

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

March 13,

2017

Attendees: Mayor- Ed Guess, Council Members- Angela Deere, Chris Foster, Gale Honeyman, Alice Beck, Ken James, Harry McKenna, Fiscal Officer-Gretchen Slagle. Andrew Johnston-Solicitor. Others Present- Mark May, Deputy Sheriff Chase Underwood. Mrs. Deere comes in during the reading of the minutes.

Previous Minutes:

Minutes of the February 13, 2017 meeting were read. Mrs. Deere made a motion to accept the minutes with the following correction: New Business #7- Council gave approval for Mr. James to use the park. #9-The dog at 403 S. Main St. jumped the fence into the alley that runs behind the post office. Citizens Comments- there was discussion about the condition of the building at 101 Second Street. Mr. McKenna seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere - Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. Honeyman-Yes, Mrs. Beck-Yes, Mr. James- Yes, Mr. McKenna-Yes. The motion passed.

Citizens Comments: 1. Sheriff Deputy Chase Underwood asked if Council had any questions or concerns for the Sheriff's Dept. Council asked about the monthly reports that used to be sent to the village and if they were discontinued. Dept. Sheriff Underwood noted it was something that was done by the last sheriff or a supervisor. He would look into getting the answer for us. Mr. McKenna noted someone stole his neighbor's lawnmower, the situation was resolved.

Solicitor's Report. Mr. Johnston apologized for missing last meeting.

1. Trent Lacey 101 Second St. Building. Mr. Johnston filed the complaint. Mr. Lacey has retained a lawyer.
2. Randy Myers/Railroad Building. Mr. Johnston has sent a certified letter and a regular mail letter. He has not heard from Mr. Myers. Mr. Johnston can prepare a list of options for Council, there isn't a really good option, it's private property. Mr. Johnston noted we're doing the responsible thing in trying to deal with the building that is falling down. Mr. James has already contacted the health department about this property and the property at 101 Second St. It was noted at that at one time Council was interested in the railroad property but the asking price was more than Council thought it was worth. Mr. Johnston stated he could look into liens, etc. that might be outstanding for this property if Council would be interested in buying it. Mrs. Beck made a motion to have Mr. Johnston do some investigation into what is owed on the property. Mr. James seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere - Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. Honeyman-Yes, Mrs. Beck-Yes, Mr. James- Yes, Mr. McKenna-Yes. The motion passed.
3. Miami Valley Lighting / LED Lights Contract. Mr. Johnston reviewed the contract and noted we didn't have to sign anything to get 3 street lights switched to LED lights.

BOPA. Mrs. Beck reported the following:

1. On Feb. 25, we had a storm that took out a controller switch. The dialer isn't working. There are some wiring problems, chlorine was continuously pump into the water producing a strong smell. The Board is trying to wait on Artesian, when they come to install the phosphate system, to get the dialer and the controller board fixed. The Board made arrangements to check the pumps during or after storms to try to prevent this from happening again.
2. Mr. Foster and Mr. James were at the meeting and asked about communicating problems to the residents. Mr. Foster suggested looking into something like One Call. The Board thought this was a good idea. Mr. Thompson had a quote for Council to review. Mrs. Beck suggested this might be a joint effort with the BOPA. Mr. Foster will contact One Call.
3. Mr. Guess has a letter from the EPA concerning a violation for failure to maintain chlorine levels in November of 2016. We'll give the letter to Mr. Hinkle to check on.

Old Business: 1. Oxley/Ludlow St. Mr. Oxley has been making progress on cleaning his property as he said he would in a letter he sent.

2. 5 S. Main St/Jones. There is a blue plastic drum that is overflowing with oil or something at the back of this property next to the fence.
3. Mowing/2017. Terry Zellers has a quote for \$150.00 per mow for the village properties. Mr. McKenna made a motion to hire Mr. Zellers to mow this year. Mr. Honeyman seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere - Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. Honeyman-Yes, Mrs. Beck-Yes, Mr. James-Yes, Mr. McKenna-Yes. The motion passed.
4. Siren. The siren is fixed.
5. Miami County Commissioners/Emergency Memorandum. Council agreed to this memorandum.

6. Park Event. Mr. James had some information about having another event at the park this summer, a bluegrass band would be \$450.00 again. He thought it might work better if we had one band instead of two, Mr. James spoke with Tall Tales about supplying some kind of food, maybe a food truck. Council discussed. Mr. Foster thought it might be worth another shot to try to establish an event like this. Mrs. Deere agreed. Council also discussed possibly working with the fire department in some way. June 17th would be the date that would work.

7. Newsletter. Mrs. Deere is working on this. Council discussed ways to use the newsletter, possibly making it seasonal. This would be a way to get relevant information out. If there is something we need to put into the newspaper, we'll get the information to Mrs. Deere. She'll work on a copy and email it to members to review.

New Business: 1. Flag/Park. With all the high winds we've had, we've lost the flag. Mr. James purchased a new one and Mr. McKenna bought steel clasps to hold it.

2. No Parking Signs/Street Signs. Mr. McKenna noted the street signs are up and the No Parking sign that was removed has been replaced. Mr. McKenna bent the bolts on these signs to discourage removal!

3. Unity Bank. Jill Brewer has offered to speak to Council about the changes that are happening with our pooled collateral and banking. Council agreed to have her come explain these changes.

4. 2017 Appropriations. We'll call a special meeting after we've received the Amended Certificate and the Finance Committee and BOPA meet to do appropriations.

5. Local Government Officials Conference. Ms. Slagle noted needing to renew her continuing education credits. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve \$125.00 for the conference, Mr. McKenna seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere - Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. Honeyman-Yes, Mrs. Beck-Yes, Mr. James- Yes, Mr. McKenna-Yes. The motion passed.

6. Trees/ Water/Sewer Plants. Mr. Hinkle had a bid to cut down and remove 7 ash trees around the sewer and water plant from Colvin McFadden for \$2325.00. We'll try to get a couple of other bids.

Bills:

Mr. McKenna motioned to pay the following Bills; Mr. James seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere – Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes, Mr. Honeyman-Yes, Mrs. Beck-Yes, Mr. James- Yes, Mr. McKenna-Yes. The motion passed.

PERS	\$614.99	DP&L	\$1326.78
Frontier	153.67	Linda McKenna	50.00
Gretchen Slagle	378.63	Ed Guess	108.43
Wertz Hardware	9.88	Miami County Eng.	143.00
Arens Corp.	22.86	Local Gov. Official Conf.	125.00
Alice Beck	110.15	Angie Deere	109.32
Chris Foster	108.65	Gale Honeyman	110.82
Ken James	109.32	Harry McKenna	110.15

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

Ed Guess, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk