

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

March 14,

2022

Attendees: Mayor-Ken James, Angi Deere, Mark May, Chris Foster, Glen McSparran, Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Others Present- Monte Evans

Previous Minutes: **Previous Minutes:** Minutes of the February 14, 2021 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes. The motion passed.

Sheriff Report: None.

Citizens Comments: 1. Monte Evans is interested in the open Council Seat. Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Mr. Evans to the open seat. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes. The motion passed. Mr. James swore in Mr. Evans, his term is up December 31, 2025.

Mowing Bids for 2022. Council reviewed bids from the following:

Kurt Troutwine, Flory Landscaping, Daryll Cress, XXXX

Mr. May made a motion to accept Kurt Troutwine's bid for \$160 per mow for the four village properties and \$xx per mow for the 2 residential properties the village has mowed. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes. Mr. Evans-Yes. The motion passed.

Solicitors Report: 1. 25 Laura Circle/Nuisance Ordinance. Mr. Johnston reported charges were filed last month. Arraignment usually takes 10-14 days. Mr. Johnston will work with Mr. Miller once the court date is established.

2. Davis Voice & Data. Council had discussed how long to store the data, it might depend on how much space we have on the computer. We need to speak with Mr. Davis to see what the cameras capabilities are, how much space we have on the computer and see about resolution. Mr. James will contact Mr. Davis.

3. Sunshine Laws. Mrs. Deere noted the discussion that was texted when Mr. James had asked who was on the Street Committee, to seek input on what to do about a potential snow storm, that might require plowing or salting. We ended our contract with Jason Hoop, when there was a disagreement about the charge for salting the streets, while the streets were not clear of ice. Mrs. Deere wanted to make sure Council did not violate any sunshine laws. Mr. Johnston noted Council needed to stay away from a quorum during discussions amongst Council. Ms. Slagle stated that the committees had two Council members on each committee, as long as the specific committee members and the mayor discuss a problem, there is no violation of the sunshine laws. The sunshine laws were not violated when Mr. Foster and Mr. McSparran tested the mayor with their input about plowing and salting.

BOPA: 1. Mr. May reported the following:

1. The recent rain and frozen ground caused a sand filter to almost overflow. The water was pumped into the other sand filter and the problem was averted.
2. The Board is working on the lift station leak at Stewart Hinkle's.
3. Water Tower Grant. We did not get the grant we had applied for. We will apply for the grant again.
4. Back-Up Generator. The Board is not happy with the quote the County received from Mote a& Associates.

Old Business. 1. Limbs/Brush in Street/8 School Street. Mr. James has contacted A Tree Company and Gunkle Tree Service about removing the limbs/brush in the street. He has not heard from anyone. Mr. Evans suggested contacting Stillwater Tree Service.

2. Outside Faucet. Ms. Slagle spoke with Ed Guess. Mr. Guess thinks the best place to access the faucet on the inside would be in the bathroom.

3. PEP Safety Grant. We received \$1000 for 2021 for striping the crosswalk on St. Rt. 571.

Ms. Slagle noted she would use the cost of the cones and barricades we recently bought, for the 2022 PEP Safety Grant.

4. Stop Signs. Mr. James noted we need a couple of stop signs to replace the one behind the post office and at the restaurant. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve up to \$300 for stop signs, Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes. Mr. Evans-Yes. The motion passed.

5. Snow Plowing. Mr. James asked Council for suggestions on who to try to get to plow and salt for the rest of the season, if we need someone. Mr. May suggested that Mr. James be authorized to get anyone he can for plowing and salting as needed for the rest of the season. Council agreed.
6. Roster Review. Ms. Slagle made additions and corrections to the Village Elected Officials terms and phone numbers. She will turn this in to the County Board of Elections.
7. Committees: Mr. Evans will be on the street and building committees. Mr. Foster will go off of the street committee.

New Business. 1. 2022 Permanent Appropriations. The 2022 Permanent Appropriations were presented and reviewed. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the appropriations, Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes. Mr. Evans-Yes. The motion passed.

2. Miami County Council. Mr. James stated discussion of AR Act Funds, COVID Funds, and grants of \$75,000 that are available for small businesses of 15 employees or less. Mr. Mays suggested posting this information so local businesses may see it.

3. Website. Mr. May noted the free Google hosting account we use, will no longer be used after July. He will setting up another hosting site, He is working on forwarding emails to Council members, mayor, committees, etc.

4. Phone Service. Mr. May is working on information and cost to switch the Village phone line from Frontier to an Internet supplier.

5. Easter Egg Hunt. No Report. Megan Engle was not able to be at the meeting. Mr. James noted she was working on donations for the egg hunt. The committee would like to use the park for the egg hunt. Mr. Evans made a motion to allow the Laura Community Committee to use the park for the egg hunt on April 9 or a rain date of April 16. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes. Mr. Evans-Yes. The motion passed. Evans & Sons Automotive and Ken James Family Tree each donated \$100.00 to the Laura Community Committee.

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

PERS	\$852.00	AES	\$1038.29
Frontier	294.22	Ken James	108.76
Gretchen Slagle	427.79	Shipman Dixon	255.00
Amy Elmore	75.00	Cincinnati Insurance Co	75.00
Angie Deere	72.88	Chris Foster	72.48
Mark May	72.88	Glen McSparran	72.48

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk