

VILLAGE OF WESTPHALIA
COUNCIL MEETING
July 10, 2023

The meeting of the Westphalia Village Council was called to order by President Tim Fandel at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance given to the flag.

Council Members in Attendance:

Tim Fandel, President	Tanner Droste, Member
David Boswell, Clerk	Bill Schmitt, Member
Jim Pivarnik, Member	Kevin Krzeminski, Member

Minutes & Agenda: Member Pivarnik made the motion, supported by Member Droste to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2023 meeting as presented and the Agenda for the July 10, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

Appointments: There were no appointments.

Guests:

Guests in attendance included:

- Alex Hanses, DPW Supervisor

Water: DPW Supervisor Hanses provided the Council with an update on the water main improvement project. Significant progress had been made in several areas of the Village, including on Willow Street, Pine Street and Elm Street. Much of the work has been completed in these areas, although final restoration needs to be completed.

Due to the close proximity of the existing water main and other utilities to the work being completed, some damage has occurred to other systems, including breaks in the existing water main and a natural gas line. Also, when the existing water main is disrupted, breaks can and have occurred. All repairs have been completed as quickly as possible.

To facilitate the filing of paperwork related to the grant the Village received from EGLE, Member Krzeminski made a motion, supported by Member Schmitt to appoint Village Clerk Boswell as an authorized representative to EGLE. Motion carried. Council reviewed the Application for Payment No. 1, submitted by Nashville Construction. Member Schmitt made a motion, supported by Member Pivarnik to approve the application and submit it to EGLE for reimbursement/payment.

Sewer: A recent backup occurred in the sewer system on the west side of the Village. As a result of the Village's investment in alarm and control systems, the situation was discovered and resolved with no damage to property.

Financial: Expenditures made during the previous month were presented and reviewed. A motion to approve all invoices was made by Member Schmitt and supported by Member Krzeminski. Motion carried.

Minutes of the June 12, 2023 Budget Meeting were reviewed. Member Schmitt made a motion, supported by Member Krzeminski to approve the minutes of the Budget Meeting. Motion carried.

The final draft of the proposed Operating Budget for fiscal year 2023 – 2024 was presented. Member Kraeminski made a motion, supported by Member Schmitt to approve the fiscal year 2023 – 2024 Operating Budget. Motion carried.

Discussion was had regarding the Village's tax rate/millage. Review of the millage amount will be made to determine if a change is needed.

To facilitate financial activities for the Village, as approved by the Village Council, Member Krzeminski made a motion, supported by Member Pivarnik, to add Clerk Boswell as an authorized representative on all financial accounts of the Village, including all accounts at Union Bank, 5th 3rd Bank and PFCU. Motion carried.

Planning Commission:

The Planning Commission hosted a very successful Cruise-In 2023. While rain may have caused some cruisers not to attend, the official count of cruiser vehicles was 923 vehicles – a very good turnout. The number of spectators seemed equal to or greater than in previous years. The Village has received some feedback from local business regarding ideas for improving the Cruise-In as well as concern regarding the value of the event. The Planning Commission and Village Council will consider all feedback regarding the Cruise-In as it considers future events.

The Planning Commission did not meet in July. The next Planning Commission meeting will be on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 6:00p.m.

Building & Zoning: No activity.

Streets: No new business.

The Village has received complaints about the operation of golf carts on Village streets. Please note that the operation of golf carts on streets is prohibited by State law. If you have questions regarding the operation of golf carts on streets, please contact the Clinton County Sheriff's Department or the Michigan State Police.

Community Service: The Village has renewed our contract with Portland Ambulance. In conjunction with the contract, Portland Ambulance offers an "Emergency Care Plan" to households in the coverage area of Portland Ambulance. The Emergency Care Plan covers all medically necessary ambulance runs during the coverage year, July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. ***Please review the agreement carefully before electing to participate in the plan and signing the agreement.***

Parks and Recreation: An incident of vandalism occurred at Droste park, resulting in damage to light switches in buildings and significant costs to repair the switches. If anyone has information regarding the incident, please contact DPW staff.

Droste Park is a valuable resource of the Village and surrounding community. Care should be taken when using park services and in maintaining park premises.

DPW: DPW Supervisor Hanses provided the Village with an update of DPW activity and the need for repairs to Village equipment.

Administrative Issues: It has been observed that residents have been "dumping" materials that might be considered refuse or "trash" behind the Municipal and DPW buildings. Please note that this area is not intended to be a drop off area for residents' unwanted items.

The only items that should be "dropped off" behind the DPW building are:

- grass/lawn clippings and leaves which should be placed on the compost pile, and
- brush, which should be placed (as neatly as possible) on the brush pile.

It has also been observed that people have been taking material from the Village's supply of dirt, sand, stone, etc. Please note that these items are for Village use and not to be taken and used by others. If you have questions about materials located on Village property, please contact DPW staff.

Next Council Meeting:

- Regular Meeting: August 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Member Pivarnik, supported by Member Droste. Motion carried.