

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Donna Carver called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

## **INVOCATION**

Kay Hines gave the invocation.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **ROLL CALL**

The following members of council answered roll call: Paige Bierce, Sondra Carey, Kay Hines, Joe Johnson, Mark Phillips, and Chris Sherbourne. Fiscal Officer Cathy Davis, Village Administrator Derek Allen, and Solicitor Matt Griffith were also present.

## **MINUTES**

Carey moved and Bierce seconded to approve the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing was held regarding the rezoning of 4046 Township Road 246 from M (Manufacturing) to R-3 (Residential). The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Vicky Smith, Mayor for the Village of Edison, raised questions regarding utility capacity, sewer service, and future development impacts.

Kevin Curts, representative from Del-Mor Dwellings, explained plans to demolish the existing structure and construct ten apartments along with office and community space for Safe Harbor Peer Support Services.

John Roberts asked about eligibility and screening requirements for prospective residents. Mr. Curts explained that the apartments are intended for individuals with disabilities. They are for independent living rather than assisted living, and all applicants will be subject to background checks.

Mayor Carver concluded the public hearing and stated that this hearing was just for rezoning the property. Allen said that there are two more readings for this rezoning ordinance.

## **DR. NATHAN TUCKER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

Council presented the annual Dr. Nathan Tucker Award of Excellence to Jody Hayes in recognition of her service to the community through Esther's Dream, Will's Place, youth organizations, community fundraising, the Chamber of Commerce, and numerous volunteer activities.

## **GUESTS**

Greg Gompf, Board President of Gilead Fitness, presented a proposal for a new 7,000-square-foot fitness facility. The proposed project would include expanded fitness and training areas, the return of Silver Sneakers, locker rooms, showers, and indoor turf space. Estimated construction cost is between \$700,000 and \$950,000.

Gilead Fitness requested consideration of village-owned property near the fire station. Council discussed floodplain concerns and future police and fire department needs and indicated the property is being preserved for future public safety facilities.

Allen said that the Morrow County Commissioners may be open to development by the dog pound.

Mayor Carver suggested that council discuss the matter further at the next council meeting as a whole.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Police Chief Adam Lakey reported that Officer Corey McIntyre successfully completed his six-month probationary period.

Sherbourne moved and Bierce seconded to reclassify Officer McIntyre to permanent status. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Chief Lakey also reported that Sheriff Hinton asked Captain Cronenwett to form and lead a new countywide Tactical Response Team that would consist of deputies as well as officers from Mount Gilead and Cardington.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Chief Mark Carey reported that on the morning of July 4th, a house fire occurred on Lincoln Avenue resulting in multiple injuries. The State Fire Marshal's Office has concluded its investigation of the incident; however, the report has not yet been released.

Rescue 11, a 2008 Rosenbauer pumper, is out of service due to a failed head gasket. It is looking to be a full engine overhaul.

Chief Carey also reported that the Fire Academy firefighter certification class begins later this month, with twenty-four students enrolled. A live fire instructor certification course will begin in August with fifteen students registered.

#### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MARK PHILLIPS**

Phillips reported that the committee met prior to council.

Discussion included the Whetstone bridge, zoning map updates, electric aggregation, blighted property enforcement, parking concerns, and future fire station improvements.

Council reviewed information from County Engineer representative Don Glosser, who indicated that a replacement bridge would likely exceed \$1 million and require federal involvement; no formal action was taken.

Phillips moved and Sherbourne seconded to have legislation made for the next meeting authorizing an RFQ for a fire station needs assessment. Roll call vote: 5 ayes, Carey abstained. The next Committee of the Whole meeting was scheduled for August 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR - DEREK ALLEN**

Allen reported that demolition of the block building was completed through an \$80,000 Brownfield grant, with no village cost. Additional Brownfield funding has been approved for remediation of storage tanks at 417 West Marion Road, estimated at approximately \$550,000.

Allen provided an update on the tennis, basketball, and pickleball court project. Delays continue due to water seepage beneath the surface and contractor concerns regarding warranties. Bleachers, signage, and a water fountain are being installed.

Personnel updates included the resignation of Cody Baer and hiring of Hayden Pangborn, who will begin employment on August 10, 2026.

Five broken or collapsing catch basins were repaired by The Main Guys. The remaining collapsing catch basin, located on East Union Street at Bank Street, will be repaired as scheduling allows.

Recent power fluctuations caused damage to water plant equipment. Repair costs may range from \$15,000 to \$30,000.

#### **MAYOR - DONNA J. CARVER**

Mayor Carver reported attending School Board meetings, Chamber of Commerce Mayor's Roundtable discussions, Morrow 250 planning events, the Ohio 250 marker dedication, Independence Day celebrations, a library time capsule ceremony, car show activities, and meetings with local officials and the school district.

#### **SOLICITOR**

No report.

#### **FISCAL OFFICER - CATHY DAVIS**

Sherbourne moved and Hines seconded to approve bills totaling \$1,220,359.03. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Carey seconded to pass Resolution 5-18-26 authorizing the Police Chief to purchase a drone. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Sherbourne moved and Johnson seconded to suspend the reading of Resolution 7-20-26 assessing property taxes for the mowing of the property at 281 West High Street. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Hines moved and Carey seconded to pass Resolution 7-20-26. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Carey moved and Sherbourne seconded to suspend the reading of Resolution 7-20-26A assessing property taxes for unpaid water bills. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Johnson moved and Bierce seconded to pass Resolution 7-20-26A. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Carey seconded to pass Ordinance 2027, “placing a temporary moratorium, not to exceed one year, on the issuance of any new permits, as well as the receipt and processing of applications for permits, for data centers within the corporate limits of the Village”, to the third reading. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Hines seconded to pass Ordinance 2028 “amending part 3, title 7, chapter 351, Parking Generally” to the third reading. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Sherbourne moved and Carey seconded to pass Ordinance 2029 “rezoning 4046 Township Road 246 from M Manufacturing to R-3 Residential” to the second reading. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Sherbourne moved, and Phillips seconded, to suspend the reading of Ordinance 2030 for “supplemental appropriations”. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Hines moved and Phillips seconded to pass Ordinance 2030. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Sherbourne moved and Bierce seconded to suspend the reading of Ordinance 2031 “authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a design contract with GPD Group for two CDBG projects”. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

Phillips moved and Johnson seconded to pass Ordinance 2031. Roll call vote: 6 ayes.

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Council discussed the possibility of returning to two meetings per month during the summer, parking enforcement issues, nuisance and vacant properties, field use policies for baseball and softball facilities, and possible future use agreements with youth sports organizations. These matters will be discussed further at future Committee of the Whole meetings.

Hines moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:36 p.m.

Approved:

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Cathy Davis, Fiscal Officer

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Donna J. Carver, Mayor