

**The Village of Weston  
Council Meeting Minutes  
September 8, 2020**

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor, Jeremy Schroeder at 6:00PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call of the present council members was then taken: Mr. Dean Babcock, Mr. Dave Dewitt, Mr. Shad Kendall, Ms. Diane Hillier and Mr. Rick Easterwood. *A motion to excuse Mr. Bill Barnhart was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously. A motion to approve the August 17, 2020 council meeting minutes as written was made by Ms. Hillier, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Approved unanimously.*

**Old Business**

Ordinance 2020-7, establishing EMS bylaws received a second reading. It was also noted that the finances section in the bylaws was changed to also reflect billing company and EMS clerk.

**Reports**

**Mayor:** Noted that there have been some changes to the recycling bins by zip-tying the lids shut and designating a cardboard only bin.

SR235 drainage project was discussed. Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Babcock and Mr. Easterwood were updated about the pilon that damaged the drainage tiles at the 235 intersection. Gearhart was working on getting a permit to bore under 235 from the state. Gearharts did not see a reason why the original budget of \$10,000 would not cover the two drill jobs anticipated; which include one being north/south under Sandridge Road, and other being east/west under 235. There was also an outstanding invoice from Gearhart for \$1,608.16 that they did not bill for last year for the project completed at 235 intersection, this bill will be included with the rest of the bills needing paid and approved.

**Fiscal Officer/Administrative:** Mayor informed everyone that Cheryl was having issues with her UAN computer, and there are no financial reports to review. EMS pointed out the records section in the EMS contract addendum may need amended, the Fire Marshall verbiage in the records section was removed and new copies will be given to the Township for acceptance/signatures.

**Administrator/Maintenance:** Mowed grass and weed whacked throughout village, cleaned and blew off curbs along Center Street, cleaned up downed tree branch on Broadway, trimmed trees at Old Schoolhouse Park and Merrill Park, sprayed weeds at parks and throughout village, watered trees and flower pots, emptied trash cans from parks and Main Street, cleaned maintenance building, hauled two truckloads of scrap to Bates Recycling, replaced streetlight lightbulb on Main Street, cleaned up litter throughout village, changed batteries in cameras at recycling, drilled holes in dumpsters to zip tie lids, removed radar sign from Center Street for stat download and battery change and moved to Main Street. Jeff King will be in on Monday, September 14th to repair the ceiling in village hall. Loaded up the chipping box and took to Fletcher Machine to weld in a new sheet of steel to repair the floor in the box. Cleaned out the durapatcher and filled with fuel, will be picking up stone and emulsion for durapatching training on Thursday with Mike Myers from Leader Machinery. Storm sewer project/jetting is planned to begin after leaf pickup.

Mayor asked if there can be extra signs or reflectors placed at the Main Street curve due to a second fatal accident that happened recently. Ms. Hillier also shared that a speed limit sign needs to be attached with the curve sign that does not have one.

**Zoning Inspector:** Mr. Ken Taylor had asked about the size of the tile across the road for the 235 drainage project. The current tile is 8", Mr. Kendall shared that Gearharts has to get a permit from the state to bore under 235 and their regulations only allow up to 10". Mr. Taylor said with a new parking lot going in at the church, the asphalt will have a lot of water that drains off quickly, so we need to be aware of potential water backup. Mr. Taylor had a request for a property on the NE corner of Evon/Main to add a second driveway off of Evon Lane with the intent to build a garage later. Due to no guidelines in the zoning code council had no issues with this request. Received a couple permits to review and about a dozen code violation letters have been sent out.

Ms. Hiller brought concern junk/trash on a vacant lot on Russ St near the basketball hoop. Mr. Kendall asked about the status of Silver Street property cleanup. Mr. Taylor will send another reminder to the property owner and that he will need to have this property cleaned up before winter, no exceptions.

**Committee Reports**

**Safety:** 915 is in need for some work such as oil change and new tires, price unknown. Discussion on Full Time/Part Time paid future plans for EMS to keep running when there are fewer and fewer volunteers. Jamie Schroeder will be reaching out to Bloomdale to get details on how they went to a full time staff. *\$800 in bodywork needs done to the squad at Croziers, a*

*motion for approval was made by Mr. Easterwood, seconded by Mr. Kendall; Approved unanimously.*

**Planning Commission:** There was a variance held on August 27th to grant a 6' easement for a shed. The variance was approved by the Planning Commission. There was also a visitor in attendance to get information on the variance process to build a structure into an abandoned alley.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

Parks & Rec 9/9 at 6PM, Finance 9/14 at 5:30PM, Safety 9/24 at 5:30PM

**New Business**

Resolution 2020-9, authorizing application for, and acceptance of, federal and/or state funds and agreeing to the terms and conditions of such receipt, received an emergency reading. *A motion to suspend the rules for emergency reading of Resolution 2020-9 was made by Mr. Kendall, seconded by Mr. Babcock; Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Kendall, Ms. Hillier, Mr. Easterwood. A motion for passage of Resolution 2020-9 was made by Mr. Kendall, seconded by Mr Babcock; Approved unanimously.* There may be a second round of money and an idea was to use this CARES Act money to cover a tv monitor and microphones for virtual meetings.

**Approval of Expenditures**

Council reviewed bills to be paid and warrants to be issued and a motion to approve was made by Ms. Hillier, seconded by Mr. Easterwood; Approved unanimously.

**Citizens and Visitors**

Jay Sell (Aspen Energy), Deputy Tyler Petree (WCSO), Paul Skaff (Legal Counsel)

Jay Sell with Aspen Energy was in attendance to discuss the electricity aggregation program. The Village currently has First Energy (now known as Energy Harbor) and the contract is up in January. Electricity aggregation is a form of group purchasing in which a town selects an electricity supplier on behalf of the residents. Aspen Energy has competitive rates, no opt-out fees, and top customer service. This program would also allow for a civic grant for community improvements, such as fixing the ball lighting; which would be more as a civic fee where the cost of the grant would be put into the total of the rates. Mr. Sell is willing to come back and educate the community about the program, and is looking to get permission to provide some quotes for council. Council agreed to proceed with gathering numbers, but are not committing to anything.

*Mr. Easterwood brought up discussion on if council meetings would be moving back to 7PM meetings, a motion was made to permanently keep council meetings at 6PM, seconded by Mr. Dewitt; Approved unanimously.*

A motion to enter executive session at 6:48PM to discuss pending lawsuit by Danelle Langley against the Village was made by Ms. Hillier, seconded by Mr. Dewitt; Roll Call Vote, Yes: Mr. Babcock, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Kendall, Ms. Hillier. Mr. Easterwood abstained and dismissed himself. Council moved back into regular session at 6:56PM, no decisions were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57PM.

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Jeremy Schroeder, Mayor

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Stephanie Monts, Clerk