

Village of Laura

Minutes of BOPA Meeting

7:00 PM

February 4, 2020

**Roll Call:** Attendees: President-Jonathan Thompson, Bradley Ingle, Greta Slagle-Fiscal Officer, Council - Mark May, Absent- Steve Vore, Wes Beeson -Utilities Superintendent, Tony Hunt-Water Consultant.

**Previous Minutes.** Minutes of the January 16, 2020 meeting were read. Mr. Thompson made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Ingle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thompson – Yes, Mr. Ingle – Yes. The motion passed.

**Citizens Comments.** None

**Water Report:** 1. Water Tower/Water Rates. The Board discussed water rates, we'll have to do something with the tower, one way or other. Our share of the grant money would be \$95,200.00. The grant process takes about three years. We would have to have our share ready when the grant is approved. Mr. Thompson suggested raising the rates \$10.00 per month. This would raise \$24,000 a year, and with the \$20,000 we already have appropriated to paint the tower, the total would be \$92,000. Each year, we appropriate \$5000 toward the water tower, for a 3-year total of \$15,000, a total of \$107,000 for our share. This would provide a little cushion for the project.

Mr. Thompson noted after the three years, we could then put \$5.00 toward loan maintenance, and then split the other \$5.00 to the water and sewer fund, we'd wait to make that decision though. Mr. May noted we may look at presenting those numbers in a different manner. We would raise \$24,000 each year; \$12,000 would go toward the loans, \$6000 toward the water fund and \$6000 toward the sewer fund.

Mr. Thompson suggested these positive aspects of this approach:

We would raise all the capital we need without cutting into the operational budget.

We would have stable water rates, hopefully for a long time.

We would have plants that are properly maintained, run by licensed professionals, that provide good, quality water.

The Board also discussed the pros and cons of what to do when we have enough money raised. Do we lower the water rates or leave them where they are at the end of the three years. People may have concerns about raising and lowering the bills.

The board discussed the need to increase rates if we were to decide to strip the paint off the tower and have it repainted. We would have to pay for the entire cost of this because painting is considered maintenance and there are no grants available for maintenance.

The Board agreed to ask Council to consider a \$10 water rate increase. Mr. Thompson will go to the next Council meeting with this request and ask for their input. The Board is open to any suggestions about how to raise the additional funds for our share of the grant.

2. Pigtail for Generator/Water Plant. Mr. Thompson will try to get a quote for this cost.

**Sewer Report:** 1. No Report

**Old Business:** 1. No Report

**New Business:** 1. None

**Shut offs.** 1. No shut offs to report

**Bills:** Mr. Thompson motioned to pay the bills, Mr. Ingle seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thompson – Yes. Mr. Ingle –Yes. The motion passed.

DP&L	\$1040.16	PERS	\$833.39
Jeremy Bowser	673.97	Frontier	113.62
Gretchen Slagle	270.70	Wes Beeson	890.38
Tony Hunt	662.31	Pace Analytical	447.69
Miami Products	63.50	RD Holder	365.91
Analytical Assoc.	846.90		

Mr. Thompson motioned close the meeting, Mr. Ingle seconded the motion. All Yeas, the motion passed.

