

**The Village of Weston
Council Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2021**

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor, Jeremy Schroeder at 6:00PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call of the present council members was then taken: Mrs. Ashley Patel, Mr. Dean Babcock, Mr. Dave Dewitt, Mr. Shad Kendall, Mr. Rob Myerholtz, and Mr. Rick Easterwood. *A motion to approve December 6, 2021 council meeting minutes as written was made by Mr. Babcock, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.*

Old Business

Still waiting on Weston Township and Milton Center EMS contracts, Custar Village has been approved.

Ordinance 2021-13 to amend cemetery grave and burial fees, received a final reading. *A motion for passage of Ordinance 2021-13 was made by Mrs. Patel, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

Ordinance 2021-14 for 2022 temporary appropriations, received a final reading. *A motion for passage of Ordinance 2021-14 was made by Mr. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved unanimously.*

Reports

Mayor: Thanked Shad for his 16+ years on council, Mr. Kendall's term is ending and will be moving over to Weston Township Trustee.

Administrator/Maintenance: Mr. Kendall shared that Taylor & Main Street look good, Harold has been sweeping and cleaning the gutters and also noted that a few storm drains need to be jetted. A quote from Rowe's Tree Service for \$2,585 was reviewed for trees needing to be removed, there was also a question regarding the tree that was damaged during the windstorm. *A motion to approve the Rowe's Tree Service quote up to \$4,000 for trees to be removed was made by Mr. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

Zoning Inspector: There is a Lot Split and Combination on Evon/Center for Kendall and Patel and will be putting a zoning inspector stamp of approval on the legal descriptions.

Committee Reports

Finance: Reviewed and set budgets. Discussed storm sewers, and need to gather more information on an assessment program. LED streetlight replacement program was discussed, and plan to spend down cash balance to put in LED and scope out dark areas. Ohio minimum wage is increasing to \$9.30/hour in 2022. Set a goal to put together a new/updated employee handbook by April. Increased streets paving in General Fund to \$50,000, total street paving budget is \$100,000. Actionable items include: Jeremy and Stephanie will meet with Jodie regarding the cemetery budget, Paul Skaff will draft compensation ordinance for Tom's raise (per board recommendation from previous meeting) and Gary (per min wage increase), Stephanie to prepare permanent appropriations for approval in January.

Mr. Myerholtz shared that the general fund has around \$510,000 cash balance, the plan isn't to spend it all but to start spending it in a wise manner for the benefit of taxpayers to improve the infrastructure, and will review this on a yearly basis. Storm sewers were also increased to \$30,000 and plan to purchase catch basins and work with a local contractor. Mr. Dewitt also added that we have a surplus and do not just want it sitting earning minimal interest. Mayor shared that there is a trend of an excess of \$8,500 in the street light fund each year with a cash balance around \$42,000. Toledo Edison has a program to turn street lights to LED, rough calculations with 98-99 street lights would cost around \$210/ea to convert the whole village and still have a cash balance and hope to see a reduction in consumption cost. Will also be working on looking into areas that need street lights.

Upcoming Meetings: Committee meetings will be scheduled once new council committees are set at the next meeting.

New Business

Ordinance 2021-15, realigning appropriations in fund 1000, received an emergency reading. *A motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Ordinance 2021-15 was made by Mr. Myerholtz, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mrs. Patel, Mr. Babcock, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Myerholtz, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Ordinance 2021-15 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.*

Ordinance 2021-16, authorizing the levy of a special assessment on certain parcels of real estate

for the total cost of nuisance abatement and removal or repair of unsafe conditions to the Wood County Auditor for placement of such costs on the tax duplicate, received an emergency reading. *A motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Ordinance 2021-16 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Dewitt; Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mrs. Patel, Mr. Babcock, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Myerholtz, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Ordinance 2021-16 was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.*

A resolution approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute USPS lease renewal had a first reading.

Cemetery compensation ordinances will be read at the January 3rd council meeting.

Approval of Expenditures

Council reviewed payment listing for December 7, 2021 - December 20, 2021 totalling \$45,699.83 and American Legal Publishing bill to be paid totalling \$835, with a motion to approve made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously.

Citizens & Visitors

Craig Warner, Shirley Moore, Alyssa Malanowski, Howard Lashuay & Grandson

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41PM.

Jeremy Schroeder, Mayor

Stephanie Monts, Fiscal Officer/Clerk