

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

Held on August 27th, 2025



Village of West Jefferson Council Strategic Planning Committee

MINUTES

August 27th, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Jimmy Little called the Strategic Planning Committee meeting to Order at 3:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Erica Bogner, Jimmy Little, and Howard Wade. 3 present, 0 absent. Quorum Declared.

Other Council employees and Village Staff in attendance: Mayor, Ray Martin, and Clerk of Council, Tisha Edwards.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss the forms that others filled out on ideas for the committee
2. Set date for next meeting and who to begin inviting
3. Think about a time to visit with Small Nation if this is still a desire

Overview:

Chairperson, Jimmy Little opened the meeting stating one of his wishes for this Committee is that Communication is clear. He does not want the old telephone theory of one person tells the next person and by the time you get to the last person the story is completely different. He wants to have the correct sources to educate everyone and if someone has a question, be sure to ask the Chairperson or Clerk and then the answer will be directed to the whole Committee and then be forwarded on to Council.

Forms that the Committee members filled out for ideas for the Committee to work on were discussed. Chairperson Little stated that he wanted these forms to be looked at and then take each suggestion and then ask how can we make that happen or how do you see this being implemented.

Mayor Martin stated that many residents don't understand how the Village gets most of their funding. Currently we receive about \$124,000.00 from residential property taxes, almost \$500,000.00 from income taxes and then \$6.6 to 7 million from the Commerce District. Those CRA/TIF agreements and relationships with those Developers is a crucial part of funding for our Villages ability to operate and grow.

The group stated that one of their main focuses is protecting boundaries. Whether that be from the County, Township or Mid-Ohio Water, they want to make sure that we focus on how we can annex the land in that we want to keep in the Village. It was asked what is the best way to do that. Do you go to the landowners and the Mayor stated that is what we can talk to David Kell about. That is what he does as our County Economic Development Director, and we should use that resource.

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The Committee spoke of revitalization and how funds have been used in the past and who we work with to make the changes in the downtown area. They discussed speaking with an organization called Small Nation that has worked in the Bellefontaine

area and inviting them to come speak to the Committee. It was decided that before doing so, they would speak with County Economic Development Director, David Kell, Public Service Director, John Mitchell and Director of Development Tom Hale before doing so.

Other items of discussion were capacities on the water and wastewater systems, roads/sidewalks/infrastructure in the area and what can be done to assist with traffic issues, and how do we get residents to attend Council meetings to stay informed instead of just going by what is being said on social media.

At the end of the meeting, it was decided that David Kell would be invited to a September 17th meeting, John Mitchell to the October 1st meeting and we would discuss who to invite to the October 22nd meeting

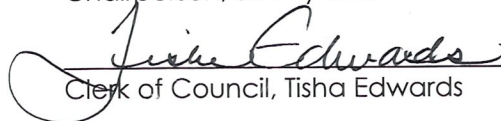
ADJOURN

Chairperson Jimmy Little asked for a Motion to Adjourn at 4:41 p.m. Motion by Erica Bogner and seconded by Howard Wade. All in favor.



Chairperson, Jimmy Little

10/22/25
Date



Clerk of Council, Tisha Edwards

10-22-25
Date