

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

September 9,

2019

Attendees: Mayor-Harry McKenna, Council Members-Angi Deere, Chris Foster, Mark May, Thad Kauffman, Fiscal Officer-Gretchen Slagle, Andrew Johnston-Solicitor. Absent-Ken James, Paula Jones. Others Present- Linda McKenna, Carol Garber-Milton-Union Senior Center, Deputy Sheriff Lowery.

Previous Minutes:

Minutes of the August 12, 2019 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes with the following correction: New Business # 2- Mr. May wanted the crosswalk at the east end of Back Street, not Adams Alley. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

Sheriff's Report. No Report.

Citizens Comments: 1. Carol Garber/Milton Union Senior Center. Ms. Garber was present to talk about the levy the Senior Citizens have put on the November ballot. The levy will be an additional 0.25 mills. 5-year property tax. The Center is asking for this operating levy because they can't support themselves anymore. It's been approved by the Union Township Trustees, who own the property.

Solicitors Report: 1. 25 Laura Circle/Junk in Yard. Mr. Rex will be in court tomorrow.
2. 208 S. Main Street/Swimming Pool Fence. Waiting for a response from the property owner within the allotted 30-day period.
3. 301 S. Main Street/Clean Up Property. A registered letter was sent, but the property owner didn't sign for the letter. There doesn't appear to be much progress in terms of cleaning up the property. Council has a couple of options, we can enter the property and have it cleaned; this cost could be assessed to the property if the owner would not pay it. We could also pursue resolution in municipal court. We would have to prepare a complaint and file it with the court. Mr. May made a motion to have the Mayor file a complaint against the property owner of 301 South Main Street for not cleaning up his property according to our ordinance. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.
4. Dollar General/St. Rt. 571. Mr. Foster asked about getting a 4-Way Stop, a cross walk or something around the Dollar General. This would be something ODOT would do. Would it help if we sent a letter to ODOT asking them to do this? Mrs. Deere suggested signage, blinking yellow lights, things that help alert drivers to people crossing St. Rt. 571. We can have Mr. Johnston write the letter. Mr. James spoke with Josh from ODOT, we can put up a stop sign or signage or what we want, ourselves. If we do it ourselves, we need to make sure things are visible. Mr. Foster asked if we could add a streetlight at the cross walk.
5. GBT Realty. Mr. McKenna noted that GBT Realty took out our easement around the sewer tank they plan to install at the Dollar General; they want to own and maintain their tank. We would have to give up our easement for these properties. Our easement is what allows us to service and maintain the tanks. Council discussed what they might do. Mr. Deere noted we need access somehow to the new tank since it's connected to our system. We can talk to Miami County Sanitation to see if they can advise us. If we give up the easement, we would have to dig up the old tanks or destroy them.
6. Grease Trap. Mr. Johnston noted that after looking at Section 12F of our ordinance, it might be hard to enforce the parts of the ordinance that discuss fats, wax, etc. We would have to have the substances tested, to see exactly what the substances were that were getting into our system. We would have to make sure that it would be going into the "Public Sewer." Is the substance in the septic tank or is it going into the sewer lines. Mr. Johnston noted as long as Council is doing Due Diligence in making decisions, we have some leeway. What does Council believe is the proper outcome for the situation? Mr. May suggested not doing anything illegal or knowingly doing anything illegal. He is happy with the current approach, and would like something in the ordinance that backs that approach. Mr. Deere suggested maybe grandfathering the renters of the restaurant. When the next renter/owner takes over, we have a more defined ordinance in place. Mr. Johnston stated we could approve a variance for the current ordinance for the current owner/renter, or let them have one of the existing tanks, or amend our sewer ordinance to the situation. The owner of the restaurant would have to apply for the variance or follow the ordinance we would have in place. Mr. May asked if we can work with the restaurant on a variance, there are things that need to be in the variance to get it approved. Council liked the idea of a variance for the septic tank.

BOPA: Mr. May reported the following:

1. Grease Trap. The Board was leaving the discussion of the septic tank to Council. They were happy with the way the tank has been taken care of in the past.
- 2.

Old Business: 1. Property Clean Up.

307 S. Main Street. Tall grass, junk around garage.

406 S. Main St. Tall grass/weeds.

402 S. Main St. Ivy on Sidewalk/weeds

403 S. Main St. Junk along garage/tall grass

10 Pike St. Rubbish around yard/make sure evergreen tree cut away from stop sign.

7 Chestnut St. Tarpred wood along alley/tall grass.

400 Short St.

2. Weeds/Gutters. Mr. Kauffman has sprayed the weeds.

3. Outside Faucet/Village Building. Mr. Ingle thinks he can fix it.

4. Pot Holes. No Report.

5. Mulch/Park. Mr. Kauffman can spread the mulch one evening this week, or maybe Saturday evening. It shouldn't take too much time with his tractor.

New Business. 1. Street Signs. There are many street signs that are loose. It takes an allen wrench to tighten them; some of them just won't tighten. The Main & St. Rt. 571 sign is missing. The stop sign at the restaurant is leaning into the sidewalk.

2. Resolution 9-19/Assess Property Taxes. Resolution 9-19 was read. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the resolution, Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

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

PERS	\$833.39	DP&L	\$1149.67
Frontier	162.26	Linda McKenna	50.00
Gretchen Slagle	391.75	Harry McKenna	110.02
Shipman, Dixon	220.00	Terry Zellers	760.00
BR Mulch	365.00	Mobile Sanitation	120.00
Post Office	220.00	ABCO Printing Plus	134.21
Gretchen Slagle	149.29	Paula Jones	72.45
Angi Deere	109.32	Chris Foster	108.67
Thad Kauffman	108.67	Mark May	109.32
Ken James	72.88		

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

Harry McKenna, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk