

## EP COUNCIL 11/27/23 85 N. MARKET ST. 7:00 PM

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order. Present was Ms. May, Mr. Povenski, Dr. Rocco, Mr. Runnion, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Walker. Also, present was Village Manager Chad Edwards, Finance Director Traci Spratt, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, W/WW Superintendent Scott Wolfe, Law Director David Powers, Clerk Misti Martin, BZ Inspector CH McCutcheon. The minutes from the 11/13/23 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Walker seconded by Mr. Runnion. There were no department reports, agenda items, clerk's or law directors report.

**MAYOR:** Mayor Conaway spoke of recently passed Fire Department/EMS member Barb Greaves. Barb was a pivotal member of the department for 30 years and taught many classes. He also congratulated EP graduate trooper Jarod Paine for being awarded trooper of the year.

**MANAGER:** Manager Edwards stated he recently attended a webinar regarding grant possibilities for water, wastewater and storm water. He stated he discussed with Street Superintendent Baird coming up with a comprehensive storm water plan and he discussed upgrading the GIS system with W/WW Superintendent Wolfe; the grant must be submitted by the end of 2024. He will also be working on a few USDA Grants as they are available and bring that info to Council. He said he met with Barb Kliner to discuss way of enhancing the lives of the senior citizens in town, namely a golf cart/bike trail that would lead to key places in the community. He noted he added information for council to review in reference to ICMA as he is the first manager to belong to the organization as well as information for new/existing council members to help orient you to the position, there is no cost to this program. He stated he attended the Envision Workshop sponsored by RCAP, he said it was very productive and is looking forward to seeing the results. Finance Director Traci Spratt stated the legislation in reference to income tax are changes pertaining to House Bill 33. Spratt also asked for a special council meeting to be called for December 11 at 6:00 in reference to the proposal for the Village to accept pre-treated waste water from the derailment site. The meeting would be for residents to ask questions and voice concerns; Superintendent Wolfe added this has been mentioned numerous times and he feels we either need to move forward with it or take it off the table. A special meeting was then called for 12/11/23 at 6:00 prior to the regular meeting at 7:00 pm. Resident/Fire Department member Rick Gorby stated the Fireman's Association (hosted by the Gorby family) will be holding a "Fill a Truck" with toys for Social Concerns on Saturday 12/2/23 in the old Brittain parking lot on Market St. from 11:00 to 4:00.

**STREET:** Mr. Walker stated he spoke with the supervisor for the Park Drive Bridge project and that it will be opened back up December 8.

**PARK/REC/CEM:** Dr. Rocco stated Saturday 12/2 the Park Board will be putting a Cookies with Santa event for the public and on Wednesday 12/6 at 6:00pm at the Municipal Building the Park Board will hold a special meeting for the public to give input for the park renovation project.

**DEVELOPMENT/FINANCE:** Ms. May thanked everyone who participated in the Envision workshop, there were over 60 people there and it was a very positive with many great ideas. There will be another meeting soon with updates after collating all of the information. She stated there are also additional meetings coming up in reference to economic development.

**UTILITY:** Mr. Simpson had no report. Mayor Conaway stated there is a special meeting prior to the next regular meeting on 12/11 to discuss the proposal to accept pre-treated waste water from NS.

**SAFETY:** In reference to the proposed changed in the personal policy hand book Fire Chief Drabick stated the plan is to have Ems staffing 24/7 as opposed to the current police of allowing staffing Mon-Fri 9a to 5p with pay being hour for hour anything outside that is done on an on-call basis. From 5p to 5a the employee gets paid for four hours whether they run a call or not, if they run a call during that period they get paid per hour during the call. That leaves a gap from 5a to 9a but also it does not guarantee coverage and limits who is able to be on call.

**VISITORS:** Abbey Palmer, David Becker, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Kent & Darlene Chapman, John Davis, Barb Kliner, Stephanie Elick, Shirley Glavan, Sandi Weigle, Jon Varley, Amanda Smith, Mark Shannon, Dan Sebrell, Steven Savich, CH McCutcheon, Zach Gorby, Rick & Karen Gorby, Lisa & David Mahoney,

Joseph Della Volle, Jerry Coblenz, Bennet Bruno, Lenny Glavan, Dan McKinstry, Brenda Povenski, Steph Elverd, and two illegible names.

**LEGISLATION:** In reference to the Res. 20-2023 for the CIC Manager Edwards stated a Community Investment Corporation is a committee that is separate of the village which has the ability to do more as far as economic development than the village can do. The resolution allows submission to the state to form a CIC. Mr. Runnion made a motion to amend the agenda to add Ord. 26-2023 seconded by Mr. Walker. Passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion then made a motion to add the amended versions of Ordinances 22 & 24, the motions were seconded by Mr. Walker and passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 20-2023 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance for the approval and granting consent to the Director of the Ohio Department of transportation authority to, apply, maintain and repair standard longitudinal pavement markings and erect regulatory and warning signs on state highways inside Village corporate limits, and giving consent of the Village for the Ohio Department of Transportation to remove snow and ice and use snow and ice control material on state highways inside the Village corporate limits and giving consent of the Village for the Ohio Department of Transportation to perform maintenance and/or repair on state highways inside the Village Corporation.** Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Ord. 20-2023. Passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 22-2023 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance authorizing the village manager to enter into a contract with David P. Powers to serve as the municipal attorney for a one-year term commencing January 1, 2024 in accordance with the terms of the previous contract which is hereby incorporated by reference.** Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 23-2023 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance adopting the negotiated pay increase between the Village of East Palestine (employer) and the Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. (Union).** Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 24-2023 for a second reading seconded by Dr. Rocco. **An ordinance adopting a wage scale and other updates to be incorporated into the personnel policy handbook (white book).** Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 25-2023 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Walker. **An ordinance adopting the appropriation for the current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of East Palestine, Ohio, during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024 and adopting estimated resources and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Runnion introduced Ord. 26-2023 for a first reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded Mr. Walker. **An ordinance to amend Chapter 882 of the Codified Ordinances of The Village of East Palestine regarding municipal income tax.** Mr. Runnion introduced Res. 19-2023 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **A resolution authorizing the Village manager to issue (1) notice of termination of consulting agreement for media consulting services and (2) advance payment under said agreements termination provisions.** Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Res. 19-2023. Passed unanimously. Mr. Runnion introduced Res. 20-2023 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Dr. Rocco. **A resolution authorizing the village manager to sign incorporating documents for the East Palestine Community Improvement Corporation to advance the villages industrial, commercial, distribution, and research development.** Mr. Runnion called for a vote on Res.20-2023. Passed unanimously. Mr. Simpson made a motion to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 to discuss contracts dealing with wages inviting in Finance Directors Traci Spratt, Melissa Hiner, Atty. Powers and Manager Edwards. The motion was seconded by Mr. Runnion. 5 yes to pass with Mr. Walker abstaining. There would be no further business.

**ADJOURN:** At approximately 9:00 pm Dr. Rocco made a motion to return to regular session and adjourn the meeting, Mr. Runnion seconded the motion. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

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MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK

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MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY