

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

May 10,

2021

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

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the April 12, 2021 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes, 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.

Sheriff Report: None

Citizens Comments: 302 Chestnut Street. Lonnie Robinson stated water is running past the storm drain at his property and down his driveway. He asked if we could build a lip or something at his drive, to divert the water from the drive. Mr. Kauffman will look at the drain, and check with Wagner Paving for a solution.

Solicitors Report: 1. None

BOPA: 1. CCR Report. The annual report is ready; it needs to be distributed by July 1.
2. The septic tank at the restaurant has been fixed.
3. The Board will be formulating spending limits at the next meeting.

Old Business. 1. Miami Valley Lighting/Street Lights. Mr. James noted all the street lights have been replaced with LED lights.
2. Park. Mr. Kauffman reported we have received the remainder of the items we've ordered to complete the installation of playground equipment, etc. at the park. He'll finish up tomorrow. Mr. Foster made a motion to reimburse Mr. Kauffman for supplies purchased, Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Abstain. The motion passed. Mr. Kauffman will get the receipts to Ms. Slagle. Mrs. Deere noted Mr. Kauffman's use of fuel for his tractor, and suggested reimbursing him for the fuel. Mrs. Deere made a motion to reimburse Mr. Kauffman for the cost of the fuel, Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Abstain. The motion passed. Mr. Kauffman thought the cost would be around \$80.00.
We will need to order some additional mulch where we extended the playground area, and also get grass seed. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve up to \$300 for additional mulch and grass seed, 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.
Mrs. Deere bought park closed signs in the amount of \$44.92. Mr. Foster made a motion to reimburse Mrs. Deere for the signs, Mr. Kauffman seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Abstain, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mrs. Jones-Yes, Mr. Kauffman-Yes. The motion passed.
3. Water Faucet. Mr. James will find someone to fix the faucet.
4. Street Sweeping. No Report

New Business. 1. Drain/South Main Street/Hill. There was water coming out of the street, from a french drain on South Main Street, on the hill as you go out of town. We've had water come out of the road before, during heavy rains. Mr. James will see if Wagner Paving can take a look at the drain to make sure it's working properly.
2. Park Shelter Reservations. Mrs. Deere asked about setting something up to be able to reserve the shelter house. We could set up a calendar on the website, and/or set up a calendar of some sort at the park. We would need signage at the shelter. Council will think about this and discuss more at the next meeting. Mrs. Jones would like to paint the shelter.
3. Village Garage Sales. Participation has not been abundant in the past, Council agreed to not do this, this year.
4. Dumpster Week. Council would like to provide a dumpster for residents, as a means to help them clean up their properties. June 21-25 was set as the dates for the dumpster. Mrs. Deere will take care of this again this year.
5. Tall Grass/204 S. Main Street. A letter is to be sent asking the property owner to mow the grass. The new owner's name is Angie Butler. Ms. Slagle will try to find out where she lives. 126 N. Main/Dollar General. Ms. Slagle will send a letter to have the grass mowed.
6. Generator/Fire Department. The Fire Department gave the BOPA a generator some time ago. It was determined that there was no special action needed for that transfer, the generator is officially the BOPA's.

7. Railroad Property/Meyer. There is still a lot of debris that has not been cleared from the old barn at this property. Council would like to have it cleaned up. Mr. Johnston will be asked to send a letter to the property owner.

8. Feed the Kids Program. Mr. James asked if Council would agree to allow the “Feed the Kids” program to park in front of the Village building for 20 minutes on Tuesdays, to allow the organization to hand out food to people from the area. They are on a pretty strict time schedule, so they would only be here for 20 minutes each week. Council had no objection. Mr. James will coordinate with them.

9. Medical Marijuana. Mr. Foster noted he would like more information about the business that showed interest in bringing a medical marijuana dispensary to town, Council agreed. Laura does not have an ordinance prohibiting such a business. Mr. Robinson noted that as a citizen, he would not support this type of business in town. Council discussed. Council agreed they would like to look into an ordinance that would not allow a medical marijuana business, or similar type business in town. Mr. James will contact Mr. Johnston and discuss this matter. Mr. May asked if we could create an ordinance that could encompass some of our other nuisance type items.

10. Crosswalks. Mr. James has asked Wagner Paving for a quote to install approaches at sidewalks and paint crosswalk stripes at three places, around the park and along State Route 571 around Dollar General. We have not received the quote yet. From previous quotes from Wagner’s, it was determined we could have the work done for around \$10,000. Council would like to have the crosswalks done as soon as possible. Mr. May made a motion to approve up to \$10,000 for Wagner Paving to install approaches in sidewalks per previous quote, and paint three crosswalks around the park and on State Route 571. The crosswalks are to be around the basketball court and B Street, Pemberton Road and St. Rt. 571, and 119 N. Main and Dollar General. 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.

11. HICO Inc. Ms. Slagle noted someone representing this group contacted us asking for information about where sewer lines ran along this property. They are considering building 4-5 houses on this property.

Bills. Mr. Kauffman motioned to pay the following bills. 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.

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| PERS | \$879.66 | AES | \$980.03 |
| Frontier | 170.45 | Ken James | 108.76 |
| Gretchen Slagle | 427.70 | Shipman Dixon | 150.00 |
| Amy Elmore | 75.00 | Mobile Sanitation | 125.00 |
| Wertz Hardware | 83.13 | Cincinnati Insurance | 75.00 |
| Public Entities Pool of Ohio | 6733.00 | Internal Revenue | 499.46 |
| Ohio Dept of Taxation | 78.25 | Ohio School Tax | 114.59 |
| Menards | 67.35 | | |

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk