## **Record of Proceedings**

Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Regular Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in regular session on July 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the municipal building with Mayor Jessica Tubbs presiding.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### Prayer

**Roll Call:** Rich Wheeler, Brittany Howell, Tim Cheney, Adam Fisher, and Christie Maurer were present. Jason Hursey was not in attendance. Police Chief Chris Walters, Fire Chief Damon Gould and Bob Snavely with Palmer Energy were also present.

A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Christie Maurer to excuse Councilman Jason Hursey. Roll call 5 yes.

- A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam Fisher to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on June 24, 2024. Roll call 5 yes.
- A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam Fisher to approve the minutes from the special council meeting held on July 2, 2024. Roll call 5 yes.

Mayor's Correspondence: Mayor Tubbs reported receiving no correspondence.

**Citizens' comments:** Bob Snavely with Palmer Energy presented proposals for village gas and electric aggregation rate contracts through the Ohio Municipal League energy program. The gas and electric aggregation are expiring in December 2024. The RFP's for both electric and gas were passed around to council members. Palmer Energy recommends the village execute a 12-month agreement with Constellation for electric with the current rate being \$0.06455/kWh and a 24-month agreement with IGS Energy for gas with the current rate being \$5.97 per MCF. Both rates will be refreshed prior to signing to capture accurate rates. A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Tim Cheney to approve executing the 12-month agreement for electric with Constellation. Roll call 5 yes. A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Tim Cheney to approve executing the 24-month agreement for gas with IGS Energy. Roll call 5 yes.

#### **Department Reports:**

**Fire:** See attached. Chief Gould reported that engine 604 has been sold and is gone. Chief will be attending the next committee meetings to discuss the need for other equipment.

**Fiscal Officer:** Fiscal Officer, Amy Bourne, reported that Resolution 2024-25 will receive its second reading and is to approve the return of property to the Ridgewood Local Schools that was once used for a community swimming pool. Ordinance 2024-27 will receive its first reading to approve the vacation of an alley between Brittany Howell and Michael and Kristi Timmons. In the Finance committee meeting, the final tax budget and the June end of month cash summary were reviewed. A Public Hearing was held this evening for residents to review the tax budget and no one was in attendance, other than the council members. The 2025 Tax Budget is ready to be submitted to the County Auditor's office upon approval of Council. A motion was made by

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Adam Fisher and seconded by Christie Maurer to approve the 2025 Tax Budget to be submitted to the County Auditor's office. Roll call 5 yes. There is a County Budget Commission meeting scheduled for August 5, 2024 at 5:30pm at Frontier Power. The Fiscal officer and Mayor will be attending the meeting. Bills were passed around for approval.

**Police**: See attached. Chief Walters reported that the First Responders Event went very well. Don Cottrell counted 250-300 people in attendance, which is great for the event being rescheduled due to the weather.

**Solicitor:** Village Solicitor, Joel Blue, reported that all of the paperwork is complete for the Wetlands annexation and it needs to be sent to the County Commissioners office. There are also other areas to explore annexing into the village in the future.

**Village Administrator**: Village Administrator Tammy Hicks reported the June activities of the Wastewater Treatment plant. The Fresno lift station had new starting components installed and programmed. There were 2 new bulk septic haulers approved. Maintenance was done on the blowers. There was an increase in septage revenue received in the amount of \$6,600 and the YTD total is \$19,850. They are looking at accepting and treating leachaids, which is run off from landfills, but more exploration is needed on the process. Today was the last day for accepting statements of qualifications for engineers for the next sidewalk project this summer. The engineer will be selected this week. Estimates for splash pads are being gathered to determine if more funding is needed to go along with the grants received from the Coshocton Foundation and if the project will need to be put out to bid.

#### **Committee Reports:**

Building and Property: No report.

Community & Business Development: No report.

**Community Relations:** Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported that the First Responders Block Party was a success. Mayor Tubbs reported that the Yippee Kayak was awarded a grant sponsored by ODNR & H2O Ohio that will be utilized for a river cleanup on July 13th.

Community Revitalization: No report.

**Finance:** Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported meeting and reviewing the final copy of the 2025 tax budget that is due to the County Auditor's office in July. Donations were received from the Lions Club and the United Methodist Church for the food pantry and would like to thank them. A motion was made by Brittany Howell and seconded by Christie Maurer to approve the June end of month cash summary. Roll call 5 yes.

#### Fire Dependency Board: No report.

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**Ordinance:** Chairman Jason Hursey was not present. During the group committee meeting, ordinances regarding animals, UTV's and golf carts were discussed. Ordinances/resolutions are going to be reviewed to possibly clean up to make them more enforceable.

Park Board: No report.

Planning Commission: No report.

**Public Safety**: Chairman Adam Fisher reported discussing old business regarding the stop sign phase in for the North/South streets to begin with the Safe Routes to School areas. There was further discussion regarding making Kirk Street between Russell Ave. and Main St. one-way.

**Public Works:** Chairman Rich Wheeler reported discussing village wide trash collection and the storm water utility.

Records Retention: No report.

Rules: No report.

## Introduction to ordinances and resolutions: 2024-25 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETURN OF PROPERTY TO THE RIDGEWOOD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Second Reading

## 2024-27 AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AN ALLEY PRESENTED BY MICHAEL BEAU AND KRISTI L TIMMONS AND BRITTANY L HOWELL First Reading

#### **Other Business:**

A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Christie Maurer to pay the bills. Roll call 5 yes. A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Christie Maurer to adjourn until the next meeting on Monday, July 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call 6 yes.

A full recording of this evening's minutes can be heard by visiting <u>www.westlafayettevillage.com</u> and clicking on the recorded minutes tab.

essica Tubbs, Mayor

Attest:

Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer