

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Regular Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in regular session on January 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the municipal building with Mayor Jack L. Patterson presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Christie Maurer, Craig Bordenkircher, Roger Warne, Tim Cheney, Rich Wheeler and Ron Lusk were present.

Also attending were Roberta Moore- Fiscal Officer, David Kadri- Village Administrator, Bill Casteel-Newcomerstown News, and Amanda Emmons- WTNS.

A motion was made by Ron Lusk and seconded by Roger Warne to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 15, 2014. (RC 6 yes)

Mayor's Correspondence – The Coshocton Beacon has indicated as of January 7, 2015 it will meet the requirements to publish legal notices. The Regional Planning Commission has mailed the invoice for membership. Dues are \$115 based upon population. The committees for 2015 have been appointed with the only change being the Chairs of the Ordinance and Building and Property committees. Tim Cheney will take over the Building and Property committee as chair and Craig Bordenkircher will chair the Ordinance committee.

Citizens' comments – Scott Belcastro from Trebel Energy Services approached council for consideration to get an energy aggregation agreement on the spring ballot for the Village. This individual stated that he had worked with both Tuscarawas and Franklin Townships, negotiating energy agreements to save the residents money on electric. The agreement would only affect those residents who are not under a contract with a service provider. The Village Administrator suggested that Scott might be better served approaching the Township Trustees with this information, as it would expand the customer base and still include the Village Residents. Council stated that since the deadline to get on the spring ballot was in early February, this approach did not leave enough time for consideration and asked that Village participation be pushed back to the fall ballot.

Department Reports:

Fire: Nothing to report.

Fiscal Officer: 2014 has been closed and Roberta is currently working on annual reports and tax documents.

Police: N/A

Solicitor: Nothing to report.

Village Administrator: The Chevy Lumina has been sold at appraised value. The transmissions is out of the Village's bucket truck, we are exploring options for repair/replace. The warning siren is in transit, and the water and sewer lines for the Rec Board have been installed waiting for connection to electricity. The 751 Water Line Extension project has necessary pipe and digging should begin soon. The Village

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is still scheduled for consideration for paving of West Main Street into Oak Street as part of a county project.

Committee Reports:

Building and Property: Nothing to report

Community Relations: Nothing to report.

Finance Nothing to report.

Fire Dependency Board: Nothing to report.

Ordinance: Nothing to report.

Park Board: Nothing to report.

Planning Commission: Nothing to Report.

Public Safety: The Fire Department went on 14 runs in December.

Public Works: Nothing to Report

Records Retention: Nothing to Report



Introduction to ordinances and resolutions:

2015-01 A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND (101) TO POLICE FUND (218)

First Reading.

Committee Meetings:

Finance: Monday January 26, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Ordinance: Thursday January 15, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

Park: Thursday January 15, 2015 at 11:00 am.

Public Safety: Wednesday January 14, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

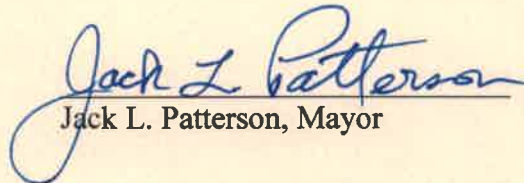
Other Business:

A motion was made by Roger Warne and seconded by Rich Wheeler to pay dues for continued membership in the Regional Planning Commission. (RC 6 yes)

A motion was made by Ron Lusk and seconded by Tim Cheney to elect Roger Warne as Council President Pro Tem. (RC 6 yes)

A motion was made by Craig Bordenkircher and seconded by Christy Maurer to pay the bills as presented. (RC 6 yes)

A motion was made by Ron Lusk and seconded by Craig Bordenkircher to adjourn until the next meeting on Monday, January 26, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. (RC 6 yes)


Jack L. Patterson, Mayor

Attest:


Roberta Moore, Fiscal Officer

**STATE OF THE VILLAGE
WEST LAFAYETTE, OHIO
2014**

The year 2014 brought highs and lows for us here in the Village. The financial numbers for Village operations ended in the positive. The uncertainty of our levies passing in 2014 brought concerns. The state of the Village of West Lafayette is good. We are looking forward to a fresh start for 2015.

We have weathered the blows of 2014 and picked ourselves up to face 2015 with hopes of another successful year.

I turn my thoughts to pleasant memories and I feel blessed I live in a free country.

My goals are the same in 2015 as in 2014. I always hope for the betterment of the Village looking for current businesses to prosper, new business growth and a safe and pleasant place for all to live.

I am so pleased the community came together and we passed two very important levies in 2014. The police levy passing now means we will continue to have the 24/7 protection we all deserve for safety. The general operating levy passing means we can continue to operate the Village at the level we all least expect. This makes me proud to live here.

We hit a small bump in the road to success when our Fiscal Officer, Lisa Stiteler, decided to leave our employment to possibly better herself. I appreciate all you did for us, Lisa, over the years and wish you the best of luck in the future. We were fortunate to hire a former part-time person to help us continue our financial operations for a few months. Thank you Kim Meek-Obed. After a great effort by our hiring committee, in July we hired Roberta Moore as the new Fiscal Officer and she is doing great filling the Village's needs. The Fiscal Officer is a very important position in the Village when it comes to finances. Roberta also is responsible for processing Village income taxes and clerking Village Council. Thanks Roberta.

We were still able to make positive things happen in the Village even though we had the loss of other employees through retirement or moving on to other employment in 2014. We work on a small budget and in some cases we decided it best not to replace those that left. We still strive to maintain the level of operations with the great staff that remains with us.

I am quite pleased with all Village departments and their employees who worked to help cut corners and still maintain a productive work force. Thank you John Newell and Terry Johnson for your many years of service and keeping the Village streets and property clean and safe.

A long time employee retired on the last day of 2013 after 50 plus years of service. Fire Chief Gaylord Hill gave up the reins of the Village Fire Department to spend time with his family. I wish you the best of luck, Chief. We worked many years as a team.

In 2014, I appointed Assistant Fire Chief Glenn Hill to the position of West Lafayette Fire Chief and handed him the reins and the responsibility of guiding his great group of volunteer fire fighters along the path of continued success. We have a great group there and I feel very secure with having them in the Village for protection. Those guys not only protect the Village, they provide four (4) townships with fire protection. I know they strive to maintain a high level of operations with the equipment they have. A goal I have had for several years is to give them newer equipment and we have struggled financially. Small grants have helped. One big goal is a new fire truck. I look forward to seeing this happen in the near future. We all deserve the security. We also brought new volunteer fire personnel to the department. Welcome to the new West Lafayette fire fighters.

Office Manager Shannon Hains provided us with her assistance in the Administrative Office during the transition period of our Fiscal Officer. She assisted me day to day to keep deposits made and mail call up to date. And she still completed her own responsibilities also. Keeping water and wastewater accounts in order is a big responsibility and so is handling phone calls. Thank you Shannon for your much appreciated assistance.

The year 2014 was the first year for the Park Board Committee to have operating funds to begin the improvements to our Burt Park along with other recreational areas. We replaced the roof on the band stand and removed several diseased trees. After trimming the remaining trees, we have more open areas to enjoy. The future improvements will include new doors and vinyl siding on the Band Stand and additional lighting at the Rotary shelter. We plan to replace the trees removed with new trees. Burt Park has been actively used by individuals from April to November. Remember, the park is available by reservation only.

Village Administrator Dave Kadri has continued to show his willingness to improve his qualifications. He earned his Class 2 Water License in 2014 and he should be earning his Class 2 Wastewater License in 2015. With changes in staffing at the water plant and wastewater plant in 2014, Dave has been busy keeping us in compliance with EPA regulations. In early 2014, we had a large amount of water usage we were not able to account for. This amounted to approximately 70,000 gallons a day for days. His team was finally able to locate the problems thanks to some phone calls from residents and our own testing. The problems were bad underground water lines all pretty much located before our water meters and unoccupied houses. Thanks Dave.

Even though grants were a little more difficult to obtain and the amounts available were smaller in 2014, we did manage some black topping of Village streets and the patching of pot holes. Thanks to our residents, the street fund levy helps us to complete paving projects each year.

The Village Administrator, Fire Chief and a committee had discussed our fuel distribution system and how to modernize it. After much discussion, we went to a fuel card system to purchase our fuel. This system seems to be much more accurate in accounting for fuel usage and easier to use.

I want to express my thanks to our local Janusian Club, Councilman Ron Lusk and Annin Flag for introducing us to the new Village Flag. This flag was adopted by Village Council and has been displayed on street light poles, flag poles and in yards this past summer. These flags are available thru the West Lafayette Chamber of Commerce.

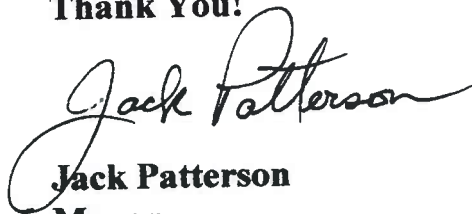
I want to thank Chief Terry Mardis and our superior Police Department for another year of providing us a safe and secure place to live. In 2014, this department handled 2,559 calls/complaints, 338 traffic stops and had 16 criminal arrests along with other arrests, warnings issued and 16 felony cases. Also, Chief Mardis has worked with Homeland Security to obtain a grant for new lap top computers for the cruisers to enhance communications with other agencies. He also has a much improved radio system , thanks to the county.

I want to thank all our department supervisors and the employees for their efforts to maintain cost control in 2014 and hope to continue this dedication into 2015.

I wish to close this State of The Village of West Lafayette by thanking a dedicated Village Council for a job well done in 2014. I consider it an honor and a pleasure to work with all of you to make West Lafayette a great place to live. The State of the Village of West Lafayette is good!

God bless everyone in the coming year and thanks to everyone for your cooperation, trust, and dedication to our village.

Thank You!


Jack Patterson
Mayor