

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of _____

Meeting _____

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC. FORM NO. 10148

Held

March 2

20

24

**The Village of Weston
Council Meeting Minutes**

March 2 2026

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Rick Easterwood at 6:00PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and presentation of the agenda. A roll call was taken: Mr. Craig Warner, Mr. Travis Ackerman, Ms. Erica Rupp, Mrs. Ashley Patel, Ms. Jessica Susor, and Ms. Brittney Klockowski. *A motion to approve February 17, 2026 council meeting minutes as written was made by Ms. Klockowski, seconded by Mr. Ackerman; Approved unanimously.*

Old Business

Mayor Easterwood reported a cybersecurity discussion with Stephanie and Jessica on Friday to seek clarification on grant eligibility. The grant requires upfront payment, and reimbursement may be denied if the language does not meet the requirements. It is currently unclear whether cybersecurity expenses qualify. The deadline to decide not to move forward is March 12. The General Fund cannot absorb the initial cost since the grant is reimbursable. Ms. Susor mentioned the possibility of using SIB funding. Regardless, the village will need to pay for cybersecurity. Another option would be applying the funding toward an existing project, such as the drainage and paving work on Washington Street. Since these projects must be paid for regardless, it may be worth attempting. Ms. Klockowski also noted there is a cybersecurity update included in the Safety Report. Mayor Easterwood requested adding a vote under Miscellaneous Business.

Sgt. Chris Reynolds with the WCSO was in attendance and had nothing to report.

Reports

Mayor: Mayor Easterwood stated that committee chairs need to help facilitate better and more reliable tracking of documents. With Chris, the Clerk, having resigned, committee chairs need to step up to assist where needed. If anyone is struggling with technology, the suggestion was made to provide iPad training, which can be discussed further under Miscellaneous Business. Mayor Easterwood reported that the basketball court was vandalized last week, resulting in one basketball backboard being damaged. He has reached out to Harold and is working with the Sheriff's Department to identify the juveniles involved. One parent has already been in contact and is willing to work toward a resolution. Legal counsel advised turning the matter over to Juvenile Court, though Mayor Easterwood expressed a preference to avoid that if possible. He also noted surprise that the backboard was tempered rather than plexiglass. The warranty does not cover vandalism. Quotes for replacement can be sent to the appropriate committee. The Clerk position is currently vacant. The position has already been established by Council, so no additional action is required other than approving posting the position in the newspaper. The job description is available in the Council folder. Mrs. Patel asked about training, and Mayor Easterwood stated Stephanie would handle the training and referenced the training videos that had been prepared for Chris. *Ms. Klockowski made a motion to place the Clerk position advertisement in the newspaper, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously. Mayor Easterwood requested that the basketball backboard issue be referred to Administrative Process, which had a motion by Mr. Warner, seconded by Ms. Klockowski; Approved unanimously.* Mayor Easterwood also noted the March 10th bid opening scheduled on the calendar at 11:00AM. Photos of EMS pagers were sent out. Kathy reported that two pagers are currently inoperable. With 12 members and three individuals currently in class, there are not enough spare pagers available, and three additional pagers are needed. It was discussed whether an account is needed directly through Unicom. Kathy also noted that batteries are needed. *Mr. Warner made a motion to refer the pager issue to the Safety Committee, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.*

Fiscal Officer: Mayor Easterwood read the Fiscal Officer's written report.

Administrator/Maintenance: Harold reported on the potholes on Washington Street, noting three potential repair options: Durapatch, cold patch, or concrete. He stated that previous repairs have failed, and the potholes are large enough that it is difficult to drive a straight line without hitting them. Mayor Easterwood noted that Washington Street is not scheduled for major repairs anytime soon, so a temporary fix is necessary. Mr. Warner asked Rob Myerholtz for his opinion on using concrete; Rob did not recommend it due to the incompatibility of materials. The potholes are nearly 2 inches deep, and he believes concrete would be a waste of money. Another option is to cut out a section and have a contractor repair it, but that would impact the budget. Mayor Easterwood requested that quotes be obtained and brought to the Public Works Committee. Rob suggested digging out the potholes, applying Durapatch, and topping with cold patch, ideally with stone underneath, as a more effective solution. *Ms. Klockowski made a motion to refer the Washington Street potholes to the Public Works Committee, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved*

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unanimously. It was noted that the item was already on the Public Works agenda. Harold also reported on a quote for a storm drain at Taylor/Milton from JPX. If it is confirmed that NWWSD caused the damage, they would be responsible for repairs. *Mrs. Patel moved to authorize proceeding with the Taylor/Milton storm drain project by JPX, seconded by Ms. Klockowski; Approved unanimously. Mr. Warner made a motion to refer summer/seasonal help to the Administrative Process Committee to explore adding more part-time personnel, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.*

Code Enforcement/Zoning: Ken stated that there is not much activity to report. He drove around the area today and noted that letters will be sent out tomorrow to properties with inoperable vehicles. Three properties also have trash in front of the house. On Center Street, a fence is falling; Ken spoke with the property owner, who has made several promises to address the issue. He also noted the need to contact Mr. Calderon(sp.?) to schedule a Planning Commission meeting. The process can start now but should be scheduled about a month out. Regarding snow removal, some letters included this topic. One property owner mentioned that for \$50, they would have the city handle it. Ken suggested it may be worth revisiting the fee currently being charged.

Committee Reports

Committee meeting minutes are maintained separately by each committee and are available as public records.

Safety: Safety Committee Chair Mrs. Patel presented the report from the 2/23 Safety meeting.

Mayor Easterwood added that the grant writer has resigned. Mrs. Patel reached out to Marissa at Lake Erie West Regional Council (formerly TMACOG) for more information regarding cybersecurity and expects a response sometime this week. Lake Erie West is also planning to host a cybersecurity training for its members and will share details once they become available.

Public Works: Public Works Committee Chair Ms. Klockowski presented the report from the 2/24 Public Works meeting.

RCAP is scheduled to meet with Harold on March 30. It was noted that Washington Street is not a suitable location for the pilot program and recommended the library parking lot area instead.

Upcoming Meetings: Parks & Rec 3/4 at 6PM, Cemetery 3/5 at 6PM, Administrative Process 3/9 at 6PM, Bid Opening 3/10 at 11AM, Tech Training 3/12 at 6PM, Community Development & Public Affairs 3/17 at 5:30PM, Safety 3/23 at 6PM, Public Works 3/24 at 6PM, Tree Commission 3/30 at 6PM

New Business

No new business.

Approval of Expenditures

Council reviewed a summary of the bills (\$16,784.74) and outstanding invoices (\$2,277.21). A motion to approve the summary of the bills and payment of outstanding invoices was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Ackerman; Approved unanimously.

Miscellaneous Business

Discussion returned to the State Capital Budget and cybersecurity from earlier in the meeting. Mayor Easterwood referred to Stephanie's report and highlighted concerns regarding reimbursable grants. Ms. Rupp asked about the project timeline. Ms. Susor suggested assigning a point person to ensure all questions are addressed and recommended a tiered approach: prioritize cybersecurity first, then Washington Street watershed if cybersecurity does not meet the criteria, and if neither qualifies, release the funds. It was clarified that this represents only a commitment to use the money. Mrs. Patel made a motion to deny the capital project and return the funds, but there was no second. *Mr. Warner made a motion to proceed with the tiered option seconded by Ms. Susor; Approved – 3, Opposed – 3, Mr. Ackerman, Ms. Rupp, Mrs. Patel. Mayor Easterwood voted yes to break the tie.* Mayor Easterwood explained the situation regarding the \$60,000, noting that it was previously thought unavailable. *Ms. Klockowski volunteered to serve as the point of contact, with Mr. Warner nominating her, seconded by Mr. Ackerman; Approved unanimously.*

Mr. Easterwood noted that he has the authority to appoint or remove a person but requires a Council vote to confirm the release of Howard Lashuay from the Parks & Rec Board. *The motion to approve Howard*

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Lashuay's removal from the Parks & Rec Board was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Ackerman; Approved unanimously.

Mayor Easterwood recommended that Google Drive training be made mandatory. A session is scheduled for March 12 at 6:00PM.

The discussion on video recording committee meetings, which ties into cybersecurity, led to a motion by Ms. Susor to refer the matter to Administrative Process, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously.

Citizens & Visitors

Keith Leady: Inquired about addressing the recent jump in Suburban gas prices and suggested contacting Grand Rapids to see how they are handling it. Ms. Klockowski mentioned that she called Suburban Natural Gas regarding her gas bill and was placed on a list for a meter re-read. Harold explained that the previous meter reader had been estimating usage, and the meters were read correctly again following the rate increase.

Rob Myerholtz: Questioned whether the situation on Washington Street involves an area officially designated as a floodplain and noted that this information should be available through the county.

Jigar Patel: Offered suggestions, noting that the State of Ohio and the federal government provide funding for small government cybersecurity, including transitions from .org to .gov domains. He mentioned that the infrastructure grant was missed, but another opportunity should open soon. Rob added that only a plan needs to be submitted, and currently, there is no formal game plan. He also noted that ADA compliance is scheduled for 2027. It was suggested that the grant writer be engaged as a 1099 contractor, which Mr. Warner confirmed is the approach being used. *Mayor Easterwood recommended moving forward with hiring a grant writer and referring the matter to Administrative Process, which was accepted by a motion from Mr. Warner, seconded by Ms. Susor; Approved unanimously.*

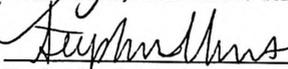
A motion to adjourn at 7:28PM was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Ackerman; Approved unanimously.



Jessica Susor, President Pro Tempore



Rick Easterwood, Mayor



Drafted by: Stephanie Monts, Fiscal Officer