

**The Village of Weston  
Council Meeting Minutes**

**September 6, 2022**

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: Mr. Dean Babcock, Mr. Craig Warner, Mr. Dave Dewitt, Mr. Rob Myerholtz, and Mr. Rick Easterwood. *A motion to excuse Mrs. Ashley Patel was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously. A motion to approve August 15, 2022 council meeting minutes as written was made by Mr. Babcock, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously.*

**Old Business**

Ordinance 2022-19 amending municipal ordinance sections 174.30 and 174.36, banning smoking/vaping/tobacco within 50 feet from any park, building, public sidewalks, bus stops and similar, received a final reading. *Motion for passage of Ordinance 2022-19 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

Mayor asked for more discussion on Ordinance 2022-16, amending the pay schedule to receive an emergency reading. Mr. Myerholtz shared he is still a no vote. Mr. Dewitt replied "on a pay ordinance." Mayor discussed the current status of the cemetery records. Mayor and Mr. Warner shared that Jodie has met with one of the county's records managers for digitizing, and also added that we do have current deeds on file in the office. Mr. Myerholtz disagreed and shared that the records have been asked for 22 years. Mr. Easterwood also clarified that this is a pay ordinance and has nothing to do with records. Mr. Myerholtz shared that he is a no vote and did not care for the responses with what the law says or doesn't say in regards to having copies of the records at the Village Hall. Mr. Myerholtz pointed out that the law also doesn't require us to pave roads but we do anyway. Mr. Myerholtz also reminded the council and Mayor of the letter that Paul Skaff provided that required digital copies of the records at the Village Hall. Mayor informed Mr. Myerholtz that is not what the letter said and that the intention of that letter is that it is only a recommendation from Mr. Skaff and not a requirement. Mr. Myerholtz also added that the cemetery board needs to be cycled every year because in his opinion he believes that the board thinks they hold life sentences like a supreme court justice. Mayor shared that the board holds specific terms, 6, 4, and 2 years. Clerk provided ORC section 759.20, and after reviewing it Mayor noted that he is only responsible for appointing one of the members not all 3. Mr. Myerholtz disagreed with the feedback and noted these are his opinions and will vote based on his own opinion. This will be the second reading of Ordinance 2022-16 to amend the pay schedule.

**Reports**

Attendance: Stephanie Monts (Fiscal Officer), Ken Taylor (Zoning Inspector), Harold Boggs (Administrator)

**Mayor:** A resident reached out who was very livid about fireworks. Told the individual that it was brought to council and there was discussion and heard both sides and it was voted no to opt out of the Ohio law and fireworks are allowed in the Village. Mayor also asked if any council member would be interested in walking around town to give information about Reach Alert and get more residents to sign up. Harold mentioned he can assist and Mr. Babcock shared he could tentatively do this depending on the date.

**Fiscal Officer:** Kathy is seeking approval to loan 190 one of the squads for the Applebutter Fest, they usually do this every year and do not have the personnel to loan them. *Mr. Babcock made a motion to approve loaning one of the ambulances to 190 for the Applebutter Fest, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously.* Health insurance is going up about 31% due to change in demographics. Freedom Benefits is working on gathering new group quotes from other carriers and will present them to the Finance committee. Still waiting on a few direct deposit forms. Newsletter is being drafted, any events or information to go in are due before September 19th. Watershed is open, council/Mayor have been invited to the grand opening on September 19th at 5:30PM.

**Administrator:** The storm drain will be fixed this week on Silver St. Crack sealing will begin next week. Harold was also asked if the drainage problem behind Porky's will be addressed and the amount of brush still out. The storm brush pickup will be finished up tomorrow. Mayor also added that he would like to brainstorm the brush pickup program with Harold and Stephanie.

**Zoning Inspector:** Signed permit for an accessory structure at 20805 Main St. 10 tall grass, 13 brush, and 5 inoperable vehicles letters were sent. Sent an email to WC Health Department regarding 20440 Walnut St and 13711 Center St. Signed fence permits for 13435 Russ and 13434 Center. Received a call from the maintenance man at Lawndale, he has a contractor lined up for removal of debris and brush but no timetable available. 4 unlicensed vehicles, 4 grass, 1 recliner in boulevard, and 3 uncovered junk trailer letters went out. Property owner of 20740 Sycamore called regarding a letter for junk and tall grass, called owner of Silver St property east of Lawndale regarding the status of the property and owner is also seeking a permit for storage containers on site. Walked the alleys between Maple and Broadway and Taylor and Oak and letters to be mailed after council meeting for council discussion: 4 weeds, 3 inoperable vehicles, 3 brush, 1 debris, 3 tree issues, 1 accessory structure in disrepair, and 1 fence falling down. Section 174.04(A) of the Weston Municipal Code mentions tree limbs, however, only overhanging the right-of-way. The 3 issues found are large limbs broken but still

attached to trees laying on grass nowhere near roads, there is an accessory structure with a 3-4' in diameter hole in the roof which is partially covered by a tarp which is torn, nothing in the code for structures, and nothing in the code covering a fence that is in disrepair. Mayor requested the Policies committee review the code for updates.

### **Committee Reports**

**Personnel & Policies:** Approved many changes to the employee handbook. The committee would like to re-add the discussion about creating a list of back-up snow plow drivers to the next council meeting. Needed some more discussion from council on "significant other" verbiage in the bereavement section of the handbook. There was some disagreement with adding this word and that "domestic partner" would possibly be a better word. Mr. Myerholtz questioned the part-time status as 40 or less, the original definition of part-time had it at 35 or less but Paul Skaff recommended it say 40 or less. One other item of discussion included detailing out background checks in the handbook. What would need to be updated is to say that the Village pays for the background checks through the Wood County Sheriff's Office and that a form will be provided to the candidate to authorize conducting a background check.

**Cemetery:** Will be adding stone to A-extension to deter people from driving on graves in that area.

**Upcoming Meetings:** Public Works 9/7 at 6PM, Rec Board 9/14 at 6:30PM, Economic & Community Development 9/21 at 5PM, Safety 9/22 at 5:30PM, Personnel & Policies 9/22 at 6PM, Finance 9/28 at 6:30PM

### **New Business**

Ordinance 2022-20 received an emergency reading, authorizing the special short-term assessment on certain parcels of real estate in the Village of Weston for benefits received as a result of cutting noxious weeds/grass, and certification to the Wood County Auditor for placement of charges on the tax duplicate. *Mr. Warner made a motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Ordinance 2022-20, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Warner, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Myerholtz, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Ordinance 2022-20 was made by Mr. Babcock, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved unanimously.*

Ordinance 2022-21 received an emergency reading, making supplemental appropriations for tax collection fees in the cemetery fund. *Mr. Babcock made a motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Ordinance 2022-21, seconded by Mr. Warner; Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Warner, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Myerholtz, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Ordinance 2022-21 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

Resolution 2022-9 received an emergency reading, accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the county auditor. *Mr. Babcock made a motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Resolution 2022-9, seconded by Mr. Warner; Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Warner, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Myerholtz, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Resolution 2022-9 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

### **Approval of Expenditures**

Council reviewed payment listing dated 8/16/2022 to 9/6/2022 totalling \$63,109.93, with a motion to approve made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously.

### **Miscellaneous Business**

EMS transported a 3 year old that was struck in the head by a rock discharged from the Village lawnmower. The family wants the medical bills to be billed to the Village. *Mr. Myerholtz made a motion for EMS billing to do an administrative write-off for the transport and all other medical bills to be forwarded to the Village insurance, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved unanimously.*

### **Citizens & Visitors**

No citizens or visitors were in attendance.

The deputy from WCSO stopped in and was told that multiple drivers are running the stop sign on Oak and Silver. There are mini bikes speeding through town to keep an eye on. Also spoke about trash burning. The deputy shared that they send the burning reports to the EPA and that there is a pamphlet on what you can and cannot burn on your property.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15PM.

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Jeremy Schroeder, Mayor

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Stephanie Monts, Fiscal Officer/Clerk