

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

February 14,

2022

Attendees: Mayor-Ken James, Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Others Present- Mark May, Glen McSparran, Angi Deere, Brian Ingle, Jonathan Thompson. Chris Foster comes in during the discussion of President of Council.

Because no one ran for four available Council seats for the term 2022-2025, Mr. James retaining his Council seat, and resignations, there were five open Council seats. After waiting the required 30 days after the January meeting Mr. James can now appoint anyone interested to an open seat. Mr. Johnston noted Mr. James can swear in any interested person as a group, or individually.

Mr. James noted there is one seat with the term up in 2023. Mrs. Deere would like to fill that seat, there was a misunderstanding when her previous term was up. She would like to fulfill her original term. She noted she would also like to see Council work to fulfill obligations that members agree to take on in a timelier manner.

Mark May and Glen McSparran were interested in serving a 2022-2025 term.

Mr. James swore in Mrs. Deere, Mr. May and Mr. McSparran.

Mrs. Deere's term expires December 31, 2023, Mr. May's and Mr. McSparran's seats expire December 31, 2025.

Mr. James is Mayor until 2023, he has retained his Council seat until 2023.

Mr. May asked Mr. Johnston about President of Council. Mr. Johnston noted this position is elected annually. Mrs. Deere was interested in this position.

Chris Foster is interested in filling an open seat on Council. Mr. James swore in Mr. Foster. This term expires December 31, 2025.

Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Mrs. Deere as President of Council, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

2022 Committees.

Finance-Mr. May, Mrs. Deere
Streets-Mr. Foster, Mr. McSparran
Website-Mr. McSparran, Mr. May
Records-All

Parks-Mrs. Deere Mr. Foster
Building-Mr. Foster
BOPA-Mr. May, Mr. James.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the January meeting were emailed to the Mayor and Solicitor.

Sheriff Report: None.

Citizens Comments: 1. None

Solicitors Report: 1. 25 Laura Circle/Nuisance Ordinance. Requirements have been met to file a 4th Degree Misdemeanor. Wayne Miller will be the person to file charges. Mrs. Deere made a motion to move forward with the charges, Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

2. Davis Voice & Data. Mr. Davis has installed cameras and internet per our contract. Mr. Johnston noted Council will have to have an ordinance to establish how long video records are kept, how the public can make requests, etc. We need to contact Mr. Davis to see how much space is available on our server, how much definition is available for the video. Mr. Thomson stated that since the BOPA meets monthly, he suggested keeping records 45-60 days. Could Council have access to data longer if needed? Mr. Johnston will work on an ordinance for Public Records for the camera video. Mr. James noted we could email Mr. Davis any questions we had about this. We also could have a workshop to work on this.

BOPA: 1. Back-Up Generator. Miami County has responded to our submittal estimate of \$105,000 for a new generator. They noted the estimate was higher than the initial amount discussed. During initial discussion with the County, it was mentioned the Board had talked about running an electrical line from the generator at the sewer plant to the water plant. Miami County suggested we look into costs to install a transfer switch line to the water plant. The Board agreed it would be more in line

with the cost originally discussed with Miami County. The Board is working on getting quotes to run an electric line to the water plant. The Board would need an easement through one of two adjacent properties to run the electrical line. Mr. James noted we have an easement through the property owned by Randy Myers. The Board will work on this project.

2. Mr. Thompson noted there was an infiltration problem at a lift station at Stewart Hinkle's. There is a crack in a joint where a pipe enters the lift station. Mr. Thompson also noted the electric used by the lift station was being billed to the resident. The Board is working on correcting the bill to go to the village.

3. Mr. Thompson also noted the Board will be working on correcting a problem with septic tanks that were installed at 129 N. Main Street when the septic system was installed. There are 2 tanks on this property, one for 127 N. Main. There was a recent problem at 127 N. Main with what the owner thought was a Village problem with the tank. We had Donnie Smith out to the property to look at the tank.

Old Business. 1. Limbs/Brush in Street/8 School Street. Mr. James hasn't had any luck in getting anyone to come out and quote removing the foliage that has impeded on the street.

2. PEP/Safety Equipment. We have received the cones and barricades from USA Bluebook. We can use the purchase price of this equipment for the 2022 safety grant.

3. Village Building/Outside Faucet. Ms. Slagle will contact Ed Guess to see if he knows where the outdoor faucet can be accessed from inside.

New Business. 1. Snow Plowing. Mr. James noted there was a problem with ice on the streets and with the invoice presented by A Bee Custom Designs the amount of salt used during the recent snow storm. During this snow storm, Mr. Hoop claimed he put 6.5 tons of salt on the Village streets, but the streets were still covered with ice. The streets were sufficiently plowed, and there were two or three days with temperatures high enough to melt the ice, but the streets were still ice covered. Mr. James and Ms. Slagle met with Mr. Hoop to discuss if the streets were salted. Mr. James and Ms. Slagle took pictures of the streets, and when they met with Mr. Hoops, the streets were still ice covered. Mr. James stated he saw Mr. Hoop salt twice, he saw salt on the street at his house. Mr. James noted Mr. Hoop's hopper was a one-ton hopper. Our contract is for \$155.00 per ton of salt. Mr. James told Mr. Hoop we would pay for two applications of salt. Mr. Hoops accepted that amount. Mr. James noted Council had been happy with the job Mr. Hoop had done plowing and salting the village streets in the past, He had lost confidence in Mr. Hoop after this, Ms. Slagle noted she had previously asked Mr. Hoop for his insurance proof, Mr. Hoop stated it was sent from his insurance agent on February 4. Mr. James asked Mr. Johnston our options for employing Mr. Hoops. Mr. Johnston noted if we didn't have proof of insurance, and our contract states it is needed, we could terminate the contract if Council wished. Council discussed. Mr. May made a motion to send a letter asking for proof of insurance by February 25. If we don't get it, we terminate our contract. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

Mr. James stated we may need to find someone else to plow and salt. Mr. Thompson stated he would check with someone he knew who might be willing to give us a quote. Ms. Slagle noted the library used Ground Control, and we have some businesses that have given quotes in the past.

2. 2022 Mowing Bids. Mr. James asked if Council would like to advertise for mowing bids. The Village has used Terry Zellers for many years, but would need to find someone since Terry's passing last month. Council discussed and would like to advertise in the Stillwater Valley Advertiser, Early Bird and the Miami Valley Today papers for two weeks. The Stillwater Valley Advertiser and the Early Bird are a weekly paper. Council would like to advertise in the Miami Valley Today paper on a Thursday and Saturday, Sunday basis, for two weeks. They will leave the combination of days up to Ms. Slagle for the best price/day combination.

3. Stop Sign/ Behind Post Office. Mrs. Deere noted the stop sign had been hit and badly bent.

4. Miami County Council Annual Dues. Mr. May made a motion to approve \$30.00 for the annual dues, Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

5. Girl Scout Trees. Mrs. Deere stated a local Girl Scout troop would like to plant trees at the park. Council suggested they come to our next meeting to explain. Mr. Thompson noted we would be building a new water tower in the coming years, and to take that in consideration when planting the trees.

Bills. Mr. May made a motion to pay the following bills, Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

PERS	\$855.66	AES	\$954.91
Frontier	294.29	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	427.79	Shipman Dixon	375.00
Amy Elmore	75.00	Glen McSparran	36.23
BWC	342.00	Post Office	84.00
Miami County Council	30.00		

PERS	\$859.31	AES	\$1260.88
Frontier	291.22	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	427.79	Shipman Dixon	315.00
Amy Elmore	75.00	RD Holder	218.52
Union Township	59.93	Miami County Treasurer	569.42
Ohio Depart of Taxation	78.25	Ohio School Tax	108.94
Internal Revenue	494.46	A Bee Custom Designs	940.00
A Bee Custom Designs	1585.00	USA Bluebook	1106.55
Arens Corp	26.00		

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk