

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

April 12,

2021

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

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the March 8, 2021 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes with the following correction: the website calendar has been on the website. 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: None.

Solicitors Report: 1. Mr. James stated we approved a contract with Smith & Sons last fall, to paint new crosswalks on State Route 571 around Dollar General. Smith & Sons noted at the time they were backlogged, they were trying to finish school parking lots and it may take a little while to get to us. We are still waiting for the crosswalks to be painted. Mr. May asked Mr. Johnston if we are bound to the contract. Mr. Johnston noted we do have contractual rights, but if the contract isn't fulfilled within a reasonable time, the Village can be relieved of the contract. We need to provide formal notice to Smith & Sons that we would like to cancel the contract. The Village could then get new quotes. Mr. James noted communication with Smith & Sons stopped in December of last year. Mr. May made a motion to send a letter to Smith & Sons to cancel our contract. 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.

2. Miami Valley Lighting. Mr. James noted we have a contract with Miami Valley Lighting, they would switch out 45 street lights with LED bulbs by the end of this year. Miami Valley Lighting thought all the lights have been replaced. Mr. James took pictures of the poles that have not been done and noted around ten lights have been replaced with LED lights. Miami Valley Lighting finally acknowledged to Mr. James there are some lights that have not been replaced with LEDs. Mr. James asked if there was something we could do if Miami Valley does not fulfill the contract. Mr. Johnston noted that it sounded like we were on the right track, try to stay diligent with Miami Valley to replace the lights, was the best course for now.

3. Selling Equipment. Ms. Slagle asked Mr. Johnston if he knew the laws on selling unwanted village equipment. We have people that are interested in some of the old playground equipment we will be removing. Ms. Slagle noted she knew we could donate things to another entity like a non-profit organization or a library. She wasn't sure about the cost limit when we would have to ask for bids for items. We have a jet-rodder at the sewer plant that we would like to get rid of, and some other smaller pieces of equipment. She has looked through the ORC for different dollar amounts that indicate when items must be bid out. Mr. Johnston will look into when we have to request bids.

BOPA: 1. EPA/Lead/Copper. We have met EPA requirements for our water, new guidelines for phosphate will be formalized by the EPA and a letter will be sent to us letting us know we are now off of their watch list.

2. One Call System. The BOPA has noted any Board member and Tony Hunt-Licensed Water Operator can make a "One Call" call. Mr. Thompson noted they wouldn't make many calls, mostly if there is a safety issue at the water or sewer plant. Mrs. Deere asked if the BOPA would like to put anything on the website. Mr. Thompson noted that as we move forward with a new water tower, updates could be added. We could also put notice of hydrant flushing on the website.

Old Business. 1. 129 North Main/Junk. The property has been cleaned. Mr. Alfred noted he plans to continue to work on the property.

2. 8 School Street/Foliage in Street. Mrs. Davis has given permission for the Fire Company to trim the trees and brush hanging in the street.

3. Park/Playground Equipment. We will have to close the park to do preliminary work before we install the new playground equipment. We also need to get the mulch and concrete. Mr. Kauffman plans to start digging out the extra dirt on Tuesday April 20. We need to put up signage and yellow tape to close the area where we will be working. We will start installing the new equipment on April 24, weather permitting. Mrs. Jones stated they plan to remove the old grills and smoking receptacle. She also plans to spray paint some of the old equipment. We currently don't have anyone removing the trash from the bins during the months when mowing isn't going on. Mrs. Jones spoke with Terry Zellers, he volunteered to empty the trash bins for us all the time. We will provide trash bags. Thank You Mr. Zellers!

Ms. Slagle noted we will need to take pictures of the new equipment, and buy a NatureWorks sign to post at the park, per our agreement with the NatureWorks/ODNR grant we received. The sign is \$98.00. Mr. Kauffman made a motion to purchase the sign from ODNR, 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. Ms. Slagle will purchase the sign.

4. Street Sweeping. Mr. Kauffman will talk with West Milton and Mr. James will try to contact DSS about getting our streets swept this spring.

5. 2021 Permanent Appropriations. Ms. Slagle stated that she will have to amend the permanent Appropriations in the NatureWorks Park Grant Fund. She didn't realize the \$25,000 she tried to appropriate for this year, was already appropriated at the end of last year, because we didn't get the playground equipment installed last year. The UAN system carried over the amount.

New Business. 1. None

Bills. Mrs. Deere motioned to pay the following bills. 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.

PERS	\$852.11	DP&L	\$1053.03
Frontier	169.83	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	427.70	Shipman Dixon	150.00
Amy Elmore	75.00	Miami Valley Lighting	3078.00
Sedgwick	165.00	Ohio Dept Natural Resources	98.00

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk