Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Regular Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in regular session on May 28, 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, Christie Maurer and Jason

Hursey were present.

A motion was made by Jason Hursey and seconded by Tim Cheney to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on May 13, 2024. Roll call 6 yes.

Mayor's Correspondence: Mayor Tubbs reported receiving a letter from a resident on Russell Avenue regarding the recent sidewalk construction stating he is not pleased with the end results with the sidewalks not matching and the grass seed not growing in many spots. Mayor Tubbs also noted that several residents on Russell Avenue have purchased replacement trees for the curb strip and it is the residents responsibility to maintain the tree.

Citizens' comments: No comments.

Zoom Log-in

https://zoom.us/j/96595775556?pwd=eVJIY04yaFFmbU9GSEISRU9kNnRjQT09

Or Dial: 1-301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 965 9577 5556

Passcode: 571265

**Department Reports:** 

Fire: No report.

Fiscal Officer: Fiscal Officer, Amy Bourne, reported Ordinance 2024-16 Pay and Benefit ordinance will receive its second reading. Updates were made to add wording for School Resource Officers (SRO) to receive an additional \$.50 per hour pay. Currently Officer Hernandez is the SRO as well as the Field Training Officer and receives an additional \$.50 per hour for FTO. The SRO position does not allow for any additional pay although specialized training and certification is required. Office Hernandez will be losing the FTO title since his SRO title does not permit him the time needed to do training. Officer Bishop will be going to FTO training school in June and will be awarded that title upon passing and earn the additional \$.50 per hour. The intent is to award Officer Hernandez the additional \$.50 per hour for the SRO position. Resolution 2024-17 will receive its second reading and is to request approval to transfer funds from the 910 Unclaimed Funds fund to the 101 General Fund. Per the village Unclaimed Funds policy, checks that have not been cashed live in the 910 Unclaimed fund for 5 years and can then be moved to the General Fund. There are 2 checks that have hit the 5-year mark in the amounts of \$11.80 and \$11.82, totaling \$23.62. Resolution 2024-20 to adopt an alternative method of apportioning the local government fund. The County Auditor's office has

requested this resolution be passed in acceptance of the new calculation method that will use the past 5 years average for the next 5 years, which will give a solid revenue figure to use for budgeting purposes. This resolution will go three readings but does contain the emergency clause so that it will be in effect as soon as it is signed in order to meet the July 10<sup>th</sup> deadline to the County Auditor. Resolution 2024-21 will receive its second reading regarding the use of the village parks. Bills were passed around for approval.

Police: No report.

**Solicitor:** Village Solicitor, Joel Blue, reported answering questions regarding the parks and being able to lease/rent the facilities and according to ORC, it is allowed. He also spoke with Mayor Tubbs regarding the annexation of the Wetlands since it is now village owned property. The offer of annexation will be made to neighbors of the wetlands.

Village Administrator: Village Administrator Tammy Hicks reported there is still a final walk through with Russell Avenue sidewalks that will happen with the engineer, Verdantas and the contractor. She noted that the grass is pretty spotty, but the contractor will fix it. The Sewer Outfall project will go out to bid on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> and again June 6<sup>th</sup> with the bids being opened June 21, 2024 at 11:00am in Council Chambers. The Wastewater Department provided a report. Larry Frye hauled away sludge from 3 bays for land application this past week. The sand filter is going to be cleaned out and have new sand added and possibly renting a mini excavator to do the work rather than hiring a contractor. An estimate was received for \$2,000 and it will only cost around \$600 to rent the equipment. Bulk septage receipts are increasing since lowering the price to \$.02 per gallon. There will be roughly 100,000 gallons received next week from another municipality. Overall good work being done there and good preparation for the upcoming Sewer Outfall Project.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Building and Property**: Chairman Tim Cheney reported 206 W. 7<sup>th</sup> street is getting cleaned up. Grass citations are going out this week.

**Community & Business Development:** Chairwoman Christie Maurer reported a new bakery will be open in mid-June on Main St.

**Community Relations:** Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported the Chamber of Commerce is currently meeting at the eat stand.

**Community Revitalization:** Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported there will be a meeting on Thursday at 5:00pm at Council Chambers and it is open to the public.

Finance: No report.

Fire Dependency Board: No report.

Ordinance: No report.

**Park Board:** Chairwoman Christie Maurer reported that the village employees have sprayed for weeds at the parks. Village Administrator, Tammy Hicks reported the project manager for the Neighborhood Revitalization grant will be getting a hold of the contractor regarding grass not growing and have them reseed at Waterworks Park as well as around the new lot on Main St.

**Planning Commission**: Local Chairman Jason Hursey reported meeting on May 21, 2024 and discussed a lot split next to the glove factory on Memco Drive. All was in favor. Mayor Tubbs reported that there are more formal details to work out in order to have the resolution presented to Council for approval.

Public Safety: Chairman Adam Fisher reported Tammy will be taking testing to be able to spray for mosquitos and as soon as that is in place and weather permits, spraying will occur. Residents are asked to park off street when spraying does occur as it can damage the clear coat on vehicles. Spraying for ticks at Waterworks will be happening soon. There were discussions about possibly adding stop signs at all North/South directions within the village due to several complaints of speeding and near-accidents. Complaints were received about speeding in alleys behind of Main St. A grant has been submitted for the flashing stop signs at Kirk and Main. Discussion was held regarding permitting stop signs at all North/South intersections. A motion was made by Adam Fisher to install stop signs at all North/South intersections. Rich Wheeler questioned how many stop signs would be needed and how much it would cost. The motion was tabled until the next meeting when the number and cost could be determined.

Public Works: No report.

Records Retention: A meeting needs to be scheduled.

Rules: A meeting needs to be scheduled.

#### Introduction to ordinances and resolutions:

2024-16 AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING 2024 PAY AND BENEFIT SCHEULE FOR THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE AND REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH Second Reading

2024-17 A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM UNCLAIMED FUNDS (10) TO THE GENERAL FUND (101) Second Reading

2024-20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF APPORTIONING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND Second Reading/Emergency

2024-21 A RESOLUTION REGARDING VILLAGE PARK USAGE, REPEALING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH Second Reading

Committee Meetings:
Fire Dependency BoardPlanning Commission (Local) –
Records Retention –
Revitalization –
Tax Review Board –
Other Business:

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, June 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call 6 yes.

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

Jessica Tubbs, Mayor

Attest:

Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer