The Village of Weston **November 3, 2025**
Council Meeting Minutes

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 October 20, 2025 council meeting minutes as written was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Ms. Rupp; Approved unanimously.*

The WCSO Deputy was addressed, and no concerns were raised except for Ms. Rupp noting issues at the ball diamonds on Sundays. Ms. Susor explained that the tournaments/season have now concluded.

Public Presentation

Joe Pemberton with Suburban Natural Gas began by discussing a rate change request ordered by PUCO, explaining that the company has requested a 6.67% increase but noting that this does not mean the full amount will necessarily be approved. He then reviewed safety precautions related to natural gas, emphasizing the importance of calling the Ohio 811 number at least two working days before any excavation work. He explained that possible signs of a gas leak may include a rotten egg odor, dead vegetation, dirt blowing from cracks in the ground, bubbling in standing water, or a hissing sound. He advised that anyone noticing these signs should move upwind from the area and call 911 or the company immediately. Joe reported that the three-year leak survey was completed in 2023, with the next one scheduled for 2026, and confirmed that a mainline replacement project had been completed on Silver and Evergreen Streets. Mr. Warner provided an update on upcoming paving projects involving the milling and repaving of several streets, including Taylor Street and Main Street from the tracks outward. Matt Ziegler shared that the project most likely won't conflict with the gas lines. Joe concluded by expressing appreciation for the company's long-standing service to the Village of Weston.

Old Business

Ordinance providing permanent appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures for the Village of Weston, Ohio, through December 31, 2026 received a second reading.

Mayor Easterwood referenced feedback from Paul Skaff, noting that voting down the resolution for the settlement agreement and utility easement last meeting effectively "killed" it. Since the original motion did not pass and council had already suspended the rules, the resolution does not automatically revert to a first reading. In an emergency measure, the mayor cannot break a tie. He explained that the easement in question is an aerial easement only, and no infrastructure will be placed on the property itself. The utility line will run over the property without disturbing the memorial. The offer from the utility is for the right-of-way easement only, not the property itself, and the amount offered is $1,599.72. Mayor Easterwood noted that utilities have the authority to exercise eminent domain, and the offer represents the first step in negotiations. The council was asked to decide whether to reconsider the resolution or let it remain "dead," with the understanding that pursuing eminent domain could potentially cost the Village more than accepting the $1,599.72 for the easement. *Mr. Warner moved to reconsider the resolution, seconded by Ms. Susor; Approved unanimously. Mrs. Patel made a motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Resolution 2025-18 approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute settlement agreement and release and utility easement, seconded by Mr. Warner. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Warner - Yes, Ms. Rupp - Yes, Mr. Myerholtz - Yes, Ms. Susor - Yes, Mrs. Patel - Yes, Ms. Klockowski - Yes. A motion to approve Resolution 2025-18 was made by Mrs. Patel, seconded by Ms. Rupp; Approved unanimously.*

No contact has been made with the USDA regarding the Rural Business Development Grant because of the federal government shutdown.

As a follow-up to questions from the prior council meeting, Stephanie explained that the TMACOG GA representative must be an elected official or an appointed executive directly accountable to elected officials, and it does not have to be the Mayor. She added that voting eligibility is determined during registration. The plan is still to have the GA representatives assigned at the start of each year.

Reports

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

Mayor: Nothing to report.

Fiscal Officer: Nothing to report.

Administrator/Maintenance: Harold reported that the storm drains on Sycamore Street have been installed and brush pickup has been completed. He is currently cleaning up the cemetery and plans to begin leaf pickup, which is expected to continue throughout November. Regarding the Sycamore project, final grading and seeding will be postponed until spring, as recommended by JPX, who completed their services except for repairing the two affected roads with concrete later this year. Harold also noted that he had attempted to contact the person responsible for the old bus garage electricity via text but received no response, so he emailed Victor to help with communication on the issue with Toledo Edison. The work, which was reported as completed on the 9th, had not actually been done. Mayor Easterwood shared he will follow up as well.

Code Enforcement/Zoning: Not in attendance, Mayor Easterwood read Ken's written report.

Committee Reports

Community Development & Public Affairs: Created a Tree Commission Ordinance with guidance from Stephanie Foster-Miller and Haley Belisle from the Urban Forestry Department and will continue seeking participants for the Tree Commission. Mrs. Rank expressed interest in involving the Otsego Art Department in creating a mural on the side of the Post Office, potentially utilizing the Suburban Natural Gas Community Development Fund for materials. Discussed the need to evaluate the condition of the brick due to tuckpointing concerns before proceeding with the mural. Actionable items included recommending that Ken be authorized to send letters to individuals feeding stray cats who do not participate in a trap and release program, and sending the Tree Commission Ordinance to Paul Skaff for approval, which has been completed and returned to the committee folder.

Safety: Reported 318 runs year to date, with $12,559.06 received in payments for September and a collection rate of 80.7%, which is on track to exceed the 2024 rate of approximately 85%. The WSIA requested an AED unit for the ball diamonds; however, the proposed unit would not be compatible with the units currently used in EMS vehicles. Kathy and Tim agreed to research a possible adapter or explore other compatible options through Stryker. It was also noted that a trained individual must be present when the AED is in use, and Mr. Easterwood suggested checking with PEP for possible AED training. EMS personnel discussed how to respond when citizens are unsure of what help groups exist for non-emergency needs, with recommendations to contact the citizen's insurance provider or call 211 for information on local aid resources. Chief Heyman reported that an EMS member is advancing their certification from the basic to advanced level. Mr. Myerholtz volunteered to notify the Sheriff's Office that village patrol hours will be reduced to 26 per week in the upcoming year due to budget considerations, and a new contract with the Wood County Sheriff's Office will be required. Medicount introduced new cybersecurity training for EMS volunteers, and Mrs. Monts will clarify the wording sent by Medicount to committee members regarding billing rate adjustments, as an incorrect document may have been shared. The committee also discussed financing for the new EMS truck, with F&M Bank's commercial team preparing a proposal and Huntington yet to respond. EMS contracts for each entity have been drafted and sent to Paul for review. Additionally, the Walmart Spark Grant web account has been created and shared with grant writer Kristi, with plans to use the grant for a Weston-specific Safety Town event.

Ms. Klockowski made a motion to approve creation of the Sheriff's Office contract to Administrative Process, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously.

Public Works: Discussed the WSIA's request to install a heating and air conditioning unit in the concession stand. Agreed to allow the project to move forward if WSIA seals the front with plexiglass and installs a sliding window, noting that any further building modifications must be approved by council. Also reviewed crack sealing, noting that this is the second year the equipment was received late, and Harold suggested looking into alternative suppliers to complete the work earlier next year. Salt was reported at $54 per ton, with a proposal to purchase 40 tons along with two block barricades at $300 each, with the option to obtain additional salt as needed. A citizen complaint regarding the Sycamore project was addressed, and after clarification on project details and reseeding plans, the concern was resolved. The project remains under budget and is scheduled for completion by October 29, with Palmer returning to patch across Orange and Poplar Roads. No decisions will be made on additional chip seal projects until there is clarity on Washington Street and the OPWC project. The demolition of the bus garage was discussed, with plans to coordinate with Toledo Edison while they are in town to finish LED conversions and install new lights on Beech, Poplar, and Orange Streets. Mayor Easterwood shared that he spoke with Shad, who confirmed that the exterior portion of the unit could be raised off the ground and preferred placing it on the north side of the building.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Meeting

Held November 3 20 25

Mr. Warner made a motion to move the AC/heating in concession stand to Administrative process, seconded by Ms. Susor; Approved unanimously. Ms. Susor made a motion to approve the new deep cleaning quote from Spotless by Liz Huffman for $300, seconded by Ms. Klockowski; Approved unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings: Parks & Rec 11/5 at 5:30PM, Administrative Process 11/10 at 6PM, Cemetery moved to 11/13 at 6PM, Community Development & Public Affairs 11/18 at 5:30PM, Planning Commission 11/19 at 6PM, Safety 11/24 at 6PM, Public Works 11/25 at 6PM

New Business

An ordinance to retain the services of the Wood County Sheriff received its first reading. It specifies patrol time at 26 hours per week and allows the hours to be adjusted by voice vote without requiring a new ordinance.

Approval of Expenditures

Council reviewed a summary of the bills ($27,443.81) and outstanding invoices ($11,568.63). Ms. Susor made a motion to remove the Pro Tech HVAC Solutions payment from the batch, seconded by Mr. Warner; Approved unanimously. A motion to approve the summary of the bills and payment of outstanding invoices with the exception of the Pro Tech HVAC Solutions was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mrs. Patel; Approved unanimously. A motion to approve the Pro Tech HVAC Solutions bill was made by Ms. Rupp, approved by Mr. Warner; Approved - 5, Opposed - 0, Abstain - 1, Ms. Susor.

Citizens & Visitors

WCSO Deputy, Joe Pemberton/Matt Ziegler (Suburban Natural Gas), LuAnn Hunt, Alyx De La Cruz, Samantha Wick, Logan Wick, Shirley Moore, Keith Leady, Doug Marion, Greg Stevens (Virtual), Travis Ackerman (Virtual), Ron Dallas (Virtual), Jeremy Schroeder (Virtual), Jigar Patel (Virtual)

Samantha Wick made brief remarks reflecting on the past 33 days, emphasizing that she has not engaged in bullying, mean-spirited behavior, or political intimidation, and called out political violence and cowardice. She urged those running for office, including incumbents, to genuinely listen to the community rather than only their own views, noting that the upcoming vote is tomorrow.

A motion to adjourn at 6:39PM was made by Mr. Warner, seconded by Ms. Rupp; Approved unanimously.

Stephanie Monts, Fiscal Officer/Clerk

Rick Easterwood, Mayor