Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Regular Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in regular session on June 9, 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, Tim Cheney, Adam Fisher and Christie

Maurer were present. Police Chief Eckelberry and Fire Chief Gould were also present.

A motion was made by Jason Hursey and seconded by Christie Maurer to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on May 27, 2025. Roll call 6 yes.

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

Citizens' comments: None

Committee Reports:

Building and Property: Chairman Tim Cheney reported that the closing on the lot being sold on Main St. will be Thursday. Discussions were held regarding chickens, trash and a camper being lived in at 112 E. Park St., and a sheep at 520 N. George. The Village Administrator will be sending files to the Solicitor to take to court residents at 217 E. Main, 206 W. 7th, 424 N. George, 535 N. George and 537 N. George.

Community & Business Development: Chairwoman Christie Maurer reported that Good Girl Grooming is having their grand opening tomorrow at 1pm located at 101 W. Railroad St. at will be opening for business on the 11th.

Community Relations: Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported the West Lafayette First Responders party will be on June 28th from 4-7pm at the Nazarene church. We R WL will be hosting a 5k run on August 2nd at 9am called "The Fast and the Purrious" to raise money for the cat to release program. We R WL will be meeting on July 16th at 6pm in Council Chambers.

Community Revitalization: No report.

Finance: Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported reviewing the May end of month cash summary. The village audit is almost complete and the auditors are planning to present the results to the Finance committee. The Police Department received a \$400 donation from the WL Masonic Lodge 602 for the bike program. There was discussion regarding the purchase of a new police cruiser to replace the one that was totaled in a pursuit recently. A motion was made by Brittany Howell and seconded by Christie Maurer to approve the May end of month cash summary. Roll call 6 yes.

Fire Dependency Board: No report.

Ordinance: Chairman Jason Hursey reported resolution 2025-28 will receive its first reading for an Urban Forestry grant to purchase trees for the parks and community.

Park Board: No report.

Planning Commission: No report.

Public Safety: Chairman Adam Fisher reported the Police Department will be hosting a bike safety class on Friday evening at Burt Park 6-7:30pm to be followed by pizza. An application for the COPS grant will be submitted to cover hiring a new officer. The new cruiser is almost complete.

Public Works: Chairman Rich Wheeler reported discussing a sewer credit for a resident that had an ongoing issue with the water meter. Residents have been calling to receive a sewer credit when filling their pools and per the 2024 sewer rate ordinance, credits are no longer given.

Records Retention: No report.

Rules: No report.

Department Reports:

Fire: See attached.

Fiscal Officer: Fiscal Officer, Amy Bourne, reported that Resolution 2025-27 will receive its second reading to approve applying for the COPS grant. A request was made to waive the final reading in order to meet the application deadline. Resolution 2025-28 was presented by the Ordinance committee and will receive its first reading for the Urban Forestry grant. The tax budget is still a work in progress and due to the county auditor's office in mid-July. Bills were passed for approval.

Police: See attached. Chief Eckelberry reported that the new cruiser was decaled today and will be going to Parr next week to have the upfit kit installed. The bike safety program will be at Burt Park from 6-7:30pm and all ages are welcome. Chief is expecting all age groups to follow the rules when riding bikes, especially adults to set the good example.

Solicitor: Village Solicitor, Joel Blue, requested an executive session at the end of the meeting.

Village Administrator: Village Administrator Tammy Hicks reported Rumpke trash service will start on June 30th and will be picked up on Mondays and Wednesdays. Residents will be receiving letters in the mail very soon with more details. Information is also posted on the website and Facebook. They will be including a trash bin, free of charge, for the residents. T.R. Snyder began work on the multi-use path last week. Weather permitting, asphalt will be poured on Wednesday. The trees and stumps have been removed for the rest of the sidewalk project. The rest of that project will begin later in July. Vic

Allen began work last week on replacing/repairing several catch basins in the village. A few ordinances were highlighted as a reminder to residents. Ordinance 2023-29 regarding animals in the village states that animals are not to run loose in the village, unless on private property. If dogs are being walked on a leash, their waste must be cleaned up. Dog waste stations have been placed at Burt Park and Waterworks Park. Ordinance 2024-25 that establishes sewer rates no longer contains wording about giving sewer credits for pool fills.

Introduction to ordinances and resolutions:

2025-27 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, COSHOCTON COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE MAYOR TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE COPS HIRING PROGRAM (CHP), AND ONCE THE GRANT OFFER IS RECEIVED, FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE GRANT CONTRACT AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE TO ACCEPT ANY GRANT MONEY AWARDED TO THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY Second Reading/Emergency

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam Fisher to waive the three required readings for Resolution 2025-27. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Jason Hursey to adopt Resolution 2025-27. Roll call 6 yes.

2025-28 A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, COSHOCTON COUNTY, OHIO, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FORESTRY, FOR THE URBAN FORESTRY GRANT 2025 AND ONCE THE GRANT OFFER IS RECEIVED, FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE GRANT CONTRACT AND ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE TO ACCEPT ANY GRANT MONEY AWARDED TO THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE First Reading

Other Business: Mayor Tubbs had no other business to discuss.

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

A motion was made at 7:20pm by Christie Maurer and seconded by Adam Fisher to go into executive session with the village administrator and fiscal officer to remain to discuss pending or imminent litigation. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made at 7:41pm by Jason Hursey and seconded by Christie Maurer to continue in open session. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Jason Hursey to adjourn until the next meeting on Monday, June 23, 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