

# Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

May 11,

2020

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

**Previous Minutes:**

Do to the COVID 19 Pandemic, there was no meeting held in April.

Minutes of the March 9, 2020 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes. 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.

**Special Meeting.** Minutes from the March 24 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Abstain, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed

**Special Meeting.** Minutes from the April 15 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes. 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

**Sheriff Report:** None.

**Citizens Comments:** 1. None.

**Solicitors Report:** 1.25 Laura Circle/ Junk Ordinance. Mr. Johnston noted a certified letter was sent to Mr. Rex for the junk cars and trailer in his yard. He hasn't received a receipt from the post office yet, Mr. Rex will have 10 days from receipt of the letter to respond. Mr. Johnston asked if Council would like to proceed with filing charges if Mr. Rex does not respond to the letter. Mrs. Deere made a motion to have Mr. Johnston file charges according to our ordinance. Mr. Kauffman seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed

2. Doug Randolph Cell Tower/Bee Street. Mr. James spoke with Tim Gleason from Miami County Zoning and Planning concerning access to the proposed site of a cell tower off of Bee Street. Council is concerned because Bee Street is narrow, has low phone/electric lines, and doesn't seem like a good place for trucks and heavy equipment to enter onto the Randolph property. The street may not be able to hold the heavy equipment and trucks. Council discussed if there was another access point along Randolph's property, did we have to approve B Street as the access point. Mr. Johnston didn't think the Village could deny the access. There was talk of needing an address for the access point, would the village have to assign this? Mr. James will try to talk to Mr. Randolph.

3. COVID 19 Stay At Home Rules. Mr. Johnston noted that for the next few months, Council might have to come up with some ways to make access to meetings available. State rules limit groups to 10 people. We may have to be creative if we get more than 10 people at a meeting. We need to make sure we try to offer all information, to everyone, and answer everyone's questions as best we can. We need to post COVID rules and regulations.

**BOPA:** Mr. May reported the following:

1. COVID 19 Water Shut offs. We can't shut off water to residents who don't pay their water bills during the pandemic. The Board would like to know if we can waive the late fees. Mr. Johnston noted the Board could waive the late fees.

2. The Board can't locate some shut off valves, they are going to work on locating the valves and maybe rent some equipment to help do this.

3. CCR Report is ready.

4. The UV lights have been repaired and are working.

5. If the grant process for the new water tower is postponed, and we don't want to raise water rates yet, can we postpone the second and third reading of the new water rate ordinance? Mr. Johnston noted that we could have the second reading now, and then hold off until we know more about state cuts and grant forecasts. We could then do the third reading of the ordinance.

**Old Business:** 1. Street Sweeping. Mr. Kauffman noted it's been hard getting ahold of people because of the pandemic.  
 2. Building Cleaning/Elmore. Mrs. Deere will work on a list of duties. Mr. James will contact Mrs. Elmore.  
 3. Hamler-Gingrich Mayor Bond. Ms. Slagle noted the \$406 bill for the mayor's bond was a three-year bill.  
 4. Cross Walk/Dollar General. Mr. James stated he has also been having a hard time making contact with people during the pandemic. He is working on quotes. Council discussed having a crosswalk at Monte Evan's alley. ODOT says the crosswalk has to be from street to street, which would be Pemberton and St. Rt. 571. We'll have to check if we could have one somewhere else.

**5. SECOND READING of new water rate ordinance.**

**New Business.** 1. Playground Equipment. We've been awarded the grant for the park. Mrs. Jones wanted to know what Council wanted to do about getting playground equipment. Council agreed we should go ahead and order it. Council agreed we should hold off on ordering the port-a-john for the park a while.  
 2. Dumpster. Mrs. Deere noted we usually get the dumpster in early June. Did Council want to provide the dumpster for town clean up again? Council agreed to get the dumpster.  
 3. Ordinance Books. Ms. Slagle purchased new ordinance books, the cost was more than she thought, and she didn't know the paper had to be bought separately. She exceeded a long-ago approved vote of \$300.00.  
 4. Garage Sale. We usually have the Village Garage sales the first weekend in June. Since we don't know what's going on with COVID 19, we'll wait on this.  
 5. 7 Second Street. The grass is high. Ms. Slagle will send a letter asking them to cut their grass.

**Bills.** Mr. May 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.

PERS	\$833.39	DP&L	\$1047.27
Frontier	161.28	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	390.75	Shipman Dixon	150.00
PERS	\$833.39	DP&L	\$1061.41
Frontier	160.64	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	390.75	Shipman Dixon	562.50
Terry Zeller	1220.00	Hamler-Gingrich	406.00
Miami Valley Lighting	3078.00	One Call Now	33.07
Government Forms & Sup.	523.55	Clarks Excavating	7885.00
School Dist. Tax	123.95	Ohio Dept. of Taxation	113.04
Internal Revenue	532.14	Arens Corp	19.50
Staples	77.49		

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

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Kenneth James, Mayor

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Gretchen Slagle, Clerk