

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY
JANUARY 14, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

The Regular Council Meeting of the Eastlake City Council was held at Eastlake City Hall, 35150 Lakeshore Boulevard. The Meeting was called to order by Council President Meyers at approximately 7:14 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ATTENDEES

All members of Council in attendance.

All members of the Administration were in attendance with the exception of Police Chief Werner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regular Council Meeting Agenda – January 14, 2025

MOTION: Mr. Semick motioned to approve the Regular Council Meeting Agenda for January 14, 2025. Ms. Krajnyak second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Agenda approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Schmidt motioned to approve the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of December 10, 2024. Ms. Kostelnik second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Minutes approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Meetings Scheduled

Council President Meyers stated that the next Council-as-a-Whole Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday January 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Council meeting will be convened immediately following the adjournment of the Council-as-a-Whole Committee meeting.

MOTIONS

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor Overstreet mentions he has an appointment for Erin Bolton to the Port Authority. This is a Mayoral Appointment.

MOTION: Mr. Semick motions to approve the appointment. Ms. Krajnyak second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Appointment approved.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC: 1/2 hour, 3-minutes per person

Donald Dewitt, 22 Owaissa Drive Eastlake, Ohio 44095, comes to address Council. Why are streetlights not all being replaced at once? Why are they so bright? Can we dim them? He works at Location Carpet and drives down Worden. It looks terrible and it is blinding. Why was it done this way? How much did it cost? How much are we saving?

Mr. Meyers says he would normally suggest contacting the Service Department but we are currently between Service Directors.

Mr. Dewitt says he spoke with Wickliffe Mayor who is looking into it. He doesn't know the new Eastlake Mayor yet. Is he the only one who thinks these are too bright? He rides a bike almost every day and he does not want to get killed or run into anyone because he is blinded by the glare. He feels not enough thought goes into these projects. You get grants and then whoever gives the money controls the project. You could say no to the grant... you just accept anything and endanger our citizens with these lights and keep others up because they are shining through their windows. Why did you not test the lights?

Mr. Meyers asks Mr. Dewitt to give his information to Mayor Overstreet.

Mr. Dewitt says he certainly will.

No one else is signed up to speak.

LEGISLATION PROPOSED:

01-14-(01)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

Requested by: Administration

Sponsored by: Finance Department

A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to apply for, and accept, financial assistance for coastal management purposes, through the Ohio Coastal Management Program, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Semick moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and readings in full. Mr. Kasunick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Semick to adopt. Mr. Kasunick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-001

01-14-(02)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____
Requested by: Finance Director Schindel
Sponsored by: Administration

A Resolution authorizing the Director of Finance to advance funds, with said funds to be advanced from Fund #101 “General Fund” in the amount as listed into Fund #207 “State Grant Fund”, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Kasunick moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and readings in full. Mr. Semick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Kasunick to adopt. Mr. Semick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-002

01-14-(03)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____
Requested by: Finance Director
Sponsored by: Administration

An Ordinance approving the Plan of Operation and Governance for the NOPEC Opt-In Gas Aggregation Program for the purpose of jointly establishing and implementing an Opt-In Gas Aggregation Program as a NOPEC Member, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Semick moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and readings in full. Mr. Gulley second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Semick to adopt. Mr. Gulley second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-003

01-14-(04)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____
Requested by: Finance Director
Sponsored by: Administration

An Ordinance authorizing all actions necessary to establish an Opt-In Natural Gas Program pursuant to Section 4929.27(A)(1), Ohio Revised Code, jointly through NOPEC as a NOPEC member, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Ms. Krajnyak moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and readings in full. Mr. Semick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Ms. Krajnyak to adopt. Mr. Semick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-004

01-14-(05)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

A Resolution approving a Morals Claim for Paul Stanley, a former City of Eastlake Police Officer, to reprieve him of repayment to the City of the Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) he received for his work during June 2022 from the EMA First Responder Grant Program, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Ms. Krajnyak moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and readings in full. Mr. Semick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Ms. Krajnyak to adopt. Mr. Semick second.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Krajnyak, yea. Mr. Semick, no. Mr. Kasunick, no. Mr. Gulley, no. Ms. Schmidt, no. Ms. Kostelnik, no. Mr. Meyers, no.

This item **FAILED**.

01-14-(06)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____
Requested by: Service Department
Sponsored by: Administration

A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor and Director of Finance to purchase an engine from

D&W Diesel Inc. for repairs to a City snow plow truck for a total of Twenty-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$28,248.90), and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Mr. Semick moved to suspend the rules requiring separate readings and readings in full. Ms. Kostelnik second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Mr. Semick to adopt. Ms. Kostelnik second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-005

LEGISLATION PENDING:

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor Overstreet says it has been slow lately. They are in negotiations with Captains for a side letter. Then they will start negotiations with Police.

No questions.

Fire Chief Whittington says he had a chance run in with Ms. Schmidt this morning. They had brief conversation about what is happening in L.A. A lot of families were told to evacuate with little notice. There are a lot of resources out there. He pulled up the one from FEMA called "Are you ready?" Red Cross also has a good one. National Weather Service has one called "Storm Ready". Wild land fires are not our primary concern in this region, we have other issues. He always encourages people to have those ideas. There is a lot of great info to have on hand. Having resources with medications and important documents is helpful.

Ms. Schmidt says thank you. She will be honest, she said she would not have been prepared if someone told her she needed to go. It has given her a lot to think about. She loves when she sees the Directors out and can ask questions and get honest answers. There are a lot of people here that are very good at doing that here in the City. She saw today that Mentor had a fire. Do we have resources where we can get discounted fire alarms? Do we have resources to offer our community affordable fire alarms?

Chief Whittington says there is a program in the City. It is for people that own houses. They give them away for free, you just need to call the Fire Department. There are no stipulations. If a resident calls and says they need help with batteries, we do that to some extent also. They also try to do community programs. There is a line item for smoke detectors as a donation. Paul Moorehead handles this. They also do residential lock boxes. Those are charged for, \$25 each. They do not make money on those. If there is financial hardship, they may make exceptions to not charge. It may decrease damage should they need to get into your house in an emergency. They also have commercial lockboxes.

Ms. Schmidt asks how much is commercial lockbox?

Chief Whittington says he is not sure... it can get very expensive.

Ms. Schmidt asks if the residential is senior only?

Chief Whittington says it is from anyone that can benefit from it.

No additional questions.

CBO Dave Menn has no report, but open for questions.

No questions.

City Engineer Meluch says he met with ODOT and a Contractor last week regarding 91 bridge project. Now that ramp is closed, the signal has been adjusted and ODOT has not received reports about significant back ups. Anyone he spoke with has said it is better than it was. Vine Street is requiring adjustment still, some getting used to. In the meantime, the County Project did get all of the signs removed. The second zone is now gone.

No questions.

Finance Director Schindel says that somewhere in December everyone received a copy of the Audit report. They were delayed in doing it due to staffing issues. Finance is currently working on budget.

No questions.

Law Director Klammer says Mr. Meluch got them a revised contract with regards to CT Consultants being absorbed by another company. He and Mike Lucas have been talking. Hopefully he will have more info at the next meeting.

No questions.

Mr. Meyers says he knows Mayor Overstreet would like an executive session regarding the Service Director appointment. What does Council want to do? Do you have questions?

MOTION: Mr. Semick motions to adjourn into Executive Session. Ms. Krajnyak second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

They adjourn into executive session at 7:38 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Semick motions to return from Executive Session. Ms. Krajnyak second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

They return from Executive Session at 8:01 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Kasunick motions to appoint Robert Gorentz as the new Service Director. Ms. Kostelnik second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Appointment approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:02 p.m.



JOHN MEYERS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED: 2/11/25

ATTEST: 

ALYSSA MORAN, CLERK OF COUNCIL