

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC. FORM NO. 10148

Held June 11

20 25

The Village of Weston
Council Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2025

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, Ms. Erica Rupp, Mr. Rob Myerholtz, Ms. Jessica Susor, Mrs. Ashley Patel, and Ms. Brittney Klockowski. A motion to approve June 2, 2025 council meeting minutes as written was made by Mr. Myerholtz, seconded by Ms. Rupp; Approved unanimously.

Old Business

No changes were made to the 2026 estimated revenue presented at the previous meeting. A motion for approval of the 2026 budget certificate was made by Ms. Klockowski, seconded by Ms. Susor; Approved unanimously.

Reports

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

Mayor: Mayor Easterwood reported attending the township meeting for a fire department matter, but noticed EMS-related items on their agenda. This led to a lengthy discussion with the trustees. Mayor Easterwood emphasized the need to bring a potential issue to a committee for discussion. It was suggested it should go to the Safety Committee first to work through the logistics, then potentially to the Administrative Process for contract development. He clarified the issue isn't about EMS services themselves, but about other support elements (like utilities). Mayor Easterwood also referenced a conversation from the Administrative Process committee regarding cell phone use, reminding everyone that this is a public building and asking that the council hall be respected; if audience members need to take a call or handle personal matters, they should step outside to avoid causing distractions.

Fiscal Officer: Stephanie informed council that the sheriff's office has issued a rate increase, but no budget amendment is needed since a 10% annual increase had already been built into the budget. The new rate brings the annual cost to about \$101,000-\$102,000 for 160 patrol hours per month. Stephanie also noted a visitor previously mentioned safety grant expected to open in July, possibly referred to as OSHA-related. However, since federal OSHA does not apply to local government, she couldn't find eligibility details. The BWC safety grant is still listed as closed with no updates.

Administrator/Maintenance: Harold reported that the manhole cover has been fixed on Main Street, and the catch basin at Ash and Ohio Street has been repaired. The issue with the catch basin was due to a 4-inch pipe that was not properly installed, causing drainage problems. Harold used materials already on hand, including corrugated PVC and bands, to make the repair and noted that the area will need to be jetted, which he plans to have done later in the week after confirming the cost. The basin has three incoming lines—two are active and one is plugged and likely unused. The repaired lines should now allow proper flow to Center Street, which may help alleviate flooding issues on Ash Street. Mayor Easterwood suspects one of the connected catch basins may be located in a driveway on Ohio Street, based on a past gas leak that revealed stormwater flow from the area. Mrs. Patel shared concerns were raised about pets being left outside in the heat. Stephanie plans to share a social media post with educational information from the Humane Society, reminding residents not to take matters into their own hands and to report concerns through proper channels.

Code Enforcement/Zoning: Mayor Easterwood read Ken's written report in his absence.

Committee Reports

Parks & Rec: No board members attended the council meeting to deliver a report.

Cemetery: Mrs. Patel read the 5/6 Cemetery Minutes and added updates from Jodie covering events since that meeting. Memorial Day went well, and they hope to repeat it next year. Equipment repairs are needed, and revenue is currently down. A grant may be available, and Jodie will follow up with the grant writer. There were reports of children misbehaving—driving golf carts, stealing flowers, and even a car driving through the cemetery extension. Mr. Myerholtz questioned why there were concerns about scattering cremains, Mrs. Patel explained that people have been scattering them randomly, the board is considering creating a designated scattering area as a respectful solution. Ms. Klockowski shared information about columbariums—structures for storing urns. Spoerl monument was discussed, the original plan presented to the board was for a boulder, not the larger sculpture that is currently there.

Administrative Process: Reviewed the 2026 Estimated Revenue. Several quotes were discussed, including front and rear dash cams found on Amazon for \$129.99 each; will proceed with purchasing seven units under the PEP Safety Grant. No responses have been received yet for Village Hall Cleaning, so Stephanie will begin reaching out for quotes. Awaiting quotes from Harold regarding both the Village Hall/Post Office Inspection and the Ash Street Extension project, which includes stoning or asphalt work. Additionally, information is being sought on the process of vacating. A proposed ordinance to ban cell phone use during meetings was reviewed, with plans to consult Paul Skaff for legal input due to potential concerns about rights and consequences. A memo will be distributed to all departments, boards, and committees as a reminder about Ohio's Public Meeting laws, which require public bodies to hold open meetings

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under the Ohio Open Meetings Act (R.C. 121.22). The Employee Handbook is in need of updates. Stephanie reviewed it and added notes with suggested changes. The committee will address the updates in sections, starting with the Introduction through Section 2 at the next meeting, and continuing with Sections 3 and 4 in August. Kristi, the grant writer, may offer more services than currently utilized. Stephanie will obtain a list of Kristi's services to determine how they could benefit the Village, especially during a time with limited active grant opportunities. Stephanie and Craig met with Kristi and Brandon from GLCAP to discuss a long-term Stormwater Strategy. A key recommendation from Brandon was to consider creating a stormwater utility, possibly through NWWSD by applying a \$5 surcharge on water/sewer bills. This could generate approximately \$33,000 annually before any administrative fees. Stephanie will draft a letter to NWWSD to explore this partnership. If NWWSD is not receptive, the Village will need to consider implementing the utility independently. A dedicated funding source like this would support both new projects and maintenance and demonstrate local contribution when applying for grants. The Village was not awarded the ODOT Special Sidewalk Grant. Kleinfelder reached out to introduce themselves and discussed alternatives, including the ODOT Abbreviated Safety grant for small-scale vehicle or pedestrian safety projects with a 10% local match. They also discussed the TAP grant for the Dollar General sidewalk, which is due August 1 and requires engineering costs plus a 20% match for construction. The Village is also considering whether to continue working with Kleinfelder or transition to DGL Consulting with Bob Desmond. Bob will attend the next Public Works meeting to help evaluate options and further discuss these opportunities. Approval of the 2026 revenue budget was recommended, along with placing a sign in the meeting room to remind attendees to silence their devices.

Stephanie reported receiving a positive response from the NWWSD, who expressed willingness to assist with establishing a stormwater utility. Stephanie noted that NWWSD already provides similar support to several other entities in Wood County and was eager to schedule a meeting. After multiple emails back and forth, the next step is to begin planning how the utility should be structured. The Administrative Process committee will review samples from other communities, such as Rossford, where charges are based on lot size and type. It was also noted that some properties don't have water meters, which complicates billing. Stephanie mentioned inviting NWWSD to the next Administrative Process meeting to continue discussing the concept. That meeting is expected to include more detailed conversation about how the utility might be implemented. It was clarified that stormwater has never previously been billed or included in past water utilities handled by the Village. According to GLCAP, this approach could help the Village take a step toward securing dedicated funding for stormwater, whether or not a partnership with NWWSD works out. Mr. Warner emphasized that while income must be generated somehow, if a levy fails and a surcharge is added afterward, it could reflect poorly on the Village. Stephanie reiterated that other communities fund stormwater as a utility, but Mr. Myerholtz felt the decision should rest with taxpayers, as this would be a new charge they've never had before.

Mrs. Patel made a motion to have a sign on the door to silence devices, seconded by Ms. Susor: Approved - 4, Opposed - 2, Mr. Warner & Ms. Klockowski.

Mr. Myerholtz raised a question during the Administrative Process discussion about why the topic of public meetings had come up. Ms. Susor referenced a recent incident involving a committee where a member of the public was kicked out. Mr. Warner clarified that the person was not actually kicked out but was asked to leave, while Ms. Klockowski added that the individual had not been disruptive or made any noise. Ms. Susor responded that it didn't matter, explaining that, based on legal guidance, even if someone is being aggressive or makes others feel threatened, asking them to leave could still be considered a violation of their First Amendment rights. Stephanie added that the situation is being addressed through a reminder memo to all boards and committees, reinforcing that they are subject to the same open meeting laws and must allow public attendance and participation in accordance with the Ohio Open Meetings Act. The memo has been drafted and is currently awaiting legal review by Paul.

WSI: Approved the purchase of tables, chairs, chair mounting racks, field equipment, and backstop banners with logos for future meetings, to be paid from the currently open purchase order 34-2025. It was agreed that uniforms would not be covered through Village funds, and the estimated \$3,000 expense would instead be paid from the WSIA bank account. A blanket purchase order was discussed to allow for the spend-down of the remaining Village fund balance of \$7,398.57, with LuAnn set to follow up with Stephanie regarding the process. A \$400 quote was received to modify the ball field openings for easier access to the equipment garage, but the board decided to hold off on making a decision at this time. The program's 501(c)(3) status is still in progress, and Mark Tolles has recommended changes to paragraph 2.3 of the facilities agreement. The board will forward those suggested edits to Stephanie. The drag is in need of repair, and Harold has been contacted about the issue. The board plans to discontinue use of Team Reach and consolidate communication and scheduling through League Lineup beginning next year. Future coaches' meetings will be held in the equipment shed. The board also approved spending \$400 for an end-of-season coaches appreciation party, scheduled for July 8 at 6:00 p.m. at Porky's Pizza. Youth league tournaments are scheduled for June 27-29, and Weston will host an all-star game with the date to be announced. Actionable items include the approval of purchase orders for the \$400 coaches appreciation event and the fund spend-down totaling \$7,358.97.

Stephanie provided an update regarding the ball program's spending and clarified several financial and logistical concerns. While the ball fund balance remains available, individual line items—such as concessions—are tight, with only \$748.57 remaining, which will not cover adult league needs. Stephanie suggested it would be more efficient to

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allow the program to spend down the remaining unencumbered balance of \$7,358.97 while she manages the transfers between line items and open purchase orders as needed. Ms. Susor made a motion to allow the remaining balance of the ball fund to be spent down, with Stephanie authorized to manage purchase orders and make any necessary transfers between line items as needed, seconded by Ms. Klockowski; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0, Abstained - 1, Mr. Warner. A request was discussed for the \$400 coach appreciation party at Porky's, but since there is no line item for this and it doesn't fall within the approved budget structure, Council determined it should be paid through the program's private account rather than public funds. Additionally, there was concern expressed about the use of the Village credit card for such an event and the risk of running up a tab, further supporting the decision to handle the expense privately. There was also discussion about the drag needing repairs. It was confirmed the drag belongs to the program, not the Village (general fund), and its maintenance should be covered under the program's contractual services line. Ms. Susor noted that since the facility maintenance agreement transferring equipment ownership has not yet been finalized, there is still some confusion about who is responsible for the equipment. Once finalized, all equipment ownership will be transferred to the ball program and the Village will no longer be responsible for its use or maintenance.

Upcoming Meetings: Community Development & Public Affairs 6/17 at 5:30PM, Safety 6/23 at 6PM, Public Works 6/24 at 6PM, Parks & Rec 7/2 at 5:30PM, Cemetery 7/3 at 6PM, Community Development & Public Affairs 7/9 at 5:30PM

Mr. Myerholtz expressed concern about committee meetings being rescheduled if only one member is going to be absent. He suggested meetings should proceed as scheduled if a quorum is present, noting he missed the Administrative Process meeting due to a last-minute change in his personal schedule. Ms. Susor responded that she had asked the committee what they wanted to do, especially since she was the chair. Mr. Warner added that everyone had agreed to move the meeting at the time, and while things come up unexpectedly, that's just part of life.

New Business

A resolution authorizing the Village of Weston to participate in the Wood County Park District parks grant program received a first reading. Stephanie noted that the deadline is in October, and Parks & Rec will need to develop ideas and gather quotes for the items they wish to include in the grant application.

Approval of Expenditures

Council reviewed a summary of the bills (\$21,607.74) and outstanding invoices (\$38,249.77). A motion to approve the summary of the bills and payment of outstanding invoices was made by Mr. Myerholtz, seconded by Ms. Rupp; Approved unanimously.

The May bank reconciliation was presented and reviewed. A motion to approve was made by Mrs. Patel, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously.

Miscellaneous Business

Stephanie clarified that the DORA application was written to require Council pre-approval for specific special event dates, rather than listing them in advance. Since the first event is approaching in July, she recommended approving all currently scheduled DORA events now. The dates discussed were July 19, August 23, and September 20. These dates correspond to Parks & Recreation events held downtown, including the "Anything with Wheels" show. While other potential dates in October were mentioned, it was noted those could be addressed later. Mr. Myerholtz made a motion to approve the three summer DORA event dates (July 19, August 23, and September 20), seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.

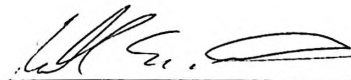
Mr. Warner suggested publicly thanking Sue Clanton for introducing the Village to GLCAP, noting it led to a strong partnership. Mayor Easterwood agreed, expressing appreciation for Sue's contributions to various events and her service on the Planning Commission, calling her a very nice person to work with.


Citizens & Visitors

Jigar Patel (Virtual)

No comments.

A motion to adjourn at 7:06PM was made by Mr. Myerholtz, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously.


Rick Easterwood, Mayor


Stephanie Monts, Fiscal Officer/Clerk