

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Regular Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in regular session on August 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the municipal building with Mayor Jessica Tubbs presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Roll Call: Rich Wheeler, Tim Cheney, Adam Fisher, and Christie Maurer were present. Todd Shroyer from the Coshocton County EMS was also present.

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam Fisher to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on August 12, 2024. Roll call 4 yes. Council members Howell and Hursey abstained.

Mayor's Correspondence: Mayor Tubbs reported receiving no correspondence.

Citizens' comments: Todd Shroyer from the Coshocton County EMS spoke about the EMS levy that will be on the ballot this November for operating expenses and the desperate need for it to pass in order to continue services in the area.

Department Reports:

Fire: No report.

Fiscal Officer: Fiscal Officer, Amy Bourne, reported that Resolution 2024-31 will receive its second reading to add funds. Tammy applied for a safety grant through BWC to purchase a manhole cover lift and accessories and it was awarded and \$5,100 needs appropriated in order to make the purchase. Resolution 2024-33 will receive its second reading to approve a Then & Now purchase order to Active911 in the amount of \$1,588.00 for an annual subscription to ActiveComms and RadioBridge. Councilman Adam Fisher described the Active911 subscription to be purchased for the bridge and cell phone application for all of the firefighters. Resolution 2024-34 will receive its second reading to approve the amounts and rates received from the county auditor for the 2025 budget. For the inside millage, \$53,764 is expected, for the General Fund expense levy \$68,567 is expected and \$47,090 is expected for the Police levy for wages. Ordinance 2024-35 will receive its first reading to establish the 2024-2025 sewer rates. It is proposed to increase the rates by 10% to be effective with the October 2024 billing cycle. The City of Coshocton water rates are also included as an attachment. Bills were passed around for approval. A meeting was held with Art Saylor at Saylor Wealth Strategies regarding moving the Village money market accounts from Home Loan to Saylor to invest in CD's and/or treasuries as permissible per the village investment policy. A motion was made by Brittany Howell and seconded by Jason Hursey to move the money market accounts to Saylor Wealth Investments. Roll call 6 yes. There have been more discussions about possibly moving to another carrier for employee health insurance coverage in order to save the village a substantial amount of money, but also keep the same, if not better coverage for the employees. Bob Snavelly, with Palmer Energy provided the refreshed gas and electric rates for the aggregation. When he was present during the Council meeting, the electric rates with Constellation on a 12-month term were

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\$.06455/kwh and it increased to \$.07243/kwh. These new rates will kick in with the December 2024 meter reading, January 2025 billing. Residents will be automatically opted in and have the option to opt out. He noted that the rate is expected to drop significantly early next year, so he recommended keeping this on a short term. The gas rates at the Council meeting were presented with IGS on a 2-year term at \$5.97/mcf and it decreased to \$5.59/mcf. These rates will also kick in with the December 2024 meter reading, January 2025 billing with the opt out option.

Police: No report.

Solicitor: Village Solicitor, Joel Blue, reported reviewing contracts and drafting some documents needed for the village, but that things have been pretty quiet.

Village Administrator: Village Administrator Tammy Hicks reported on several properties that were issues notices or preliminary citations due to property code violations and high weeds and grass. She indicated that most issues have been abated. She reminded residents that grass and weeds need to be kept under 7" high or a pre-liminary citation will be issued. If not taken care of, the village will cut and the resident will be charged \$100 per man hour as well as a \$100 administrative fee, making a minimum bill of \$200 per occurrence. The new village sidewalk project being engineered by Verdantas has been preliminarily mapped out to include a multi-use patch from the high school to Union Avenue to get kids off of Wall St., placing it behind the residents on Wall St. Small sections of sidewalk will be added to allow that path to cross Union to Wall and follow down to Main St. as well as a small section on Johnson St and a section on Main St. going to Dollar General. Cost estimates will be received soon. The new stop sign project is under way and thank you to the township for providing posts. The signs will start on the South side of the village going north/south where the new sidewalks will be placed through the Safe Routes to School grant to provide a safe crossing at the sidewalks. Tammy displayed a picture of a stop sign in the village that someone placed many wads of gum all over it, defacing the sign at 7th and Fair St.

Committee Reports:

Building and Property: Councilman Tim Cheney reported 206 W. 7th St. is still needs cleaned up.

Community & Business Development: No report.

Community Relations: Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported that the Yellow Flag Sales will be September 6th & 7th. There will be a Community Clean-up Day on September 7th starting at 9am until noon or until the dumpsters are full and will be sponsored by We R WL. ON October 13th from 1-5pm, We R WL will be hosting a Red Hot Chili Pepper Chili Cookoff with celebrity chefs to prepare the chili. There will be Karaoke by the high school students as well as a craft show. The chili will be provided by donation. Trick-or-Treating in the village will be on October 26th from 5:30-7pm. The Chamber will host a Halloween party that same day from 2-4pm at the Middle School.

Community Revitalization: No report.

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Finance: No report.

Fire Dependency Board: No report.

Ordinance: No report.

Park Board: No report.

Planning Commission: No report.

Public Safety: Chairman Adam Fisher reported discussing parking issues around Precious Treasures and gum on stop signs.

Public Works: Chairman Rich Wheeler reported discussing the Pearl Valley Cheese sewer line and their contract and sewer rates.

Records Retention: No report.

Rules: No report.

Introduction to ordinances and resolutions:

2024-31 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2024 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE 2023-57, ADDING FUNDS Second Reading/Emergency

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Tim Cheney to waive the three required readings for Resolution 2024-31. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Brittany Howell to adopt Resolution 2024-31. Roll call 6 yes.

2024-33 A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER 24339 TO ACTIVE911, INC., A "THEN & NOW" PURCHASE ORDER Second Reading/Emergency

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam Fisher to waive the three required readings for Resolution 2024-33. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made by Tim Cheney and seconded by Brittany Howell to adopt Resolution 2024-33. Roll call 6 yes.

2024-34 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR Second Reading/Emergency

2024-35 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SEWER RATES, AND SEWER REGULATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, OHIO, AMENDING ORDINANCES AND

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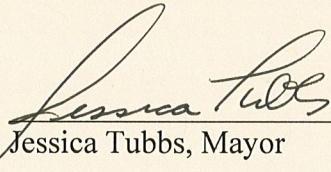
RESOLUTION IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY First Reading/Emergency

Other Business: None to report.

A motion was made by Jason Hursey and seconded by Christie Maurer to pay the bills. Roll call 6 yes.

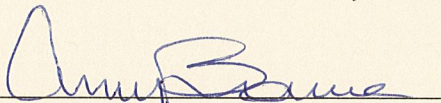
A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Jason Hursey to adjourn until the next meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call 6 yes.

A full recording of this evening's minutes can be heard by visiting www.westlafayettevillage.com and clicking on the recorded minutes tab.



Jessica Tubbs, Mayor

Attest:



Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer