**The Village of Weston**
***Council Meeting Minutes***
**October 5, 2026**

**Meeting Commencement**
The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rick Easterwood at 6:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll call: Craig Warner, Travis Ackerman, Erica Rupp, Jessica Susor, Brittney Klockowski and Ashley Patel

**Agenda/Minutes**
The agenda was then reviewed for any additions or modifications. Council Meeting minutes of September 19, 2026, were presented for review. *A motion was made to accept the minutes by Ms. Klockowski, Seconded by Ms. Rupp; Roll Call: Approved unanimously.*

**Old Business:**
**Second Reading: Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Weston**
Council continued discussion regarding the proposed amendment to the Village of Weston Zoning Ordinance concerning the Commercial District and the division of the district into the Downtown Business District and Commercial District and allowing R1, R2, amendments related to setbacks and procedures. It was noted that the Downtown Business District would follow the same general standards as the existing Commercial District.

**Mayor's Report**
The Mayor stated he had nothing to report at this time .

**Fiscal Report and Audit Findings**
The Fiscal Officer reported that there was nothing in the current folder requiring Council's immediate attention. Council was advised that the State audit had been completed, with the 2024–2025 audit finalized as of September 8. The audit was completed satisfactorily, with additional detailed documentation available in the audit file.

**Administrator/Maintenance Report: presented by Harold Boggs**
The Administrator/Maintenance Department reported that work was continuing on several maintenance items, including repairs and outstanding work on Village vehicles and equipment. Follow-up was also being made with JPX regarding the walking path and related matters. A quote for sidewalk installation next to public works was also discussed.
**Recent Activities**

- Cleaned up the parks
- Mowed grass in and around the outskirts of town
- Mowed at cemetery
- Picked up supplies at home depot
- New lawn mower was delivered: The Village has taken possession of a lawn mower, and the equipment was reported to be in satisfactory condition.
- Waiting on JPX to come out to get information on concrete work that needs done on some intersections
- Took weed whips to John Deere so they could be serviced. Waiting on quotes for them
- Public works meeting
- Cemetery board meeting
- Searching for trucks for public works committee
- Currently working on the alley on sycamore area
- Got quote for walking path overlay from JPX

**Zoning Report: presented by Ken Taylor**

- **September 22**: received a phone call from a contractor regarding a fence permit for 20417 Union Street. I informed them that we had not received it to date, so they forwarded a copy of their application.
- **September 23rd:** I signed the application for 20417 Union and sent it to the contractor; they will resubmit a check if we haven't received the original one.
- **September 25**: Contacted the maintenance company regarding a fence and grass at 1327 Maple Street; the company responded within two days .
- **September 28**: Paul Skaff regarding the status of the property at 20380 Sycamore Street, and also asked him of the possibility, regarding 20540 Russ Street, of the Village taking over the property and negotiating with the neighbors to take the structure down, that would not be permissible.
- Mr. Taylor attended a BZA hearing meeting regarding a proposed deck at 20270 Maple Street with a setback variance. The proposed deck would extend approximately one foot beyond the required setback.

Mr. Schoeder inquired about a house situated on a corner lot that is currently zoned for commercial use along the railroad. It was noted that the area has historically been designated for commercial use and that the railroad and surrounding industrial/commercial properties may have contributed to the existing designation and this house has maintained this commercial status throughout its history

**Committee Reports:**

**Public Works Report: Meeting Date:9/22; Time:6:03 'ish pm**
**In Attendance: Craig Warner, Rick Easterwood, Jessica Susor, Harold Boggs**
Mr. Warner presented the report: The Public Works Committee report included the following matters:

**Sidewalks:** The committee discussed obtaining a quote for connecting sidewalks to Oak Street along all cross streets between Broadway and Maple.
**Action:** Obtain a quote for the proposed sidewalk connections.
**Taylor Street :** The committee discussed unfinished work involving manhole covers and catch basins associated with the Taylor Street project. The work remains to be completed by Helms & Sons Excavating.
**Action:** The Mayor will contact Ron at OHM Advisors to discuss the project timeline and determine when the remaining work is expected to be completed.
**Stormwater Conditions Assessment:** The conditions assessment team has completed its assessment of the Village's stormwater system. The Village is following up to obtain the team's findings and recommendations so that necessary work can be prioritized. The Committee recommended moving the financial portion of the stormwater matter to the administrative process. *A motion was made by Mr. Warner; Seconded by Ms. Klockowski; Roll call: Approved unanimously to move the financial portion of the stormwater matter to the administrative process.*
**Trees Along State Route 235:** Trees growing in the ditches along State Route 235 near Taylor Street were discussed.
**Action:** Harold will use a pole saw to remove the trees.
**Ball Diamonds:** The committee discussed improvements to each ball diamond: Small Field: Maurice R. Brown Field; Big Field: Bobby Businger Field.
**Action:** Quotes are being sought for the necessary lawn and field equipment.
**New Lawnmower:** The new lawnmower was scheduled for delivery by October 7. Mr. Boggs confirmed possession of a new lawnmower.
**Red Chevy Truck:** The Committee discussed the Village's red Chevrolet truck, which has experienced ongoing mechanical issues, including a significant oil leak that has previously been repaired several times and continued problems with the vehicle's electrical/battery system. *A motion was made by Mr. Warner; Seconded by Ms. Klockowski; Roll Call: Approved unanimously to move the discussion regarding the possible replacement of the red Chevrolet truck to the administrative process for further consideration.*
**Action:** Harold will continue investigating the cause of the battery drain.
**Stop Sign — Cherry Street and Willow Street:** A citizen requested that the stop sign at Cherry Street and Willow Street be returned to its previous location to discourage vehicles from cutting through the adjacent yard.
**Proposed Action:** Return the stop sign to Cherry Street.
**Decision:** The Committee researched the matter, including reviewing historical Google Earth images showing it present in 2006 and 2010 but not in 2024; however, Village records indicate that the location was subsequently crossed off the Village's stop-sign registry. No documentation was located establishing when or why the sign was removed. A roll call vote was deemed necessary to reinstate the stop sign. The discussion revealed that while the village has the right to place and remove signs, an ordinance is required. The removal of the sign was not clearly documented, and concerns were raised about potential misuse if reinstated due to the immediate left turn and lack of opposing traffic. The cost of the stop sign was estimated to be minimal, but an ordinance would be needed. *Ultimately, a motion was made by Ms. Klockowski; Seconded Mr. Warner; Roll Call: Approved unanimously to not reinstate the stop sign due to insufficient traffic warranting it.*

**Public Safety (EMS) Meeting Date: 9/28/2026; Time: 6:00PM**
**In Attendance: Tim Schroeder, Kathy Heyman, Mayor Ricky Easterwood, Travis Ackerman, Brittney Klockowski and Ashley Patel**

**Runs to date: 335.**
**Ambulance Lettering:** Two quotes were received for lettering the new ambulance:

- Napoleon – $4,050, with the company traveling to the Village to complete the lettering.
- Design Graphics, Adam Brandner – $4,000, with the ambulance required to be dropped off and retained by the company during the work.

Both quotes included the necessary reflective lettering. The EMS officers recommended the Napoleon option because the company would come to the Village, allowing the ambulance to remain available locally. The additional $50 was considered worthwhile for this convenience. *A motion was made by Mrs. Patel to recommend the Napoleon quote of $4,050 for the ambulance lettering.; Seconded by Ms. Klockowski; Roll Call: Approved unanimously.*
**EMS Equipment and 2027 Budget:** Tim will get quotes for chargers, thumpers, Lucas device batteries, cot batteries and passenger side power spread for the 2027 budget wish list. Pictures and information regarding the older equipment are also to be obtained, including information related to the GovDeals process.
**EMS Mattress:** The Committee discussed replacing a mattress previously loaned to the Village by the fire department. The mattress was used during a patient transport and was not returned. The cost of a replacement mattress was estimated at approximately $1,000. The Township is obtaining another mattress through an EMS grant and would like to have a replacement and/or spare available. Kathy will get a quote from 3G for EMS sweatshirts and jackets.

**Knox Box Program:** The township currently holds a grant and Mrs. Patel will gather information and resources to present at the November meeting to evaluate the possibility of participating in the purchase of 5 Knox boxes. It was learned that additional requirements may apply, including purchase of the appropriate key box. Tim Schroeder will continue coordinating with the regional representative to secure additional program details and arrange a demonstration.

**Cemetery: Meeting Date: 10/01; Time:6:00PM**
**In Attendance: Jodie Domer, Dawn, Robin Kaiser, Brenda Trumbull, Harold Boggs, Deb Roe-Vollmar, Jeremy Schroeder, Brittney Klockowski**

**Wreaths Across America / Modern Woodmen Partnership:** Deb Roe-Vollmar attended to highlight Modern Woodmen's partnership with the local Wreaths Across America chapter. Weston's cemetery was selected as one of three statewide by Modern Woodmen for promotional recognition. Donations have funded 354 wreaths, leaving 181 remaining to ensure every veteran receives one. Modern Woodmen's Patriot Pair program provides a wreath for a veteran to keep when they purchase one for a buried veteran. Deb requested the Village's support by registering for the Modern Woodmen event on its website to demonstrate community participation. Local Wreaths Across America leaders Joe and Jeremy Schroeder were involved in the partnership, with Mr. Jeremy Schroeder also attended to discuss the initiative. Additional event information will be included in the November Village Newsletter.
**Sexton's Report:** As of September 20, 102.5 hours remained, with only 20 hours expected to remain at the end of the current pay period. Mr. Boggs will cover any additional seasonal needs after Sunday, October 4, to avoid exceeding allocated hours.
**Cemetery truck:** The cemetery truck has broken down and requires repairs. The board will wait until January to determine whether repairs are necessary or whether a hand-me-down truck may be available from the Village if Harold replaces the Village-owned red truck. No burials were reported.
**Budget and Maintenance** The Cemetery Board reported that budget requests were due during the month. The Board intends to remove a dead beech tree and will coordinate the matter with the Fiscal Officer. The cemetery sign project has been postponed to the 2027 budget because the vendor has not responded to a question regarding requested edits.
**Spoerl/Legal Matter:** The Board has not yet received a response from its attorney, and the family involved has not responded to notices or returned the requested paperwork. The Board will wait for responses from the parties involved before proceeding.
**Rules and Guest Policy:**The Board reviewed proposed changes to the cemetery rules and guest policy. A final decision will be considered at the next meeting.
**Cemetery Sign:** The vendor for the proposed cemetery sign has not responded to an additional question regarding an updated graphic. The Board would like the sign to include the cemetery rules and welcome information, with an area that could accommodate future family or other information. If the vendor does not respond, the project may be moved to the 2027 budget.
**Veteran Records:**. The Board wants to ensure that each veteran is properly recognized in the cemetery and is seeking a reliable list of previous service members to compare with cemetery records.
**Cemetery Maintenance:** Fall foundations are scheduled to be poured by the end of the month.

**Planning Commission Report: Meeting Date: 10/02/26; Time: 6:00PM**
**In Attendance: Logan Wick, Ken Taylor, Shirley Moore, Shaun Shidler**
The Planning Commission met to consider a variance for a proposed deck at **20270 Locust Street.** The applicant requested permission to construct a nine-foot deck, which would exceed the required setback by approximately one foot. An eight-foot deck would have complied with the existing setback requirements. The applicant presented information regarding the proposed project and explained that the deck entrance would connect toward the driveway rather than directly toward the front approach.The Planning Commission determined that the variance was reasonable and would improve the property. The Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the variance and allow the project to proceed.

**Upcoming Meetings**
Administrative Process: October 12, 6:00 PM; Tree Commission: October 13, 6:00 PM; Council Meetings: October 19, 12:00 PM; Community Development: October 20, 5:30PM; Public Safety: October 26, 6:00 PM;Public Works: October 27, 6:00 PM

**New Business:**
**Emergency Resolution Resolution 2026-13: Northwest Water and Sewer District Board Seat**
A Resolution Submitting the Votes to Fill a Vacant Board Seat on the Northwest Water and Sewer District in favor of Mr. Bill BarnHart and Declaring an Emergency, was presented.
*A motion was made by Mr. Warner; Seconded by Ms. Rupp; Roll Call: Approved unanimously to suspend the rules. A motion was then made by Ms. Patel; Seconded by Ms. Rupp; Roll Call: Approved unanimously to approve Resolution 2026-13.*

**Approval of Expenditures**

Council reviewed a summary of the bills ( 24,716.16) and outstanding invoices (25, 876.33). *A motion to approve the summary of bills and payment of outstanding invoices was made by Mrs. Patel; Seconded by Ms. Susor, Roll call: Approved unanimously*

**Miscellaneous Business:**

**Adult Baseball League**

Council discussed concerns regarding the possibility that an adult baseball league may leave Weston. It was noted that the adult league is separate from the Weston Sports Initiative but operates through the organization and uses Village facilities. Council discussed the importance of baseball programs to the community and the possibility of contacting the individuals involved to determine whether there is anything the Village can do to assist in keeping the program in Weston.The matter will be followed up to obtain additional information.

**Citizens and Visitors**

**In Attendance: Keith Leady, Jigar Patel; Tim Schroeder; Shirley Moore; Greg Stevens Online: Ron Dallas**

**Ambulance/EMS Update**

EMS representative Tim Schroeder provided additional information regarding the new ambulance and the upcoming driver training. A driver's training session will be held to provide continuing education hours and familiarize personnel with the new vehicle. The Fire Department is expected to participate in the training. EMS personnel reported that the new ambulance is somewhat different in size and operation from the previous vehicle but has additional space and features that should improve operations.The new ambulance includes safety features that prevent the vehicle from being moved under certain conditions. EMS personnel also discussed the installation of the power-load system for the cot, which was completed by Village personnel and saved approximately **$650** in installation costs. Additional equipment, including chargers and batteries, will continue to be reviewed. Personnel will also follow up with vendors regarding available batteries and maintenance support.

**Village Rule Enforcement and Property Grievances:**

Mr. Stevens addressed the council stating he is incredibly frustrated regarding the lack of rule enforcement within the village. He feels as though Mr. Lashauy and Mr. Stevens are the only residents who actually spend the money to register our golf carts as required by law. Everyone else avoids it, and Mr. Stevens states he has even seen four-year-old children driving golf carts completely unmonitored on the public streets. At what point does the village step in to enforce its own ordinances? Furthermore, he brought up the sidewalk policy three years ago. Mr. Stevens states he is still out shoveling his own sidewalk while the village pays to fix everyone else's. This issue could easily be resolved by repealing the relevant resolution or ordinance. He then returned two years later—which was late July of last year—to ask for an update on the sidewalk situation. He says while many of the residents are responsibly clearing their paths, it is deeply frustrating to follow the rules and feel like a sucker while everyone else ignores them. The same double standard applies to property maintenance. Mr. Stevens states he regularly mows his lawn and keeps his property clean, yet neighbors are permitted to maintain properties that look like junkyards. If the village collects registration revenue from every single golf cart license plate, that money should be utilized efficiently, and the rules should be applied equally to everyone.

**Questions Regarding Santa Program**

Mr. Patel requested that several questions be answered and placed on the record concerning the Village's Christmas/Santa program, including:

1. **Council Approvals:** How many council members were privately approached by Mrs. Patel regarding the hiring of her parents to portray Mr. and Mrs. Claus?
2. **Board Knowledge:** How many board members were actively aware that the individuals being hired for this role were Ashley Patel's parents?
3. **Suite Expenses:** What was the initial purchase cost of the center suite currently owned by the village, and what are its ongoing cleaning and maintenance expenses?
4. **Historical Selection:** Who portrayed Santa Claus in previous years, what were they compensated annually, and what specific selection process was used to hire them?

**Adjournment**

Before the meeting adjourned, Ms. Klockowski made a statement as a citizen regarding future voting considerations. Acknowledging public feedback concerning potential conflicts of interest, she expressed a commitment to refining the council's decision-making process. For future matters involving the family members of council officials, she prioritized gathering additional information and verifying whether other members are aware of relevant details prior to a vote to ensure greater transparency. Additionally, the record notes that Mrs. Patel was absent from the prior discussions and vote due to undergoing knee surgery.

Mayor Easterwood called adjournment at 6:49 PM ***Motion: Mr. Warner; Second: Mrs. Patel; Roll Call: Motion carried.***

**Rick Easterwood**, Mayor

**Anette Davis**, Clerk