

## EP COUNCIL 9/22/25 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, Ms Stauffer and new student representative Olivia Snedeker. Also present was Village Manager Antonio Diaz-Guy, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Law Director David Powers, Officer Chris Weingart and Clerk Misti Martin. The minutes of the 9/8/25 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Glavan seconded by Mr. Blythe. There were no agenda items or monthly reports as well as no reports for the following: Clerk, Law Director, Street, Water/wastewater, or Safety Committees.

**MAYOR:** Mayor Conaway thanked everyone involved in the downtown Fall Fest.

**MANAGER:** Manager Diaz-Guy stated the Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber would be holding a Good Morning East Palestine event at the Roadhouse; the hope is for this to be an annual event to bring together businesses and investors. In reference to summer paving the striping is still pending down. In reference to the new East Palestine Building Department, the app to the state has been submitted and a decision should be made on 9/25. The Government Services Complex on Market St. is at 60% design. In reference to marketing the plan is to proceed with direct employment of an individual; this route is better suited to manage cost as well as provide for boots on the ground services. We will still retain WRL for web hosting/security etc. A draft of the Vibrant Downtown Grant program is before council for review/comment as well as discussion as to if council wishes to proceed with the program. The program itself would allow for small grants for businesses in the community at large to help with startup, purchase equipment/inventory etc.; there are still many details to work out. A new business will be opening at 65 N. Market St. called Faye's Elegant Beauty on October 1.

**PARK/REC/CEM:** Ms. Stauffer stated Phase 2 of the park project is still in full swing and Phase 3 is at 60% design. Phase 3 was reviewed with Park Board and everyone was pleased. A fall mix of grass will also be planted around mid-October.

**DEVELOPMENT:** Ms. Herriott welcomed the new student representative to Village Council, Olivia Snedeker. Olivia is a senior at EP Highschool. Ms. Herriott stated she and Manager Diaz-Guy attended the new Project EP class and look forward to their upcoming projects. The next EP Act education group Learn to Teach, Teach to Learn is the 23<sup>rd</sup> where they will be making a cloth wristlet. Classes will be held through the end of the year. The CIC is continuing fundraising efforts for the Brighten Our Future campaign with the next meeting being Tuesday 9/23/25.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:** Ms. Snedeker stated for Project EP there are two projects; one short term and one long term. The short-term project is tailgating on Friday evenings before the home games to promote community pride and helps with fundraising for the long-term project. The long-term project will be transforming the vacant lot between the Municipal Building and the flower shop into a community gathering space which will include food trucks and seating; they are currently working on detailed designs and budget. There is also another fundraiser specifically for the senior class called the Pink Out Fundraiser and help with breast cancer awareness and also that the band show would be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Ms. Snedeker stated students have also asked for updates on the EPCIC Plaza. In reference to the plaza Ms. Herriott stated the CIC is working with an architect on plans to build out the existing structure, design plans. In reference to the

common area Ms. Herriott suggested Ms. Snedeker gather ideas from other students and she bring them to the next meeting.

**VISITORS:** Carol Harvey, Mark Rhodes, Barb Kliner, Dot Herbert, Tom Brittain, Rick Gorby, John Cozza, Kent Chapman, and Nicholas Hamilton.

**LEGISLATION:** Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 22-2025 for a first reading and made a motion that it be read in its entirety, seconded by Mr. Simon. **An ordinance creating a new administrative position, marketing coordinator, adopting a wage scale to be incorporated into the personnel policy handbook.** Mr. Glavan introduced Ord. 23-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **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 Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Ord. 23-2025 seconded by Mr. Simon. Passed unanimously. Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 20-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Blythe. **A resolution authorizing the signing and filing of an annexation petition for a proposed annexation of 22.729 acres, more or less, for Unity Township, Columbiana County to the Village of East Palestine Ohio.** Mr. Glavan called for a vote on Res. 20-2025. Mr. Blythe-y, Mr. Glavan-y, Ms. Herriott-y, Ms. Stauffer-y. Mr. Povenski-n, Mr. Simon-n. 4 yes to pass. Mr. Glavan introduced Res. 21-2025 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Simon. **A resolution designating the East Palestine Community Improvement Corporation as agent, for the purpose of developing, leasing, selling or otherwise encouraging economic development on specified real estate owned by the Village of East Palestine, Ohio. (Jasar Property).** At this time Mr. Povenski made a motion to go into executive session per ORC 121.22 G 2 to consider the purchase of property for public purposes and G 3 to discuss pending litigation inviting in Manager Diaz-Guy, Finance Director Melissa Hiner, Law Director David Powers and Clerk Misti Martin. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blythe and passed unanimously. There would be no business to follow.

**ADJOURN:** At approximately 8:30 pm Mr. Povenski made motion to return to regular session as well as adjourn the meeting. The motions were seconded by Mr. Glavan. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

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**MISTI J. MARTIN CLERK**

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**MAYOR TRENT CONAWAY**