event at the EPCIC Plaza. Final construction document design is advancing on the government services complex. Legislation will include an update on the Junk Car ordinance; it was asked to be passed as an emergency so as to be able to immediately begin enforcement. It was recently announced that NIH funding has been increased by ten million dollars, they will be accepting proposals from various universities who will then perform the long-term health care monitoring; our request to the administration is that they choose a program that aggregates all of the data so it is one comprehensive study. Also in legislation is a resolution showing our displeasure with HB 335 should council choose to pass it; the bill takes property tax and reforms it stripping away funding from school districts and municipalities. This could be a good thing if there is an auxiliary way to fund those organizations that require property tax funding however that has not happened. Finance Director Melissa Hiner stated the Village will automatically lose \$180,000 to \$200,000.00 off the top of the General Fund, that is the minimum. That is the equivalent of two of our lowest paid patrol officers and our lowest paid dispatcher. This would also be a big cut for the school system. Finally, it was noted the week of July 14th the village will be holding a limb pick up program; residents can place naturally fallen branches/limbs at the curb and throughout that week village crews as well as volunteers will be picking them up for disposal. The plan is to hold three/four of these events a year even though it does stretch manpower thin.

PARK/REC/CEM: Ms. Stauffer noted Phase 2 of the park project is currently under way, existing pool demo schedule will be decided soon, traffic adjustments have been made, stage work is still in progress and sport courts are currently being surfaced.

DEV/FIN: Ms. Herriott stated she met with school in reference to future programs and youth engagement as well as a potential program where students can help residents with small improvement projects. The education group held their second class on how to do Canva and was a lot of fun. The EPCIC met on 6/17 approving surveys of both the Depot and EPCIC Plaza; a special meeting was held on 6/20 to authorize deconstruction services at

the depot to uncover any unknown conditions before design work begins. The next EPCIC meeting will be 7/22 @ 10 am. The Depot will be open for the 150th celebration.

VISITORS: Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Jerry Coblenz, Mark Rhodes, Barb Kliner, Dot Herbert, Carol Harvey, Dan McKinstry, Steph Elvera.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 7-2025 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance repealing/replacing Chapter 446 of the Codified Ordinances of the Municipality of Ohio.** 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. 7-2025 seconded by Ms. Herriott. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 8-2025 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance updating section 1060.01 F of the Codified Ordinances of the Municipality of Ohio.** Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 9-2025 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance adopting the budget and estimated resources for the Village of E. Palestine, Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026.** Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 12-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Stauffer. **A resolution opposing HB 335 and urging the Ohio General Assembly to reject legislation that eliminates inside millage and transfers local budgetary authority to county budget commissions.** Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Res.12-2025 seconded by Mr. Blythe. Passed unanimously. At this time Mr. Povenski called for executive session under ORC 121.22 G1 to consider the appointment/employment of a public employee, inviting in Manager Diaz-Guy, Atty. Powers, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, and Clerk Misti Martin, the motion was seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan motioned to return to regular session seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously. Mr. Povenski made a motion for Atty. Powers to draw legislation accepting the proposal from Bricker Graydon (for legal counsel for the village to replace Atty. Powers at his retirement) beginning January 1, 2026 through December 2026, the motion was seconded by Mr. Glavan. Passed unanimously. Mr. Povenski made a motion to move services of WRL on a month-to-month basis, paid for by settlement funds, while council deliberates the next steps and allowing Manager Diaz-Guy to enter into a new agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Glavan. Passed unanimously.

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

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY