

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

January 10,

2022

Attendees: Mayor-Ken James, Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Others Present- Mark May, Chris Foster, Glen McSparran, Brian Ingle, Megan Engle, Pete Davis-Davis Voice & Data.

Mrs. Deere sent a text stating she is resigning from Council. Her seat expires December 31, 2023.

Mr. Johnston noted that because Mrs. Deere resigned, and Mr. James didn't resign his Council seat that expires in 2023, when he became Mayor in 2019, and the remaining four Council seats expired at the end of last year, we have no one to swear in anyone interested in being on Council. Laura is a statutory village, there are four vacant seats to fill on Council and one vacant seat to fill on the BOPA. Since there are no Council members presently, after 30 days, the Mayor can appoint new members. As a result, we will have to wait until the February meeting when Mr. James can appoint new members to Council. We will not be able to approve minutes, bills, or any contracts or other business that might require a vote of Council at the January meeting.

Previous Minutes: Can not be approved until the February meeting.

Sheriff Report: None.

Citizens Comments: 1. Laura Community Committee. Megan Engle was present to let Council know she has contacted local business owners and has 4 people who would be interested in serving on the committee. They will be meeting February 3, and the first Thursday of each month, at her business. The first event they are planning will be an Easter Egg Hunt.

Solicitors Report: 1. 25 Laura Circle/Nuisance Ordinance. Mr. Johnston noted speaking with Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller obtained pictures of the property on December 23 and December 27. Criminal charges will be filed next month, they will be a fourth-degree misdemeanor, which is a jailable offense.

2. Davis Voice & Data. Pete Davis was present to discuss installation of internet at the water and sewer plant and camera placement. Mr. Davis noted he has purchased equipment that he hopes will allow the signal to get to the water and sewer plants. He will have to run a couple of wires up on the water tower. Mr. James and Mr. Davis discussed where the cameras were to be placed. Mr. Davis will contact Mr. James when he is ready to install the cameras. Mr. Davis expects to run the wires to the tower in the next week or two.

3. Website Minutes. Ms. Slagle asked Mr. Johnston about posting minutes on the website. Did we have to include bids, photos, contracts, visual aids, etc. that were discussed at the meeting. Mr. Johnston stated we did not. The minutes we post are not approved, if anyone wanted to see anything from the minutes, they could contact the Village for the official, approved minutes.

BOPA: 1. Ms. Slagle noted Mote & Associates provided an estimate of \$105,000 for a back-up generator for the water plant. The estimate was sent to Dan Suerdick at Miami County as part of consideration for a grant from American Rescue Act.

2. Mr. Ingle stated we bought 20 new septic tank lids. Residents will now have to pay \$163.00 to replace a septic tank lid at their house. The old cost was \$45.00.

Old Business. 1. Trees in Power/Telephone Lines/South Main Street. Mr. James noted he met with Union Township Trustee Phil Mote about the trees in the phone and power lines at the edge of town on South Main Street. Most of the problem trees are located in the Township. Mr. Mote said Frontier and AES have already been contacted.

New Business. 1. None.

Bills. Bills will be approved at the February meeting.

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk

