

# Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

December 9,

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- Bradley Ingle, Jonathan Thompson, Robert Presley, Susan Laux, Deputy Sheriff McReynolds.

**Previous Minutes:**

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

**Citizens Comments:** 1. None

**Water Tower.** Susan Laux/Mote & Associates was present to discuss the results of the water tower inspection by Suez of North America. The results show the tower in relatively good shape for its age. The tower is made of galvanized steel. Many layers of paint have been applied over the years, lead, latex and at some point, an epoxy paint, that reacted with the galvanized steel. This caused the paint to flake and peel off, and it will continue to cause this problem. This will lead to the tower rusting and deteriorating. The way to fix the problem would be to sand blast the tower and then repaint. The approximate cost to do this and make any other needed repairs would be around \$600,000 dollars. Because of the lead paint, the tower would be treated as a hazardous material project. Mrs. Laux has given us a cost of around \$865,000 to install a new 100,000-gallon water tower. The BOPA members feel the best route to go would be to purchase a new tower, and would like Councils' input before a decision is made. Mrs. Laux had a detailed report of the costs for a new tower and different scenarios to apply for grant monies to help purchase the new tower. The grant money that is available is for new construction, not maintenance, therefore we would have to come up with the money if we were to try to sandblast and paint the tower. Mr. Thompson noted the water rates would need to increase to help pay for the loan, the BOPA had discussed an increase of \$6-10 dollars per month per bill. Council discussed. We'll continue discussion at the next meeting and we will continue to work on getting the income survey completed.

EPA/Phosphates. The EPA approved the new phosphate program at the end of November. Mr. Hunt thinks he can get the new phosphates in the system in time for the last lead/copper test of the year. The water tower overflowed because of a switch being manually flipped and left off.

**Solicitors Report:** 1.Pool Fence/208 S. Main St. The fence has been installed. Mr. James made a motion to dismiss the charges against the Kecklers, Mr. Kauffman seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.  
2. Junk Ordinance/301 South Main St. Charges were filed on December 2.  
3. Updating Sewer Ordinance. No Report.  
4. Open Seats/2020. Mr. McKenna, Mrs. Deere and Mr. James' terms will expire on December 31. We will have to appoint people to the open seats. Mr. Johnston can guide us through the process.  
5. Solicitor's Contract. Mr. Johnston noted we don't need a contract for his assistance as our solicitor; he is willing to continue to provide our legal guidance. He would like to increase the meeting fee from \$100 per hour to \$150 per hour, and \$125 per hour for work done outside the meeting. Council will discuss this at a later date.

**Sheriff's Report.** No Report.

**BOPA:** Mr. May reported the following:

1. See Water Tower and Phosphates Above.

**Old Business:** 1. ODNR Grant. We have been awarded an \$18,700 grant for park improvements. We will need to send Mrs. Laux a copy of the grant when we receive it.  
2. Dollar General/Crosswalk. Mr. James spoke with Mary Hoy about signage for a crosswalk. We will need to make sure we are compliant with certain requirements for sidewalks, and ODOT requirements. Mr. James will try to have information for the January meeting.  
2. Income Survey. Ms. Slagle will get the second round of notices ready for Council to distribute to residents who haven't responded to the survey.

**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, Mr. James-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Abstain, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

PERS	\$833.39	DP&L	\$1127.83
Frontier	162.77	Linda McKenna	50.00
Gretchen Slagle	391.75	Harry McKenna	110.02
Treasure State School Tax	116.27	Jason Hoop	580.00
Internal Revenue Service	499.68	Angi Deere	109.32
Ohio Dept. of Taxation	81.02	Chris Foster	108.67
Ken James	109.32	Mark May	109.32
Paula Jones	72.45	Thad Kauffman	72.45
Robert Presley	75.00	Rumpke	611.93

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

---

Harry McKenna, Mayor

---

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk