

EP COUNCIL 5/28/25 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, Officer Jake Koehler, Law Director David Powers, Finance Director Melissa Hiner and Clerk Misti Martin. In reference to the minutes of 5/12/25 Ms. Herriott noted a correction was needed in the following section “.....in reference to CIC, Strollo Architects have evaluated the depot and problems were found” was supposed to say “...In reference to CIC, Strollo Architects have evaluated the depot and no problems were found”. Mr. Glavan motioned to approve the corrected minutes of 5/12/25, seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously. There were no Clerk’s, Finance, or Safety Committee reports.

AGENDA: Kent Chapman- EPFFA 130th Memorial Service Invitation. Mr. Chapman extended an invitation to 130th EPFFA memorial service on June 4th at 6:00 pm at Clark St. Fire Station to remember all those who have served. It is open to the public.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway thanked the Chamber and everyone involved in making the 2025 Street Fair a success.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy stated in reference to Glenview Cemetery a contract has been signed to repoint the front entrance façade, signage and Mausoleum doors also thanking Carol Harvey and The EP Eagles for donating the funds for that project. The Welcome to EP sign project demolition has begun with the electric being disconnected, this is a 90-day project. Park Phase 1 is on target for a completion date of 5/30 with the exception of the amphitheater which does have some materials that are back ordered. Phase 2 anticipated start date (aquatics center) is June 16th, a logistics plan in regards to demolition a logistics plan will soon be released. All memorial stones as well as the fence pickets with names will be collected and stored for later use. The construction schedule will be announced at the next council meeting as well as posted online. In reference to Phase 3 we will be putting a plan in place to move forward and it will be discussed publicly. The 2025 Paving project, Sebring & E. Clark, has been awarded to Shelly & Sands. The final scope & fee for the Water Plant expansion project will be presented to council for review. Another round of creek assessments will begin and are being conducted by the EPA. The Columbiana County Land Bank has temporarily taken possession of 448 E. Taggart St. to conduct Brownfield remediation in reference to legacy petrol chemicals, this is not derailment related. Residents can expect to see increased truck traffic to remove soil from the facility, they will be following the same truck traffic pattern as the trucks from the derailment clean followed. This summer the small bridge that crosses Leslie Run at the Brookdale intersection is scheduled to be replaced by the County; this is a 60-day project. Information will be posted from ODOT for residents who will be affected by the project. We have received the final scope/fee for the government services complex but it has not yet been reviewed. Finally, the owner of the property at 101 S. Market St. appealed a demolition order to the Zoning Board of Appeals, the demolition order was upheld by the board. The property owner has one more appeal option to Village council but as of this time we have not heard from them.

LAW DIRECTOR: Atty. Powers stated there was a lawsuit filed in the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas against the Village, EPPD, EPFD, EP School District as well as many others. The Court has given the plaintiffs, that number upwards of 75, 14 days to file a brief to explain why the case should not be dismissed since it was filed in Franklin County which has nothing to do with the train derailment.

STREET: Mr. Simon thanked the Street Dept. for helping get things ready for the Street Fair. Pot hole repair continues. He added residents could contact him or village hall with any specific concerns. Multiple stop signs have been replaced around town. Clerk Misti Martin added there is now a service request form on the website for residents to report any issues.

PARK/REC/CEM: Ms. Stauffer said Park Board would like to know if it is permissible for them to solicit donations for the cemetery specifically for repairs and who the checks should be made out to if so. Atty. Powers said it is permissible and that the checks should be made out to the Village of East Palestine and the memo line should state "cemetery repairs". Ms. Stauffer said Park Board is also looking for a list of all of the new plants at the park so as to plan ahead for future maintenance. Manager Diaz-Guy stated a list including care instructions is being prepared and also that there are several dozen leftover plants that are available to be planted around town. Finally, Ms. Stauffer stated concern has been expressed over the pedestrian walkway at the entrance of the park needing repainted as there have been close calls with traffic, as well the potential for a blinking light in that area. Manager Diaz-Guy stated we can look into those options and that intersections around the park are scheduled to be repainted but it is weather dependent.

DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Herriott stated the EPCIC met and told that WRL will be using digital/billboard marketing to entice business to come to EP; they approved a request to use the Train Depot as well as the EPCIC Plaza for future fundraisers. The next EPCIC meeting will be Tuesday June 17 @ 10:00 am. The action groups (amenities, housing and education groups) that came out of the Think Tank continue to meet and are becoming active in the community. There are upcoming opportunities for the summer that will allow middle school kids to learn something new, get a free lunch and then teach that same skill to adults the same day. Ms. Herriott stated they are excited to now be action groups instead of just ideas and are looking forward to things to come; all of the groups will meet together in August to see where they stand moving forward. Mr. Glavan, chair of the Downtown Vibrancy action group, stated they have put together two events. On June 6th at the EPCIC Plaza they will be holding a community karaoke group called the Sizzle & Sing with food trucks. This is a free event. They also received approval for a Roaring Twenties event night at the depot in August. The thought is to bring people from inside and outside the community to the spaces that the CIC and community are working on together to see them as they are now and then be able to see them a year from now when they are occupied with new businesses.

WATER/WASTEWATER: Mr. Blythe thanked the department for providing water for the Street Fair. There were a couple leaks repaired over the last month and more details will be released in reference to the water plant expansion project.

VISITORS: Carol Harvey, Kent Chapman, Barb Kliner, Jerry Coblentz, John Davis.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan made a motion to amend the agenda to add Ord. 7-2025 for a first reading, the motion was seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 6-2025 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only, seconded by Mr. Povenski. **An Ordinance repealing Ordinance 13-2024 setting a maximum rate the Village will pay for the burial of indigent persons, as required by Ohio law.** Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 7-2025 for a first reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance repealing and replacing Chapter 446 of the Codified Ordinances of the Municipality of East Palestine, Ohio.** Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 9-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr.

Blythe. **A resolution to exclude the approval of the City of Salem, which approval would otherwise be required, for an alternate method of apportionment of local government fund and local government revenue assistance fund monies to be distributed in 2026 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Blythe. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Res. 9-2025 seconded by Mr. Blythe. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 10-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Blythe. **An emergency resolution approving a new alternate method of apportionment of local government fund and local government revenue assistance fund monies to be distributed in 2026 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 Res. 10-2025 seconded by Ms. Herriott. Passed unanimously. At this time Mr. Povenski made a motion to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 G 1 to consider the appointment/employment/interview law director candidate inviting in Manager Diaz-Guy, Atty. Powers and Atty. Michael Angiolelli. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. There would be no business to follow.

ADJOURN: Mr. Povenski motioned to return to regular session as well as adjourn the meeting, the motions were seconded by Ms. Stauffer. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY