

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

May 13

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, Ken Saunders, Phil Sowers, Jonathan Thompson, Brad Ingle, Gale Honeyman, Monte Evans, Deputy Sheriff Roberts and Holfinger, Mote & Associates-Susan Laux.

Previous Minutes:

Minutes of the April 8, 2019 meeting had been previously reviewed, and acknowledged. Mr. May made a motion to approve the minutes with the following correction- Mr. Foster was not present at the meeting, he did not vote on Roll Calls, Mr. Kauffman seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Abstain, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

Citizens Comments: 1. Mr. McKenna noted Council needed to schedule a public hearing and would like anyone with comments about the Dollar General rezoning on North Main Street to a business property to keep their comments short, and attend that meeting. Mr. Johnston noted the timeline and other requirements needed to hold a Special Council meeting for rezoning the property. He stated Council could take action that night, or within 30 days do something with the Zoning Commission's recommendation. Council has three options, adopt the recommendation to rezone the properties, deny the recommendation or adopt with modifications. There must be a ¾-majority vote to pass the recommendation. June 21 was agreed upon as the best available date. Gale Honeyman noted the Early Bird Newspaper was the only newspaper that was delivered door to door. Council agreed to advertise in the Stillwater Valley Advertiser and the Early Bird.

Phil Sowers of North Main Street stated he was opposed to rezoning the properties to build a Dollar General. The driveway would be right across from his house, car lights would be shining into his house all the time. Mr. McKenna asked Mr. Sowers to attend the Special Meeting.

2. Open Zoning Commission Seat. Monte Evans is interested in the open seat. The Mayor appoints the position. Mr. McKenna stated the Commission meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month and would welcome Mr. Evans to fill the seat.

3. Mote & Associates. Susan Laux has been working on grant information for the park. She is working with the park committee to make some improvements at the park, and has come up with a grant proposal of \$25,000.00, of which Council would be responsible for \$6300.00. It would take a couple of years to receive the money. We could make minor changes to some purchases, as long as they are similar items. Council would need to make a financial commitment and commit to move forward with the grant. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve \$6300.00 to next year's appropriations for a Nature Works Grant. The grant would go towards playground equipment, mulch, picnic tables, etc. Mrs. Jones 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.

4. Fire Department/125 Year Anniversary. Mr. Saunders announced the 125th anniversary of the Laura Fire Department. They will hold an open house and Pancake Breakfast on June 29.

Sheriff's Report. No Report.

Solicitors Report: 1. Zoning/Dollar General. Mr. Johnston stated he had nothing to address, except rezoning questions. He will try to make the special meeting.

BOPA: 1. Grease Tap/Restaurant. Mr. May reported the Board decided not to pursue having the restaurant pay for the pumping of a septic tank and unclogging a line due to the buildup of grease. The Board had Donnie Smith and Jonathan Cress assess the problem, the plumbing at the restaurant is correct. The restaurant had the grease cleaned out of the tank. Jonathan Cress noted the septic tank is acting as a grease tank. The problem seems to be solved. The Board doesn't know how the problem occurred, but think if the restaurant keeps the tank cleaned, and we have Donnie Smith regularly inspect the tank, the problem should not happen again. The Board also expressed concern if the restaurant had the space for a grease trap.

Mrs. Deere noted concern that the septic tank isn't supposed to be used as a grease trap. We need to be concerned about future businesses doing something similar. Mr. Ingle stated Campbell's will continue to pump the tank regularly, the Board talked about getting something in writing each time the tank was pumped.

Mr. May suggested maybe amending our ordinance to clarify wording of foreign substance. Mr. James asked about a conditional use type thing for the restaurant. He also noted we're not supposed to have grease in our system. Mr. Foster stated they should be treated them like any other property in town. If the EPA finds grease in the system, there are other issues to address.

Council discussed. Mrs. Deere noted there should be clear action, give the restaurant time to meet code and make sure they do it.

Mr. May asked Council what their recommendation to the BOPA would be. Council would like to see the restaurant maintain our sewer ordinance code of no grease in our system, by installing a grease trap, within one year. Mr. May will let the BOPA know.

2. Access Engineering. No new equipment was needed to satisfy the EPA for lead/copper control. We will probably just have to increase the amount of phosphate we put into the water system.

3. Water Tower Inspection. We have one quote; we're waiting on two more quotes.

Old Business: 1. Property Clean Up. Council members will look around town and have lists of properties that need addressed at next meeting.

2. Swimming Pool Fence/304 S. Main Street and 109 N. Main St. Letters were sent with a deadline of June 1.

New Business. 1. Park. Mrs. Jones has some costs for some repairs/replacements at the park. A new volleyball net costs from \$170-\$200, new basketball nets -from \$30.00- \$40.00.

She has a quote to resurface the basketball court for \$1300 -\$1600. She would like to get a load of mulch for under the swing set. It was suggested we look at a chain net for the basketball rims. Mr. James made a motion to approve up to \$2500.00 to reseal the basketball court, purchase nets for the park and mulch. 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.

We also have the porta-johns scheduled for this year, the same as last year.

2. Brush/Dumpster. Mr. Foster wanted to thank Ken Saunders for helping remove the brush beside the dumpster.

3. Garage Sales. The Community Garage Sales will be June 6-8.

4. Community Dumpster. Council agreed to rent dumpsters June 10, to be used by village residents. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve up to \$1300.00 in rental costs for the dumpsters. 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.

5. Community Service/School. Mr. James purchased paint and brushes for a group of students to paint at the park.

Zoning. Zoning Inspector. Mr. James stated Robert Pressley is now the Zoning Inspector. He will be responsible for making sure an approved zoning permit is being followed. Our zoning code pays the inspector \$25.00 per inspection. Mr. Ingle asked about property lines and placement of shed, pools, etc. Mr. James noted unless the property is surveyed, we don't know for sure where the line is.

Mr. James made a motion to pay Robert Pressley \$25.00 per inspection, as our Zoning Inspector, 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.

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	\$1117.26
Frontier	158.90	Linda McKenna	50.00
Gretchen Slagle	390.75	Harry McKenna	110.02
Shipman, Dixon	100.00	Terry Zellers	720.00
Wertz Hardware	89.75	Miami Valley Lighting	3078.28
Treasurer of State UAN	534.00	Cincinnati Insurance	75.00

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

Harry McKenna, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk