

EP COUNCIL 10/27/25 7:00 PM 85 N. MARKET ST.

Mayor Conaway called the meeting to order, present was Mr. Glavan, Ms. Herriott, Mr. Povenski, Mr. Simon and Ms. Stauffer. Mr. Blyth was not present; his absence was excused on a motion by Ms. Stauffer seconded by Mr. Glavan. Also, present was Village Manager Antonio Diaz-Guy, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Law Director David Powers, Clerk Misti Martin, and Officer Chris Weingart. The minutes of the 10/13/25 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Povenski seconded by Mr. Glavan. There were no department or Law Director's reports.

CLERK: Clerk Misti Martin stated Trick or Treat would be Thursday 10/30 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm with the parade to follow at 7:30 and the afterparty at the Moose Lodge. The parade will include a new section sponsored by the EP ACT Downtown Vibrancy Group which is a golf cart decorating contest. We would also like to thank our safety services staff who will be supporting these events.

MAYOR: Mayor Conaway stated the Bulldogs have made it to the playoffs for the second year in a row and we hope to see everyone there to support them.

MANAGER: Manager Diaz-Guy stated that Phase 2 of the park project is going well noting they will be concreting the pool beginning November 3rd. There are temperature constraints to this type of work so we are now in a race against time; the proposal is to shut down either part of all of the park from Nov 3rd through the 7th during the weekday business hours to allow free flow of material trucks. With no objections from council, it was noted to move forward with closing the park as previously stated. The Halloweentown contest winners are as follows: Scariest-Jessica Davis 292 E. Highland, Funniest-Connie Rager 110 Leake St., Dawn Baughman-456 E. Martin St. and Council's Favorite-Jenna Catone 437 E. Clark St. Finally, it was noted additional legislation for tonight was a resolution permitting the manager to apply for a TAP grant.

STREET: Mr. Simon stated the Street crew has been working on the disc golf course renovation project and completed stormwater drainage projects on Park Dr. and Clark St. Fire Station.

PARK/REC/CEM: Ms. Stauffer stated Phase 1 of the park project includes work on punch list items, cut sheet review and cantilevered fence panels adjacent to the tennis courts are in the process of being adjusted to alleviate balls from rolling out of the courts. Phase 2 is underway and on schedule. Phase 3 design is 60% complete; the budget is being reviewed as well as the scope of work. In reference to Glenview Cemetery the maintenance garage was cleared out and debris removed. The disc golf renovation project was completed prior to the tournament on 10/25. It was also noted the tennis wall currently in the park will not be kept as that area is part of the new playground.

DEV/FINANCE: Ms. Herriott stated Elite Pharmacy's grand opening event will be 10/29. Ms. Herriott attended a Mayoral luncheon last week where State Senator Al Cutrona was also in attendance where the discussion was property tax. Senator Cutrona feels the issue will make it on the ballot next year and will most likely pass; without property tax sales tax would have to be raised to approximately 16 ½% to make up the difference. Additional options for making up the difference include paying tax on items that we currently do not such as food. School districts, townships and municipalities will be hit hard if property tax goes away. It is also likely that capital budget community improvement requests will also be put on hold due to the uncertainty of property tax which equates to around \$200 million

dollars a year that go to communities like us to help with development projects. The latest Learn to Teach, Teach to Learn project had 25 students learn to make pumpkin bread and then taught that skill to 22 adults. The next event will be 11/18 where Christmas ornaments will be decorated for the new Christmas tree downtown; the EPCIC are donating the ornaments for the project. The CIC continues to raise funds for the EPCIC Plaza downtown. Finally, she thanked the school district for hosting a breakfast for senior members of the community. Finance Director Melissa Hiner stated a supplemental appropriation was before council tonight; the primary reason for this was to allow for Halloweentown prizes to be distributed and a few other miscellaneous items. Funds that are not appropriated cannot be used. Also included is a transfer to the parks department, this is due to loss of rental income during the construction project and increases in utility costs. In reference to the property tax issue Hiner stated the Village receives approximately \$200,000 into the general fund which equates to wages/benefits for two full time police officers and one full time dispatcher that we would potentially lose if this measure passes. Property tax also accounts for approximately 80% of revenue for the township.

WATER/WASTEWATER: Manager Diaz-Guy stated hydrant flushing was performed last week as well as a water main break on Kemple Drive was repaired. Students from the Highschool Environmental Science class will be touring the wastewater treatment plant.

SAFETY: Mr. Povenski thanked the FD for their work for the 150th Anniversary celebration.

STUDENT REP: Ms. Snedeker stated the news edition of the EPIC was released 10/24 which covered issues including homecoming, getting to know students/teachers around EP, the Bulldog Café, the fall sports programs, student council, train settlement updates and political figures. The sophomore class will be doing a career coaching program after taking the Grit Assessment. The playoff game Friday will kick off at 7:00 pm, it is an OHSA game so ticket prices will be higher.

VISITORS: Mark Rhodes, Jerry Coblenz, Joe Della Volle, Brenda Povenski, Rick Gorby, Ron & Peggy Caratelli, Barb Kliner, Dot Herbert, Carol Harvey, Kim Brock, Dan McKinstry, Steph Elverd, Laurie Harmon, Tom Brittain and Tami Harris.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Glavan made a motion to amend the agenda to add Res. 24-2025, permitting the manager to apply for a TAP (Transportation Alternative Program) grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Povenski. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 22-2025 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance creating a new administrative position, marketing coordinator, and adopting a wage scale to be incorporated into the personnel policy handbook (white book).** Mr. Glavan called for a vote seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 25-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Herriott. **An ordinance authorizing the Finance Director to make supplemental appropriations for the City of East Palestine, Ohio for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Glavan made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Ms. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 25-2025 seconded by Ms. Stauffer. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 24-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Ms. Stauffer. **A resolution authoring the Village Manager, on behalf of the Village of East Palestine, Ohio to submit a grant application for the Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) covering multiple projects in and around the community. If successful in obtaining said grant, the funds will be used for pedestrian**

safety and advance economic development, construction, and necessary infrastructure.
Mr. Glavan called for a vote seconded by Mr. Povenski. Passed unanimously.

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

MISTI J. MARTIN SECRETARY

MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY