

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

August 10,

2020

Attendees: Mayor-Ken James, Council Members-Angi Deere, Chris Foster, Mark May, Fiscal Officer-Gretchen Slagle, Andrew Johnston-Solicitor. Absent- Paula Jones, Thad Kauffman.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the July 13, 2020 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. May made a motion to approve the minutes with the following correction: Old Business #5 –One of the domain names Mr. May suggested was LauraOhio.com, not Laura.com. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes. The motion passed.

Sheriff Report: None.

Citizens Comments: 1. None

Solicitors Report: 1. New Water Ordinance. Mr. Johnston discussed and explained questions the BOPA had with wording of parts of the proposed new ordinance. Mr. Johnston will make some changes and get the revised ordinance to us.

2. Easement of water Shut Off/2750 Pemberton Road. A new water shut off valve was installed at this property; much closer to the house than the usual place closer to the street. The BOPA wanted to know if we would have to get a different easement for this property since it isn't close to the road like all the other valves. Mr. Johnston stated he thought it would be within our easement; we would still be servicing our valve, and didn't think it would change the responsibility if problems occur.

3. Dollar General/Tall Grass. Mr. James asked if there would be any reason the responsibility to mow the grass would be on anyone other than Dollar General. They haven't mowed the grass on the outside of their fence, on Pemberton Road or the alley. Mr. Johnston stated property owners own to the middle of the road in most cases, we have easements, but it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain the sidewalk, grass, etc. Counsel would like to send another letter to Mentis asking them to cut the grass on the outside of the fence. Ms. Slagle will send another letter.

4. Crosswalks. Mr. James has spoken with County and State ODOT representatives about installing the crosswalks around Dollar General on St. Rt. 571, they have told him Laura can put the crosswalks where ever we choose, we are a home rule entity. Mr. James asked Mr. Johnston if there were issues the Village should consider to make sure we are doing things correctly. Mr. Johnston noted that as long as we do our due diligence, and it seems we are trying to make good, informed decisions, the village has sovereign immunity. Mr. James noted he had a quote from Smith Asphalt that was e-mailed to Council members for review. Brent Kress of Wagner Paving gave us a quote of \$9800 for two crosswalks and curb ramps. At the last meeting, we approved going with Smith Asphalt for up to \$4500.00. Council discussed the quotes. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve the quote of Smith Asphalt –Option A. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes. The motion passed.

The locations of the crosswalks being considered are Pemberton & St. Rt. 571, Bee Street to the basketball courts on N. Main St., and 119 N. Main St. to Adams Alley.

Mr. James ordered the crosswalk signs from the County.

BOPA: No Report.

Old Business: 1. Cell Phone Tower/Sink Holes/Bee Street. A sinkhole behind Mr. Kauffman's house still hasn't been repaired.

2. Cross Walk/Dollar General. See Solicitors Report #4.

3. Web Site. We do not have an official document with our EIN Number on it. Ms. Slagle has asked the IRS for this document, they said it would take 2-3 weeks, we are still waiting for it. Mr. May has found a way to proceed with getting the domain names set up. He'll get the process started.

4. Fiscal Officer Review. Tabled until we have a full Council.

5. NatureWorks Park Grant. We have a bill from Mote and Associates for the engineering fees for the NatureWorks Grant. Mr. Foster made a motion to pay Mote & Associated \$1620.00, Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes. The motion passed. The playground equipment has been ordered, but there was a delay in the process. We should hear from them this week.

6. Newsletter. The newsletter is ready. Ms. Slagle asked for some suggestions for local kids to use to distribute the newsletter. Ms. Slagle will contact some of these families.

New Business. 1. Tall Grass. Letters are to be sent to the following properties to mow the grass: 301 S. Main Street and 406 South Main Street.

A letter is to be sent to 116 N. Main to trim the foliage away from the sidewalk.

2. Resolution 8-20/ 2020 Assessments. The resolution was read. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve resolution 8-20, Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes. The motion passed.

3. Park National Bank. Ms. Slagle spoke with Lisa McGraw of Park National Bank. Ms. McGraw had reviewed information Ms. Slagle provided concerning our banking habits. Ms. McGraw informed us that based on our monthly balance, number of deposits and expenditures, Park National bank would not charge any service fees to keep money in their bank. We could have a free remote scanner also. She compared just the things we had at Huntington to try to offer an “apples to apples” comparison. She stated she could work with the Village to offer other options/ investments if we would be interested. We currently have a \$40-70 dollar monthly service charge at Huntington. Last time Ms. Slagle checked there was a fee for a remote scanner. Council discussed. There was discussion of diversifying the Village money, not keeping it all in one place. Mr. May liked the idea of no service fees. Council. Mr. May made a motion to open an account at Park National Bank putting \$30,000.00 into an account. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes. The motion passed. Council will discuss this further when there is a full Council present.

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

PERS	\$833.39	DP&L	\$1150.90
Frontier	163.36	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	390.75	Shipman Dixon	240.00
Terry Zellers	880.00	Amy Elmore	75.00
Ohio Dept. of Taxation	76.95	School Tax	121.45
Internal Revenue	511.29	Robert Presley	75.00
Mote & Associates	1620.00		

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk