

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Regular Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in regular session on March 25, 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. Police Chief Chris Walters was also present.

A motion was made by Jason Hursey and seconded by Brittany Howell to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on March 11, 2024. Roll call 6 yes.

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

Citizens' comments: None

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 2024-09 was omitted in error from the March 11, 2024 agenda and did not receive its third reading as it should have regarding updates to the building and zoning codes and will receive its final reading this evening. Ordinance 2024-12 will receive its third and final reading and pertains to a rate change in the hauled domestic septage received in the Village. Resolution 2024-13 will receive its first reading declaring it a necessity to place a renewal levy on the ballot this fall for general operational expenses. It is estimated that the 3-mil levy will bring in roughly \$65,000 and cost the residents roughly \$81.00 per \$100,000 appraised value of the property and will take effect with tax year 2025 to be paid in 2026. Tammy and Amy will be out of the office Wednesday and Thursday for an Ohio Safety Congress conference in Columbus and the office will be closed on Friday for Good Friday. If anyone has immediate concerns that need to be addressed, they can reach out to Mayor Tubbs at 740-545-6327. A reminder to residents that the filing deadline for village income taxes is April 15, 2024. Taxes can be filed online at www.ritaohio.com or paper forms can be picked up at the Administration office. A purchase order request was presented for approval in the amount of \$545.86 from Johnson's Plumbing to clear a lateral at Mike Hill's residence at 659 Russel Avenue. Council's approval to pay the bill was requested due to the bill not being one of the village, but of a resident. It has been custom that the village pay for these incidents in the past, believing that the backups were the responsibility of the village due to

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issues with the main sewer line. With the knowledge of how these issues have been handled in the past, the Village Administrator told Hill that the Village would cover the bill for Johnson's. After investigation it was found that the issue has nothing to do with the village main line, but with the resident's lateral line. Discussion was held and a motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Christie Maurer to approve paying Johnson's \$545.86 with this being the last time the village will pay for this repair, now knowing that the issue lies with the residents line. Roll call 4 yes, 2 no. Bills were passed around for approval.

Police: No report.

Solicitor: Village Solicitor, Joel Blue, had nothing to report.

Village Administrator: Village Administrator Tammy Hicks reported that the work on the Russell Ave. sidewalks has resumed, and TR Snyder is doing a great job and working well with the residents. Advertising for bids on the Sewer Outfall Project should be done in early April.

Committee Reports:

Building and Property: No report.

Community & Business Development: No report.

Community Relations: Chairwoman Brittany Howell reported the Community clean up day will be April 20, 2024 from 9am-3pm. The Chamber of Commerce will be meeting Tuesday, March 26th.

Community Revitalization: No report.

Finance: No report.

Fire Dependency Board: No report.

Ordinance: Chairman Jason Hursey reported continued discussions regarding the specs on allowing mobile homes back into the village.

Park Board: Chairwoman Christie Maurer reported discussing a ribbon cutting for the new additions at Waterworks Park possibly April 21st or April 28th. Some of the trees have been planted at Waterworks as well as progress being made on the walking trails. The Natural Resources students at the Career Center have been working on clearing the trails. There are new signs on the way for the park. One of the new trees at Burt Park has died and may need to be replaced. New metal roofing for the rotary shelter is still being researched. There is a new key lock box posted on the front of the Administration building that holds the keys to Burt Park for those that rent any of the park facilities. Pricing for renting the rotary shelter will be \$25, the band stand will be \$50, and the gazebos will be \$10 each. Contact someone at the Village Administration office to rent any of those locations.

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Planning Commission: Local Chairman Jason Hursey reported discussing possibly annexing 20+ acres behind the high school along Johnson Rd. belonging to Mr. Clark as he wants to split the acreage into approximately 35 lots for sale. Another property owner of a field off of Plainfield Rd. has also approached the village about annexing in his property as he would like to develop it with water and sewer and auction off separate lots. Other surrounding properties that are not yet part of the village will also be considered to annex during this process. There was discussion about a possible sidewalk installation on Ridgewood schools property behind the properties on Wall St., going from Union to the weight room to help keep students from walking on Wall St. There were also discussions about vacating an alley off of Main St. that surrounds the Nys and Thompson properties.

County Chairman Rich Wheeler reported attending the last county meeting and there were only 12 in attendance and 16 were needed for a quorum. Discussion was had to possibly change the bylaws to only require 9 for a quorum as it has been a struggle to get a quorum. There was unofficial discussions regarding a packet of lot splits but nothing that pertained to the village.

Public Safety: Chairman Adam Fisher reported that the Mayor and Village Administrator walked the Safe Routes to School project route and would like to install some 4-way stop signs to help facilitate the project. Street crossings on Main St and SR 93 are being researched and ODOT is involved in the one on SR 93, which may need to wait until the SRTS project is complete.

Public Works: No report.

Records Retention: No report.

Rules: No report.

Tammy Hicks also reported that all of the trees at the Waterworks Park were donated through the We R WL group and the Garden Patch and were donated in Memory of or In Honor of someone. Hicks proposed that the Village pay for and sponsor a tree in Memory of late Council member Ron Lusk for all of his past contributions to the Village, especially the parks. A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Jason Hursey to approve the purchase of a tree in memory of Ron Lusk to be placed at Waterworks Park. Roll call 6 yes.

Introduction to ordinances and resolutions:

2024-09 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2023-23, THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE BUILDING AND ZONING CODES Third Reading

A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Tim Cheney to adopt Ordinance 2024-09. Roll call 6 yes.

2024-12 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PERMITTING AND REGULATING THE RECEIPT AND DISCHARGE OF APPROVED HAULED DOMESTIC AND/OR INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SEPTAGE AND/OR WASTEWATER AT THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT Third Reading

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A motion was made by Christie Maurer and seconded by Brittany Howell to adopt Ordinance 2024-12. Roll call 6 yes.

2024-14 A RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A TAX IN EXCELL OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION REVISED CODE SECTION 5705.19(A) First Reading

Committee Meetings:

Fire Dependency Board-

Planning Commission –

Records Retention –

Revitalization –

Tax Review Board –

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

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

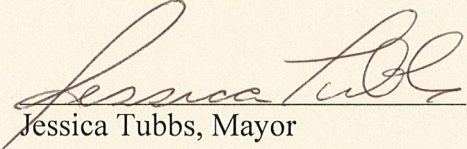
Councilwoman Christie Maurer reported that the Village Rotary are doing their Lease the American Flag project again this year and she had forms available for anyone that would like to have a flag posted in their front yard. The cost is \$30.

A motion was made at 7:34pm by Jason Hursey and seconded by Brittany Howell to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Roll call 6 yes.

A motion was made at 7:49pm by Christie Maurer and seconded by Tim Cheney to continue in open session. Roll call 6 yes. No action was taken.

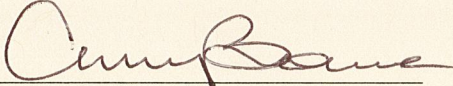
A motion was made by Adam Fisher and seconded by Jason Hursey to adjourn until the next meeting on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call 6 yes.

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



Jessica Tubbs, Mayor

Attest:



Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer