

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC. FORM NO. 10148

Held January 17

2023

**The Village of Weston  
Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 17, 2023**

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jeremy Schroeder at 6:00PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and presentation of the agenda. A roll call was taken: Mrs. Ashley Patel, Mr. Dean Babcock, Mr. Craig Warner, Mr. Dave DeWitt, Mr. Rob Myerholtz, and Mr. Rick Easterwood. A motion to approve January 3, 2023 council meeting minutes as written was made by Mrs. Patel, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved unanimously.

Old Business

Mr. Myerholtz asked to be heard by the council and expressed concern regarding committee assignments. Mr. Myerholtz felt singled out due to a past no vote in regards to the cemetery, that the Mayor is ignoring council rules, and concerned about the repositioning and changing of duties. Mayor pointed out the authority of the Mayor to set committees, and the council rule of "whenever possible the Mayor shall ensure that the previous committee chairman remains on the committee for at least one year..." is not possible in this circumstance because he feels Mr. Myerholtz can be obstructing and is a better fit for getting something done in the Safety committee with the future of EMS. Mayor expressed he is not punishing Mr. Myerholtz, and recognizes the work he has put into council. Mayor also spoke to Paul Skaff in regards to the council rules and that specific sentence is there in the case of carryover business from committee and would probably need to be reworded, adding that finance committee is pretty straightforward. Mrs. Patel shared concern about Mr. Myerholtz not being assigned to the Finance committee, and is worried about the EMS rental contract. Mayor asked Mrs. Patel why she thought the new committee members were not capable of handling discussion on the EMS contract. Mayor reminded everyone that the Mayor gets to select the committees and gave the opportunity for everyone to give feedback, Mr. Myerholtz shared he wanted to be on the Finance committee. Mayor expressed that he was under the impression from a previous discussion that Mr. Myerholtz understood if he could not be on the Finance committee. Mr. Myerholtz expressed that was incorrect and that he understood if he could not be head of the Finance committee. Mayor indicated that there is no longer a Finance Committee and rather an Administrative Process Committee. Mr. Myerholtz also shared that he felt personally attacked when being called an obstructionist, Mayor said he did not call him an obstructionist and rather he can be obstructing. Mayor expressed again that he would like to see Mr. Myerholtz excel on the Safety committee seeing a plan moving EMS forward. Mayor also added that he feels so strongly about getting stuff done that if council wants Mr. Myerholtz on Finance that he will just remove him as the council rules allows.

Mayor defined "council committee" and listed the committees and descriptions as follows (first listed member is chairman):

**Administrative Process: Craig, Dave, Dean**

Members oversee budgetary matters( such as appropriations/budget and revenue appropriations), taxes & assessments, expenditures, administrative issues (to ensure compliance with state and federal law), grants, and contracts. Members also review policies put into place by the Fiscal Officer, and provide assistance to the Mayor in matters involving any personnel processes (such as wages/benefits/relations).

**Public Works: Rick, Dave, Craig**

Members oversee improvement plans of streets, sidewalks, storm sewer, public property (maintenance and growth of Village lands/public spaces), planting and maintenance of trees, assist the mayor in implementing and updating public works policies, and implement and update a general public infrastructure plan.

**Public Safety: Rob, Ashley, Rick**

Members act as a liaison to the EMS program, assist in issues regarding traffic safety, maintain correspondence with the WC Sheriff's Department regarding issues related to the safety of the village, assist the Mayor in implementing and updating other Safety Policies, and implement and update a general safety infrastructure plan.

**Community Development & Public Affairs: Ashley, Craig, Dean**

Members oversee matters involving Village municipal regulations (Weston Code), identifies and supports efforts of revitalization/beautification of the Village, serve as liaisons (point of contact) to Weston community groups, and discuss other matters of public affairs and development inside the community as recommended by the Mayor.

Mayor also provided a list of council representatives to boards/commissions. As seen fit, or required by law, these other boards and commissions are to provide a functioning process to move forward agenda items associated with their cause. Some authority is given to the board officers to accept and approve and adopt items, except when a resolution or ordinance is needed, and when necessary, will

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be represented by such appointed council representatives for any action requiring a vote of Council. The council representatives are as follows:

**Rec Board:** rotate between Dean & Rick, **Cemetery Board:** Ashley, **RITA Tax Board:** Rob, **Records Commission:** Rob, **Planning Commission:** Dave (who already serves as the councilmember on the Commission).

*Mr. Easterwood made a motion to accept the chairmen listed for each committee, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

## Reports

Attendance: Stephanie Monts (Fiscal Officer), Harold Boggs (Administrator)

**Mayor:** Attempted to reach out to Cliff, the contact for the solar project and there has been no response. Mayor also shared that a BGSU Professor of Political Science, is teaching a class in Program Evaluation for a masters program in Public Administration, reached out about a project opportunity. One of the things (at no cost to the Village) the group does is work with municipalities and other entities to do some kind of program/survey opportunity. They will be researching and putting together a presentation in regards to community organization (such as volunteers). Mayor also shared that he has reached out to the Village's Prosecutor, Nick Wainwright, to start a conversation about the enforcement of the municipal code through the sheriff's office. There was a brief discussion from council in regards to the BGSU project and it was also suggested by Mr. Easterwood that it seems like not a lot of people want to participate in person and should look into a more modern way such as an open forum chat. Mayor shared that the report from the BGSU students assigned to this project will help us get a better understanding of the Village's demographics and how to move forward, this will also open up continued opportunities with BGSU collaboration.

**Fiscal Officer:** W2s are processed and sent out. Landlord Reporting letters have been sent out to those properties assumed to be rentals and to those that are known rental properties. The due date to return the annual report is January 31st, if there is no response the letters will be sent again but certified. Due to the RITA subpoenas that went out there have been a lot of visitors and calls, most of them retired. Most of these individuals were told by tax professionals and places of employment that if they don't owe they don't have to file which is incorrect, as there are documents such as an exemption form that RITA needs.

**Administrator:** Allied Paving came back with a combined quote of \$75,000 for Main Street and Union Street. Will be following up with Morelock on their quote as well as requesting a bid from Vernon Nagel and Buck Brothers. Also working with NWWSO to get a sidewalk section to put in for the watershed because people keep walking through the grass when parking on the street.

Howard Lashuay asked about getting downtown Main Street done. It was explained to him that it is a very big project which will require grants and an engineer. Mr. Lashuay began to get very loud to the point of yelling at the council and the Mayor that it needed to get done, the Fiscal Officer stopped the conversation and explained that the Village cannot afford to fix downtown Main Street out of pocket as a quote received two years ago was already \$600,000+, it is a grant project. Mayor added that the current OPWC grant is for the Taylor Street/235 culvert.

**Zoning Inspector:** Council had a lengthy discussion about declaring 13295 High Street a nuisance property. The property has junk debris piled up near/in the right of way all over the property. Clerk informed the council that Ken is working with the property owner to get compliance in getting it cleaned up and that the property owner may actually be in a legal battle with the tenant, which will hold up our process. Mr. Easterwood shared that the property owner is a Township Trustee in another township who owns multiple properties and knows about municipal codes. The Mayor reiterated that he is speaking with the Village prosecutor to find a more efficient way for our local ordinances to be enforced in regards to the penalties already established and the Sheriff's office involvement.

## Committee Reports

**Cemetery:** Records retention is ongoing and rehired Jodie Domer as cemetery clerk. Mayor inquired if there had been any more discussion on Tom Patton's retirement. The board is making sure the part-time person is still interested in the seasonal mowing otherwise the positions will need to be revisited.

**Upcoming Meetings:** Committee meeting times and dates were agreed upon as follows:

Administrative Process 2nd Tuesdays at 6PM, Public Works 4th Tuesday at 6PM, Safety 4th Thursday

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at 5:30PM, Community Development & Public Affairs 3rd Thursday at 5PM. Rec Board and Cemetery Board have not changed their meeting dates and times. Mayor also requested each committee chair to sit down with himself and the clerk, an email will go out for availability.

### New Business

Resolution 2023-2 received an emergency reading, to authorize a 2023 work agreement with the Wood County Commissioners and authorizing the Mayor and Administrator to execute the agreement. A budget of \$950 for road signs and \$2,000 for fleet maintenance was set. *A motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Resolution 2023-2 was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Babcock. Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mrs. Patel, Mr. Babcock, Mr. Warner, Mr. DeWitt, Mr. Myerholtz, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Resolution 2023-2 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

Resolution 2023-3 was presented as an emergency reading, to authorize the Mayor to sign a property remediation agreement. This agreement makes the terms for the CSX agreement ongoing with a 30 day notice for changes versus a 3 year term. It was discussed that the rate should be increased from the current \$2,500. Council declined emergency reading to have more time to negotiate a rate with CSX for mowing the lot on Milton Street. This deems a first reading for Resolution 2023-3.

Resolution 2023-4 received an emergency reading, authorizing the purchase of certain property and equipment. This will authorize the Administrator to participate in the BeeGee Rentals Whalen Auction for a 1997 Cushman Sod Cutter for a max bid of \$2,500 before any fees such as a buyers premium. *A motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Resolution 2023-4 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Warner. Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mrs. Patel, Mr. Babcock, Mr. Warner, Mr. DeWitt, Mr. Myerholtz, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Resolution 2023-4 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

### Approval of Expenditures

Council reviewed payment listing totalling \$23,803.13, with a motion to approve made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.

### Miscellaneous Business

No miscellaneous business presented.

### Citizens & Visitors

Shirley Moore, Howard Lashuay (arrived mid-meeting), Rob Dallas (Virtual), Jigar Patel (Virtual)

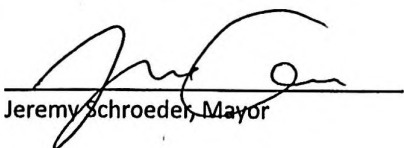
Shirley Moore asked if anybody knew when the library would open back up, nobody had an answer.


Howard Lashuay asked what the status is of getting the junk cleaned up on High Street. This was discussed earlier in the meeting, and repeated for Howard. Ron Dallas asked many questions in regards to nuisance enforcement and littering. Throughout the discussion the Mayor explained the legal process we have to follow multiple times, which the Village is aware is not working perfectly. Mayor again stated he is speaking with the Village prosecutor to find a more efficient way for our local ordinances to be enforced in regards to the penalties already established. Mr. Myerholtz asked for permission to speak and noted that Zoning, mirroring Haskins zoning, needs to be put in place. Mayor reminded everyone that we do have a Zoning code, and that Zoning and Municipal Regulations are two different codes. Howard had an outburst toward the Mayor and stormed out of the building.

*Mr. Easterwood made a motion to declare 13295 High Street a nuisance, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved - 5, Opposed - 1 (Mr. Babcock). Mr. Babcock shared that he is opposed to declaring this property a nuisance because council needs to address the enforcement problem first.*

Ron Dallas thanked the maintenance crew for lighting up Main Street for the holidays.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55PM.

  
Jeremy Schroeder, Mayor

  
Stephanie Monts, Fiscal Officer/Clerk