

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

March 11

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 Presley, Deputy Sheriff Lowry, Jonathan Thompson, Brad Ingle. Mote & Associates-Jerry Mote and Susan Laux,

Previous Minutes:

Minutes of the February 11, 2018 meeting had been previously reviewed, and acknowledged. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve the minutes, 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.

Citizens Comments:

1. Mote & Associates. Jerry Mote and Susan Laux, representing the engineering firm of Mote & Associates asked if Council had any capital road, infrastructure or utility projects we might be interested in pursuing. A new round of grant money at the County, State and Federal level was coming up and Mote & Associates would be interested in helping us apply for these grants and engineer that project. They briefly explained the process for grant approval, and the many different types of grants available. The grant process can be a three-year process, so if we're interested, we should start the process. Council would be interested in redoing Chestnut Street; the BOPA is currently trying to assess the condition of the water tower, and looking into the cost of replacing our tower if it is showing signs of failure. Council is interested in upgrading some things at the park. Ms. Laux stated there are different type grants available and not all grants have to have matching funds. Ms. Laux explained the process Mote & Associates uses to bundle grants, loans and other sources of revenue, and how they keep informed of the many types of grants available that could help meet our needs. The park committee is interested in discussing things they might like to do at the park, and Mr. Thompson is interested in meeting with the Board about the water tower. We will be in touch with Mote's with more information about the park and water tower. Mr. Thompson would like Ms. Laux to come to a BOPA meeting.

2. Ken Saunders. Mr. Saunders would like to express his support for allowing Dollar General to build a store in town. This is a blighted area, and it would help our town in terms of revenue and convenience. Mr. Saunders noted there are around 13,800 cars that drive through town on St. Rt. 571 a day, he believes with number of people passing through, and the residents of town, the business would be a good addition to town.

Sheriff's Report. Mr. Foster asked if the Sheriff's Department could spend some time around the 4-way stop at Pike and S. Main Street. Cars have been running the stop sign right around the time the school bus goes through.

Solicitors Report:

1. Heeter Plumbing. Mr. Johnston spoke with Heeter Plumbing and an agreement was reached that the town would pay \$13,500 for the water line repair on St. Rt. 571.

2. Laura's Country Diner/Grease Trap. Mr. Thompson noted having a problem with the restaurant not pumping their grease trap, the grease clogging our septic tanks and sewage backing up in the restaurant. The Village has two septic tanks there, somewhere along the line since installation; one of them has become a grease trap. The tank used as a grease trap has not been pumped, causing grease to flow into our sewer system. It is not the town's responsibility to pump the grease trap. The Board has paid to have one septic tank pumped twice, and the grease has plugged the line from the septic tank to the main line. Mr. Thompson would like Mr. Johnston to review our ordinance and guide us on how to proceed to correct the situation. The Board wants to know who is responsible for the cost incurred to clear the line and the problems the clog and grease have caused. Ken Saunders noted he was on Council when the septic tanks were installed; Two-1000 gallon tanks were used there instead of a 2000-gallon tank per our ordinance because we couldn't get more 2000-gallon tanks at the time. The septic tanks are not supposed to be used as a grease trap at all.

3. Update Water/Sewer Ordinances. The BOPA would also like to update these ordinances with regards to tap-in fees and wording since the loans have been paid off.

4. Dollar General Store. The Village has been informed of a new business wanting to build a store in town. The properties involved are zoned residential, so Council would like to have an idea of what we have to do. Mr. Johnston stated there would have to be a contract on the land, some testing on the soil, etc., and we'll have to deal with the re-zoning issue. The Zoning Committee will have to deal with the issue of rezoning to a business type property. They will have to hold a public meeting, advertise that public meeting and meet all the formalities of the zoning code. We should notify the neighbors of the properties that are going to be considered changed from residential to some kind of business zoning. After the Zoning Committees makes its decision about the zoning, they would bring their decision to Council for consideration.

5. EPA/Phosphate Violation. We've received a letter of violation from the EPA about the low level of phosphate in our water. We are within compliance of EPA standards, but they would like us to put more phosphate in our water, and change the type of phosphate we are currently adding. We hand delivered a letter to residents, notifying them of the violation per EPA requirements.

BOPA: See #1, 2, 3, 5-Solicitors Report.

Old Business: 1. Wagner Paving/Alley. Mr. McKenna spoke with Wagner Paving. They have rewritten the quote and will pave the alley this summer.

2. Credit Card Policy. Mr. Johnston has sent the final copy of the credit card policy for review. Mr. James made a motion to approve the new policy, 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.

New Business. 1. **Resolution 3-19/ 2019 Permanent Appropriations.** The 2019 appropriations were reviewed. Mr. May made a motion to approve the appropriations, Mr. Foster 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.

Bills. Mrs. Deere motioned to pay the following bills, 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.

PERS	\$686.99	DP&L	\$1242.04
Frontier	166.91	Linda McKenna	50.00
Gretchen Slagle	390.75	Harry McKenna	110.02
RD Holder	802.02	Jason Hoop	860.00
Shipman, Dixon	190.00	Miami County Council	30.00
Miami County Engineers	160.00	Angi Deere	109.32
Chris Foster	108.67	Ken James	109.32
Thad Kauffman	36.22	Paula Jones	108.67
Mark May	109.32	County Council	30.00
Menards	10.99		

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

Harry McKenna, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk