

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

July 13,

2020

Attendees: Mayor-Ken James, Council Members-Angi Deere, Chris Foster, Mark May, Paula Jones, Thad Kauffman, Fiscal Officer-Gretchen Slagle, Others Present-Phil Sowers, Jonathan Thompson, Bradley Ingle. Absent- Andrew Johnston-Solicitor.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the June 8, 2020 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve the minutes with the following correction: Solicitors Report #2 –Mr. James spoke with a representative of the cell tower group and was assured any damage to Bee Street would be taken care of by his company. Mr. May was also present with Mr. James and Mr. Foster to observe the flooding around Dollar General. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

Sheriff Report: None.

Citizens Comments: 1. Phil Sowers/125 and 129 North Main Street. Mr. Sowers has asked if anything can be done about an aggressive dog or two that are fenced at one of these houses. Mr. Sowers is afraid if the dog gets out, it could be dangerous. Members of the same family live in both of these houses, but the houses are owned by someone else. Trash gets blown over to Mr. Sower's property, there is a jeep and a boat down in the valley behind one of the houses, and there are heating and air conditioning parts outside all the time. Mr. Kauffman suggested contacting Miami County Animal Resource Center about the dog, they can send someone out to check, we can't do anything about it. Mrs. Deere noted we have a junk ordinance we can use for the trash and other junk lying around. Mr. Sowers asked about fencing needing to be 2 feet off the property line, Mr. James noted the fence can be on the property line.

Solicitors Report: 1. No Report.

BOPA: Mr. May reported the following:

1. Lead/Copper Testing. We had ten out of ten passing results from samples tested for lead/copper, phosphate was also good. If we continue to have good results, this will lead to less testing.
2. Water Ordinance. The Board has some questions for Mr. Johnston. Ms. Slagle will email the questions to Mr. Johnston.

Old Business: 1. Sink Holes/Bee Street. A sinkhole behind Mr. Kauffman's house that is getting bigger, Mr. Kauffman estimates it at 3 feet wide x 8 feet long.

2. Street Sweeping. No Report.

3. Building Cleaning. Amy Elmore started cleaning in June.

4. Cross Walk/Dollar General. Mr. James has an estimate of \$2517.40 from Griffins for painting the crosswalks at Dollar General. Council also discussed painting crosswalks at Laura Christian Church, and around the basketball court. We have a verbal quote from Smith & Sons Sealcoating to stripe a crosswalk. Mr. James noted the quote was for \$500.00. Council estimated we could put a crosswalk at Pemberton & St. Rt. 571, one at the Bee Street to the basketball courts, and one at Monte Evans house to Adams Alley for around \$1500, Council liked the idea of additional crosswalks. Mr. James will talk to Smith's for suggestions and pricing.

Council would like to put stripes across the road at the 4-way stop at the church. Mr. James will get quotes for this.

Council discussed and decided to do the striping of the crosswalks and simple crosswalk signs this year, and look into flashing/ lighted signs next year. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve up to \$3500 for three zebra striped crosswalks around Dollar General. Council discussed adding additional money for stop bars and crosswalks at the 4-way stop at the church. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to amend the amount to \$4500.00. Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

Council discussed where to put crosswalk signs on each side of Dollar General. Mr. May made a motion to approve up to \$1500 for 8 crosswalk signs, 8 posts, and 4 stop bars, Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

Mr. Foster noted the signpost in front of his house is leaning; there are four or five signs on the post. A new post would probably fix the problem. Mr. James stated we might have extras at the park.

5. Web Site. Mr. May compiled a page of information about starting our web page. He noted a domain name would cost \$15 per year. He suggested Village of Laura.com and Laura.com, that way we would have a better chance of getting people to the right site. He also suggested setting up “free” Google VPS hosting. Mr. May made a motion to approve \$30 for domain names for our web page. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

We will need a credit card to get this started. Ms. Slagle noted that there were some problems with getting Mr. James and herself on as the signers on the Huntington bank account. A previous mayor and a clerk before Ms. Slagle are listed as the current signers on our account. We will have to work this out with Huntington. We need proof of our EIN Number or Articles of Incorporation to do this, and get a credit card set up. Huntington sent a debit card, but Ms. Slagle does not want to use the debit card. We will continue the website set up next meeting.

5. Port-a-John/Park. Mrs. Jones asked if we were going to get a port-a-john for the park. Council previously decided to forgo it this year because of the pandemic.

6. Park Grant. Mrs. Jones presented a proposal From Puchura for playground equipment. Council reviewed and agreed on the approval for \$23,971.00, this will be part of the NatureWorks grant money. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve the purchase of playground equipment. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed. Mr. Kauffman noted we will be responsible for installation of things, but most of it will be like placing benches and putting in concrete a few holes.

Council talked about a concrete pad at the Veterans memorial/flag at the park.

New Business. 1. Mayor’s Association. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve \$50.00 for the annual dues. Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed. This will give Mr. James an opportunity for some training if he’d like.

2. Fiscal Officer Review. Council will discuss this at the next meeting.

3. Newsletter. Mrs. Deere has a copy of the newsletter for review.

4. 2021 Budget. Ms. Slagle sent Council the 2021 Budget for review. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to accept the 2021 Budget, Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

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

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| PERS | \$833.39 | DP&L | \$907.38 |
| Frontier | 160.64 | Ken James | 108.76 |
| Gretchen Slagle | 390.75 | Shipman Dixon | 150.00 |
| Terry Zellers | 1100.00 | Amy Elmore | 75.00 |
| Amy Elmore | 29.97 | Mayors Association | 50.00 |
| Arens Corp | 45.50 | Rumpke | 576.64 |
| Mote & Associates | 1620.00 | Associated Hydro Excavating | 770.00 |

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk