

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

November 9,

2020

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

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the October 12, 2020 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Foster-Abstain, 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 Mr. Rex has paid the fine. Mr. James stated the property still has junk around the property; it seems to be an ongoing problem. We've cited him before and he paid the fine. Mr. Johnston stated he would help us proceed with anything Council decided to do about this issue. Council discussed the possibility of hiring someone like the zoning/building inspector to appraise and advise Council about properties that have violations of our junk, vegetation or other ordinances. Council agreed it is sometimes hard to stay up on checking properties. The person hired would be responsible for checking progress of clearing junk, licensed vehicles, etc. Council would need to decide whether they would be proactive or reactive to properties that might be in violation of the ordinances. Council agreed to try to look at 25 Laura Circle and then address this issue next meeting.

2. Laura's Country Diner. Mr. May reported the BOPA was notified of grease being in our sewer lines again. The Board thought they took care of the problem by allowing a variance for the restaurant that allowed them to use one of the septic tanks at the restaurant as a grease trap. They are to have the tank pumped twice a year, sending us proof of pumping each time. The restaurant has given proof of having the tank pumped once since the variance was approved, but now there is grease in the lines again. The Board is worried the problem will be repeated in the future and are frustrated with the situation. Mr. Johnston will look at the variance and email something to us for the December meeting.

BOPA: 1. CCR Report Violation. There was a technical reporting error on the CCR Report. The data is correct; Mr. Hunt didn't report the data in the manner the EPA wanted.

2. Water Tower-No Report

Old Business. 1. Cell Tower/Sinkhole/Bee Street. No Report.

2. Website. The trial website is up and Mr. May has asked Council members to look at it and try to run trials. Mr. May asked Mr. Johnston about posting minutes, ordinances, and other information on the site, are disclaimers needed? Mr. Johnston suggested posting approved minutes and ordinances, we could post others but it might be easier than having to post disclaimers. He noted we could do many different things, but suggested by posting approved documents, it limits the disclaimers needed. We could note that official copies are on file at the Village Building.

3. Town Clean Up. The property at 406 S. Main Street still has not cleaned up yard waste. Council agreed to have Mr. Johnston send a letter to clean the property per our ordinance. 204 South Main Street has tall weeds/grass in yard; we don't have a contact for the vacant property. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to mow this property and assess the property if we can't locate the property owner. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call: Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed. Ms. Slagle will contact Terry Zellers to mow the property.

Steve Shaurer of 7 Chestnut Street spoke with Mrs. Deere, Mr. Shaurer left a message they have cleaned up the property.

4. Crack Sealing/Town Streets. We have quotes from Wagner Paving-\$3000.00, Smith and Sons – Option A-\$10,650, Option B-\$13,450, J & A Construction- \$18,000 (or \$17,220). Mr. James hasn't heard from Smith & Sons for an updated quote he requested. Wagner Paving may work on the streets in sections or as they have time and personnel available. Mr. May made a motion to approve having Wagner Paving seal cracks in the streets and alleys in town. Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.

5. Town Leaf Pick-Up. We don't have any dates yet for leaf pick-up, the Boy Scouts have had a delay in the scheduling process. Mr. James will know more information next week.

6. Park National Bank. Still working on closing account.

New Business. 1. DP&L Rate Increase. We've been notified of rate increases due to COVID-19.
 2. Rumpke Contact. We have a new addendum to the contract with Rumpke. We have a 3-Year option and a 5-Year Option. Council agreed they were happy with Rumpke, and agreed the 5-year option would be a good option for the Village. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the 5-year option for services for waste removal for the Village. Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.
 3. **Resolution 11-20/Establish an ODNR Natureworks Park Grant Fund.** Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve this resolution. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.
 4. **Resolution 11-20A/Amend 2020 Permanent Appropriations.** Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve this resolution. Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.
 5. Penchura/Playground Equipment. The playground equipment is stored at the sewer plant until next spring. Ms. Slagle noted there were a couple of nets that had not been received yet. Mrs. Jones stated she was pretty sure the nets were a free item. Council approved paying the invoice without the nets being received.

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

PERS	\$883.11	DP&L	\$1093.69
Frontier	163.57	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	426.45	Shipman Dixon	225.00
Terry Zellers	220.00	Amy Elmore	75.00
Laura Fire Company	4000.00	Ohio School Tax	118.45
Internal Revenue	480.69	Ohio Dept. of Taxation	76.53
Pechora	23,971.00		

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk