

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Regular Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in regular session on April 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the municipal building with Mayor Jessica Tubbs presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Roll Call: Rich Wheeler, Jason Hursey, Brittany Howell, Adam Fisher, Tim Cheney and Christie Maurer were present. Fire Chief Damon Gould, Police Chief Eckelberry, Officer Bishop, Corey with Rumpke Trash, Brett Feagan from Kimble, Di Koch from WTNS, Leonard Hayhurst from the Coshocton Tribune and several village residents were also present.

A motion was made by Jason Hursey and seconded by Tim Cheney to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on March 24, 2025. Roll call 6 yes.

Mayor's Correspondence: Mayor Tubbs commented on the Citizen's Comments guidelines, updates and clarifications on the village-wide trash and controversy over the new bakery in the village.

Citizens' comments: Brett Feagan from Kimble spoke to the village wide trash issue that is before council that will receive its third and final reading this evening. He urged council to consider not passing the resolution and taking more time to implement the program and consider putting it out to bid again to have more of a competitive bidding process. He suggested reaching out and soliciting bids, citing an example from the Village of Lewisville. Village Administrator, Tammy Hicks, spoke stating that she did follow the proper process, as she does with all bidding, placing the ad in a local paper of circulation, running for 2 weeks, with a waiting week before opening the received bids. Solicitor Joel Blue commented that it is against ORC for the Village to reach out and solicit bids as it shows favoritism. Mayor Tubbs confirmed that Tammy did her due diligence in the bidding process.

Committee Reports:

Building and Property: No report.

Community & Business Development: No report.

Community Relations: Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported We R WL met on April 9th and stated that the Blue Ridge 4-H group will be taking over the Rotary flowers starting after Mother's Day and the Boy Scouts will be taking over the Rotary flag program due to the West Lafayette Rotary disbanding. The Easter Egg Hunt will be April 18th at 10am at the football stadium. Village clean-up day will be April 26th. Councilwoman Christie Maurer read a letter informing Council and the residents that the West Lafayette Rotary club will be disbanding due to the aging of the group and the low membership. Money left in the accounts were donated to We R WL, who is taking over the flag project with the Boy Scouts and the Main St. flower project, to the Village for the roof maintenance of the shelter at Burt Park, and to the Village

Record of Proceedings

Police Department for the annual Block Party and the remaining money will go to Dollars for Scholars for a Ridgewood student scholarship.

Community Revitalization: Chairman Adam Fisher reported meeting on April 2, 2025 at 6pm and discussed the ongoing need for a sit-down type restaurant in the village as well as moderate income housing and a laundromat.

Finance: Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported that the deadline to file village income taxes with RITA is April 15th. Other topics discussed were quotes for new IT service for the village and the March end of month summary was reviewed with nothing significant to report. The financial audit being done by the State is still in progress and when completed, they will present findings to Council members. A motion was made by Brittany Howell and seconded by Christie Maurer to approve the March end of month cash summary. Roll call 6 yes.

Fire Dependency Board: No report.

Ordinance: No report.

Park Board: No report.

Planning Commission: No report.

Public Safety: Police Chief Eckelberry spoke regarding controversy over Lori's Heavenly Sweets and the registered sex offender working there. Chief did speak with the proper people involved with the offender and he is in compliance with all requirements as a registered sex offender. The big issue was him working in close proximity of a daycare, but that is permissible because he is not residing at the location. He stated that the Facebook posts and accusations towards the Mayor, as the landlord of the building, are completely unwarranted. She did her due diligence as a landlord and there is nothing she can do.

Public Works: Chairman Rich Wheeler reported discussing the village wide trash service, the RCAP study and Pearl Valley cheese contract and the sidewalk project bid opening will be April 17th.

Records Retention: No report.

Rules: Chairman Rich Wheeler reported updates to the Employee Handbook are in progress and will be reported on more when completed.

Department Reports:

Fire: See attached. Chief Gould reminded residents that there is still a burn ban in effect through May from 6am-6pm or if there are any red flag warnings and that there is a new open burning ordinance in force regarding burning in the village limits. The new skid unit for the 6x6 is here and will be going to Addy's Friday. It should be in service in the next couple of weeks.

Record of Proceedings

Fiscal Officer: Fiscal Officer, Amy Bourne, reported that Ordinance 2025-12 will receive its third and final reading authorizing contracts for village wide trash service. Resolution 2025-15 will receive its first reading authorizing the village to participate in the 2025 ODOT Road Salt Contracts. Due to the upcoming deadline for application submissions, the three required readings will be requested to be waived. Resolution 2025-16 will receive its first reading to adopt the plan for Ohio Deferred Compensation for village employees. The Village Administrator will speak to the other 2 resolutions to be presented. Bills were passed for approval.

Police: See attached. The upfit equipment for the new cruiser is all in with the exception of the radar. A quote for the lettering has been received.

Solicitor: Village Solicitor, Joel Blue, reported having discussions regarding the village wide trash as well as the controversy over the new bakery in town. Joel apologized for derailing things at the last council meeting for being rude and interrupting the speakers.

Village Administrator: Village Administrator Tammy Hicks reported that Resolution 2025-17 is to authorize the Mayor to apply with Congressman Balderson's office for Community Project Funding for fiscal year 2026. Resolution 2025-18 is to authorize the Mayor to apply with Senator Bernie Moreno's office for appropriations request for fiscal year 2026. Both applications have a submission deadline approaching soon and the three required readings are being requested to be waived. The sewer outfall project will be breaking ground in early May. The work area and easement was surveyed and staked out. The contractor and engineer are going to meet with the landowners to be sure care is taken with their land during the project. EPA Recycle Ohio Grant and the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant that were applied for recently for additional funding for the splash pad were both denied. Funding for the remaining portion of the splash pad is still being researched.

Introduction to ordinances and resolutions:

2025-12 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, OHIO TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR VILLAGE-WIDE TRASH SERVICE Third Reading

A motion was made by Jason Hursey and seconded by Adam Fisher to adopt Ordinance 2025-12. Roll call 3 no and 3 yes. Mayor Tubbs broke the tie with a yes vote. Motion carried.

2025-15 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2025 First Reading/Emergency

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Jason Hursey to waive the three required readings for Resolution 2025-15. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Jason Hursey to adopt Resolution 2025-15. Roll call 6 yes.

Record of Proceedings

2025-16 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PLAN UNDER THE OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DEFERRED COMPENSATION BOARD FOR PARTICIPATION BY “ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES” OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE First Reading

2025-17 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, COSHOCTON COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION WITH CONGRESSMAN BALDERSON’S OFFICE FOR COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING REQUESTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY First Reading/Emergency

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Jason Hursey to waive the three required readings for Resolution 2025-17. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam Fisher to adopt Resolution 2025-17. Roll call 6 yes.

2025-18 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, COSHOCTON COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION WITH SENATOR BERNIE MORENO’S OFFICE FOR A FISCAL YEAR 2026 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY First Reading/Emergency

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Jason Hursey to waive the three required readings for Resolution 2025-18. Roll call 6 yes.

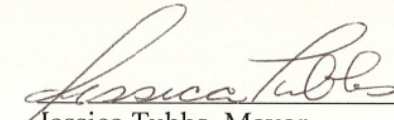
A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam fisher to adopt Resolution 2025-18. Roll call 6 yes.

Other Business: None

A motion was made by Jason Hursey and seconded by Adam Fisher to pay the bills. Roll call 6 yes.


A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Jason Hursey to adjourn until the next meeting on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call 6 yes.

A full recording of this evening’s minutes can be viewed by visiting www.westlafayettevillage.com and clicking on either the Facebook or YouTube link at the bottom of the page under CONTACTS.



Jessica Tubbs, Mayor

Attest:



Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer