

EP COUNCIL 6/8/26 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Blythe, Ms. Herriott, Mr. Simon, and Ms. Stauffer. Mr. Povenski and Mr. Glavan were not present, their absences were approved on a motion by Mr. Simon seconded by Ms. Herriott. Mr. Simon motioned to approve the minutes of the 6/28/26 meeting seconded by Mr. Blythe. The May village department reports were approved on a motion by Mr. Simon seconded by Mr. Blythe. There was no clerks report.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway thanked EPPD for the bike/scooter safety presentation at the school stating we will keep an eye on the situation and have additional conversation if needed.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy stated Phase 2 update; the original plan was for the pool to open Memorial Day weekend. The pool is done except for one large custom electric panel that runs the entire pool system; until that is delivered/installed it cannot be plastered and filled. Currently, we do not have a defined pool opening date. Regardless of timing, the pool does have to be filled and run with chemicals for thirty days. There was an option to do a temporary electrical service at a cost of \$70,000.00 which would come out of the park budget and would only allow us to keep the plaster date; he felt this would not be a good use of the public's money as it would only buy as approx. two weeks. Phase 3 update: A pre-construction meeting was held with the contractor, Cronin. This phase is primarily roads, playgrounds, and bathroom reconstruction. They will mobilize into the site the week before July 4th, and nothing more until July 5th. Phase 3 also includes reversal of the flow of traffic through the park; appropriate signage will be posted. The agreement with NS for direct procurement of playground equipment and reimbursement has not yet been signed as they are still in active conversation about the issue. Friday June 12th is the deadline for the Economic Development Association grant RFQ submission. There is legislation on the agenda for a completely updated Drug Free Workplace Policy. The 2026 paving has begun with East Main Street and then Brookdale Ave.

STREET: Mr. Simon stated Completed surface prep for upcoming Kemple Dr. tar/chip., paved all water ditches from winter water breaks. Paved sections of Marion & E. North after storm drainpipe installation. Installed new street signage at the following locations: Pleasant & Martin, Forbes & Main and Brookdale & Kenmar. Put up flags in the downtown area and prepare for Street Fair, cemetery maintenance. Regular mowing is now taking one ½ to 2 days a week. Cleaned/picked up significant amounts of yard debris and storm damage. Routine Maintenance & Sanitation including street sweeping, equipment care, and animal control.

PARK/REC/CEM: Ms. Stauffer stated Park Revenue for May was \$675.00. Normal daily operations, storm debris removal, ball field maintenance and prep for new dugouts, assist in DOG Days prep. Repaired gate at dog park, prepared gazebo for Memorial Day service, made minor repairs to mower and utility vehicle. Upcoming projects/events include prep for EPMS field day, music in the park on June 19, and July 4th preparations.

DEV/FIN: Ms. Herriott stated there were twenty-six building/zoning permits totaling \$885.00, twenty-two contractor registrations totaling \$1,100.00 and one vendor permit at \$50.00. The top two posts on FB in May were in reference to the Street Fair and the swearing in of a new police officer; the page gained three hundred followers (a 93% increase). Instagram followers increased by 180%. EPCIC updates: the pre-bid walk through for The Plaza was held on 6/4 and a Vibrant Communities Grant is being applied for the project. The Depot bids were due 6/3, contractor approval will be 6/10 at the Commissioner's office. They are actively working with Platz on purchase agreements for the former Jasar property. 94 N. Market St. has been shown twice to prospective tenants. The next EPCIC meeting is 6/23 at 10:00 am. Manager Diaz-Guy added that the Capital Budget request for the Brick Pavilion rehab that was submitted has been approved for \$100,000.00, this scope of work was originally in the park project budget but was removed because we felt we could do it in house more affordably. He

also added we applied for a Community Wide Assessment grant through EPA. This is a \$500,000.00 grant to do assessments on potential brownfield sites in EP. Potential sites include East North Ave. school, several sites on the east end of Taggart and some areas by City Lake. If awarded this will give us a solid idea what we can do with those properties in the Village.

WATER/WASTEWATER: Mr. Blythe stated 11.1 million gallons of water were produced and 29.6 million gallons of wastewater were produced in the month of May. Seventy disconnection notices were mailed to residents; 31 second notices were hand delivered resulting in five accounts being shut off for nonpayment. Cleaned/replaced air diffusers in two sludge holding tanks, also replaced a 6-inch valve on sludge holding tank at WWTP. Heavy rain on 5/24 caused an SSO at West Main and Vine, the first in several years. During the rain event the EQ basin took 625,000 gallons of water. The WWTP recorded 5.7 inches of rain in the month.

SAFETY: In the month of May the FD saw nineteen incidents- 13 in the Village, four in Unity and two mutual aid. One training was held with Darlington, Negley and NW for Water Supply/water flow/water fill site operations. EMS activity saw 147 incidents-100 in the Village, fifteen in Unity and thirty-two mutual aid. Nine calls occurred simultaneously. PD hired a new full-time patrol officer who is currently going through the Field Officer Training program and two dispatchers also going through training. SRO Brindisi presented an assembly to both EPMS and EPHS on bike/scooter safety; the goal is to minimize/eliminate crashes/injuries. Officers provided traffic control for the Memorial Day Parade and security for the Street Fair. The department designed a new uniform patch and is in process of attaching it to all uniforms. 357 self-initiated calls/calls for service were received resulting in 149 reports.

VISITORS: John Davis, Peggy Caratelli, Jerry Coblenz, Will O’Gorman, Carol Harvey, Dot Herbert, and Barb Kliner.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Simon introduced Ord. 15-2026 for a third reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Herriott. **An ordinance establishing the East Palestine Business Vibrancy Grant Program, creating a dedicated fund, authorizing program administration, and setting forth program guidelines.** Mr. Simon called to vote seconded by Ms. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simon introduced Ord.16-2026 for a second reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Stauffer. **An ordinance dedicating the stage located at East Palestine City Park as the Kevin Baird Memorial Stage and authorizing a sponsorship program for said facility.** Mr. Simon introduced Ord. 18-2026 for a first reading and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Stauffer. **An ordinance vacating a public right of way within the Jasar Plat, near the corner of Glenwood Avenue and Parkview and commonly known as Jasar Alley in the Village of East Palestine.** Mr. Simon introduced Ord. 19-2026 and motioned it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Herriott. **An ordinance adopting the updated drug-free workplace policy for the Municipality of East Palestine, repealing all inconsistent policies, and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Simon motioned to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Ms. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simon called to vote seconded by Ms. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simon introduced Res. 25-2026 and motioned it to be read by title only seconded by Mr. Blythe. **A resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the count auditor.** Mr. Simon called to vote seconded by Ms. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simon introduced Res. 26-2026 seconded by Mr. Blythe. **A resolution to exclude the approval of the City of Salem which approval would otherwise be required for an alternative method of apportionment of local government fund monies to be distributed in 2027.** Mr. Simon was called to vote secondly by Mr. Blythe. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simon introduced Res.27-2026 and motioned it read by title only seconded by Ms. Herriott. **A resolution approving an**

alternative method of apportionment of local government fund money to be distributed in 2027. Mr. Simon called to vote seconded by Ms. Herriott. Passed unanimously.

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

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY