

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY
MARCH 25, 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 7:05 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 Mayor Overstreet, Police Chief Werner, and CBO Menn.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Regular Council Meeting Agenda – March 25, 2025

MOTION: Mr. Semick motioned to approve the Regular Council Meeting Agenda for March 25, 2025. Mr. Kasunick second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Agenda approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Krajnyak motioned to approve the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of March 11, 2025. Mr. Semick 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 April 8, 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

Motion to move the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting of April 8, 2025 to instead take place on April 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Gulley motioned to move the meeting. Ms. Krajnyak second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. The next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting will take place on April 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

Ms. Kostelnik motions to appoint Mr. Semick as Council Vice President. She feels Council has gone long enough without. Mr. Kasunick second.

Mr. Meyers takes other nominations.

Ms. Krajnyak nominates Todd Gulley. No one seconds this nomination.

ROLL CALL: (for the Nomination of Mr. Semick as Council President). Yeas unanimous.

Mr. Semick has now been appointed as Council Vice President. Mr. Meyers congratulates him.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Schmidt reports on the ECDC meeting that took place tonight. They worked on details for the plant swap.

Mr. Kasunick reported on Port Authority meeting. The area of the river by Trader Jacks, they approved up to \$6000 to dredge that portion. It is expected to cost about \$12,000. They are hoping Demilta might cover the rest., The dredging is still set to go late April/early May. At that point, the river will be open for recreational fun.

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

Donald DeWitt came to speak to Council again regarding the LED lights. He references that Mr. Meyers told him to speak with Mayor Overstreet after the meeting. He has not heard more information. He has been working with Mayor Sakacs. He said he spoke to First Energy and it's all on them. Mr. DeWitt says that he spoke with First Energy directly and the City is capable of fixing this problem. Willoughby, Eastlake, and Wickliffe are all getting the same lights. First Energy told him that they had an option to buy 3 different kinds of light bulbs and we chose the LEDs that are blinding everyone. We could have chosen a less wattage bulb. They do sell a shade and we need to buy these shades because it is less expensive than to "downsize the wattage" and replace the bulbs again. He feels this is a mess. We need to fix this problem so that he does not need to keep addressing it. Get it fixed before someone who rides a bike gets hit by a car. He says that Ms. Krajnyak is the only one who heard him that went out to go look at the lights in the dark. Mr. DeWitt says he spoke to Chief Whittington who says he has one right outside his house and it bothers him. He says First Energy has gotten complaints about this consistently. The light from the Water Sewage Treatment Plant is like a star. He has heard that overtime these lights dim which would mean that our lights will never look right. This is why the City looks like crap as it is. He does not have the time to keep messing with this when there are people who get paid to do this exact job. Please save someone's life. He was told that Willowick is going to have to change from their antique lights that look nice to match our City's lights. Someone is going to get hurt being blinded by these lights. He asks Mr. Meyers what his opinion of that light is.

Mr. Meyers says it is bright but he does not consider it to be that much of a nuisance.

Mr. DeWitt says that if the Mayor's won't get it done, the only thing we can get done now is have City Council create legislation to buy the shades or downsize it, per his conversation with Mayor Sakacs. He asks who makes these decisions? Whose job is this? He lives in Timberlake. He has to go to all these communities to try to get something fixed that never should have happened. Let's face it that we made a mistake and get this fixed before someone dies.

LEGISLATION PROPOSED:

03-25-(01)

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 #416 "Stadium R & I Fund", and declaring an emergency.

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

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

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

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-021

03-25-(02)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____
Requested by: Administration
Sponsored by: Council

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and The City of Eastlake, Ohio to enter into an agreement with Cascia, LLC, dba The Lake County Captains, Classic Park, 35300 Vine Street Eastlake, Ohio 44095 regarding the lease between City and Cascia dated March 15, 2002 for the Eastlake Ballpark, now known as Classic Park, and declaring an emergency.

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

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

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

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation is adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-022

03-25-(03)

RESOLUTION NO.: _____
Requested by: Administration
Sponsored by: Council

A Resolution supporting and designating April, 2025 as "National Child Abuse Prevention Month" in the City of Eastlake, and declaring an emergency.

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

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

MOTION: Ms. Schmidt to adopt. Ms. Kostelnik second.

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Resolution No.: 2025-23

LEGISLATION PENDING:

02-25-(04)

ORDINANCE NO.: _____
Requested by: Finance Director Schindel
Sponsored by: Finance Committee

An Ordinance to appropriate for the expenses of the City of Eastlake, State of Ohio, for the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025, and declaring an emergency.

**** This item was on Third and Final Reading. ****

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

ROLL CALL: Yeas unanimous.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Resolution No.: 2025- 24.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Fire Chief Whittington reports that because of the weather conditions, the state was under a total ban for burning. He knows in the state it means different things in different areas. For us, it means recreational fires in backyards especially. The Ordinances are clear- do not leave it unattended, 25 feet away from structures, etc. Usually when the Fire Department gets involved it is because of neighbor complaints. It can be somewhat subjective. There are a lot of places around us dealing with fires. Even though we are not a rural area, it is possibly more serious for us to make sure it is attended and safe. He speaks regarding Mr. DeWitt's comments earlier. He says he looked up old legislation and ODOT is who gave the funding for the lights. That might be

helpful in his search. It was a 2007 meeting that we were approved for the light program and all streets were switching to LEDs. That was the statement made by the Mayor at that 2007 meeting. May 22, 2007 meeting when the City got a letter from ODOT.

Ms. Krajnyak asks Mr. Kostelnik, who was in the audience, if that is accurate on timing. Wasn't it after that?

Mr. Kostelnik says that we entered the contract with First Energy that we were originally going to start changing lights and using NOPEC money for it. Then we were made aware that CEI would change the lights as they burn out, free to the City. The other route was \$200+ per fixture. We chose to go the free route. They are 50 watt bulbs, equivalent to what the old bulbs were. We are aware that some people do have an issue with the brightness and if it becomes an issue, there is a cover that can come on.

Ms. Krajnyak says she was just curious if it was after the 2007 meeting.

Mr. Kostelnik says that in PA it has been mandated that all street lights are all LED and they fully expect the same thing in Ohio.

Mr. DeWitt says he doesn't care what they say, he is tired of being blinded. For the record, they are just replacing them now. They are mixed up everywhere you go. This is a big issue.

Mr. Meyers says he believes they have been replacing them as they burn out and he believes that we had original bulbs that we were still using?

Mr. Kostelnik says yes that is correct.

Mr. Meyers says that as they burn out they are being replaced with LEDs.

Mr. Kostelnik says that it will be mandated.

Mr. Meyers says yes it is an option to get the shades.

Chief Whittington says that he has concluded his report.

Service Director Gorentz says that the Spray Park, he is dealing with the contractors for concrete, fencing, restoration of the lawn, etc. That is scheduled to be completed early June. They ran into some scheduling problems due to availability of materials. Captain's Stadium, they are doing everything they can to get ready for opening day on April 8. There are some things that need fixed that were damaged during winter.

Ms. Krajnyak says thank you again. She has sent/spoke like 5 different instances with residents and service and Mr. Gorentz has been great to deal with.

Mr. Gorentz says feel free to email him any complaints with roads and residents, etc. Once asphalt plants open, they will do their best to address these.

City Engineer Meluch says that they are also waiting for asphalt plants to open and then they should be able to get a more firm schedule for Vine Street resurfacing.

Finance Director Schindel says thanks for approving the budget since it is due at the end of the month. The Auditors are here again. The good news is that the report should be completed a lot sooner this year than last year.

Law Director Klammer says that he will find the Cascia LLC Lease Box with all the sideletters and will send an email out.

Mr. Gulley says March 29 is National Vietnam Veterans Day. They will have a ceremony at the VFW to honor veterans. All are welcome to join.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:37 p.m.



JOHN MEYERS, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

APPROVED: 4/22/25

ATTEST: 

ALYSSA MORAN, CLERK OF COUNCIL