

# Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

April 8

2019

**Attendees:** Mayor-Harry McKenna, Council Members-Angi Deere, Chris Foster, Ken James, Mark May, Paula Jones, Thad Kauffman, Fiscal Officer-Gretchen Slagle, Andrew Johnston-Solicitor, Others Present- Robert Pressley, Deputy Sheriff Adams, Jonathan Thompson, Brad Ingle, Mote & Associates-Jerry Mote.

**Previous Minutes:**

Minutes of the March 11, 2019 meeting had been previously reviewed, and acknowledged. Mr. James made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

**Citizens Comments:** 1. We've had some high winds, Mr. Pressly noted some tarpaper blew off a roof and into the alley behind the village building. Mr. McKenna stated he removed a tree that had blown down across the sidewalk on Chestnut Street.  
3. Jonathan Thompson/Dollar General. Mr. Thompson wanted to express his concern about the possible rezoning of the residential lots on N. Main Street. He asked what standards would be used as to noise, semis, lights if the lots were rezoned. What was to stop a business moving in across from his house? Mr. Thompson knew the topic would be discussed at the zoning meeting; he just wanted to express his opinion. The Zoning meeting is April 16.  
2. Mote & Associates. Jerry Mote was present to offer assistance with getting grant processes started. CDGB applications are due Friday, too late for us, ODNR are due June 1. Mr. Mote knows we're interested in some park improvements and we've talked about the 3-year process to do a larger project. Mr. Mote had a resolution that would authorize the Mayor to file an application with the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources for financial assistance for improvements for the park. The Village's share of the funds would be 25 percent. The Park Committee is considering improvements like a drinking fountain, baby swings, and resealing the basketball court.

**Resolution 4-19/Authorize Mayor to File Application for Financial Assistance.** Since the application for the park is due June 1, Mrs. Deere made a motion to waive the three readings of and declare it an emergency for Resolution 19-4. Mr. Kauffman seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed. **Resolution 4-19** was read, Mr. Kauffman made a motion to accept Resolution 4-19, Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

**Sheriff's Report.** Deputy Adams was present for questions. Mr. James noted there has been a problem with kids vandalizing the post office and asked if the Sheriff could keep an eye on that, the kids wait for the bus at the post office. Mr. May asked if the Sheriff's Dept. has had many issues with Dollar Generals in areas they patrol. Deputy Adams stated they didn't have any problems with them in general.

**Solicitors Report:** 1. Zoning/Dollar General. Mr. James asked Mr. Johnston about the zoning application filed by Dollar General, do they have to rezone each parcel, Mr. Johnston stated technically yes, but the application was okay. Mr. May asked if we follow the zoning code and zoning was denied, how easy would it be for Dollar General to fight? Mr. Johnston stated they could resubmit the application. Once the parcels are zoned commercial, it would remain commercial until someone approached the Zoning Board to rezone it something else.  
2. Update Water/Sewer Ordinances. No Report.  
3. Restaurant. No Report.

**BOPA:** 1. The Board had a special meeting to discuss compensation for the utility employees. Mr. Thompson noted the Board was very pleased with the way Tony Hunt, Jeremy Bowser and Wes Beeson were running our water and sewer plants. The Board would like to be able to pay them a competitive salary that the Board hopes will keep them working for the Village. Mr. Thompson noted Ms. Slagle had an Ordinance ready for Council and he asked Council to approve the new salaries. Mr. Thompson would like to make the salaries retroactive to January 1, 2019.

**Ordinance 4-19A/New Salaries for Utility Employees.** Mr. James made a motion to waive the three readings of and declare it an emergency for Ordinance 4-19A. Mr. Kauffman seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

Ms. Slagle read Ordinance 4-19A, Mr. May made a motion to approve the Ordinance, Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

**Old Business:** 1. Property Clean Up. 400 Short Street. Not much improvement.  
2. Swimming Pool Fence/304 S. Main Street and 109 N. Main St. These two properties still don't have a fence around their pool. Ms. Slagle will write a letter giving them until June 1 to have a fence around the pools.

**New Business.** 1. None

**Bills.** Mrs. Deere motioned to pay the following bills, Mr. James seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes. Mrs. Jones –Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes, The motion passed.

PERS	\$686.99	DP&L	\$1131.95
Frontier	157.36	Linda McKenna	50.00
Gretchen Slagle	390.75	Harry McKenna	110.02
Shipman, Dixon	485.00	Hamler-Gingrich	75.00
Arens Corp	32.50	One Call Now	33.07

Mrs. Deere motioned to close the meeting. Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. All yeas, the motion passed.

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Harry McKenna, Mayor

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Gretchen Slagle, Clerk