

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

November 14,

2022

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

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the October 10, 2022 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

Sheriff Report: None

Citizens Comments: None

Solicitors Report: 1. 25 Laura Circle/Nuisance Ordinance. Mr. Johnston spoke with Wayne Miller. Mr. Miller has taken some photos. Mr. Johnston mailed a certified letter to Mr. Rex on October 26, Mr. Johnston received proof of receipt by the Rex's. Mr. Rex had ten days to reply, it has been 10 days since the letter was signed for, we can proceed with filing new charges if Council chooses. Mr. Johnston noted he is optimistic about the verdict from the trial. Mr. Johnston stated he thought filing between 3 and 5 charges was somewhat typical. We filed three charges the first time we went to trial. Mr. May noted he liked the idea of filing 5 charges, Council wants to show a strong message that we want the property cleaned up. Mr. Evans asked if a verdict comes through, are we still going to file the next round of charges. Mr. Johnston stated if the verdict comes through shortly, he would hold off on filing the charges. Mr. Foster asked how fast the sentencing would occur, if Mr. Rex is found guilty. Mr. Johnston said it could vary, usually around 10 days to 4 weeks, but he couldn't say for sure. Mr. Evans asked about costs for the second trial. Mr. Johnston explained that Mr. Miller would be the big expense. Mr. Johnston's fees would be similar or less to the first trial costs, unless something comes up. Mr. Foster made a motion to have Mr. Johnston file 5 charges against Mr. Rex to clean up his property. Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May-Yes, Mr. McSparran-Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed. We'll suspend the charges if a verdict is received before the charges are filed. Mr. James asked if the Village could un-annex the property. Mr. Johnston will have to look into this.

2. Snow Plowing Contract. Ms. Slagle asked Mr. Johnston to review a contract from Haney's Mowing & Landscaping and the contract we usually use for snow plowing. Mr. Haney would like us to sign his contract. Mr. Johnston suggested we use our contract for snow plowing.

3. Ordinance Repeal. Mr. May asked Mr. Johnston what was needed to repeal an ordinance. The BOPA is discussing repealing the pool fees ordinance. Mr. Johnston noted an ordinance would be needed to repeal, change the context, or change the fee amount. There would need to be three readings of the proposed ordinance.

BOPA: Mr. May reported the following:

1. Discussion of removing pool fees.
2. 104 S. Main Street/Septic Tank. The tank was replaced. The connector to the house had shifted. Everything is good right now.
3. EPA Emergency Generator Grant. The Board is getting estimates for possible filing of an application. Mr. Ingle has some concerns with the cost Mote & Associates quoted for the last grant we applied for through the County.
4. Jonathan Thompson Resignation. Mr. Thompson resigned at the end of the meeting.
5. Water Leak/ Laura Circle. There was problem with the resident's house shut off valve, they asked us to shut off the water to the house. Wes Beeson spent a lot of time trying to dig down to the shut off valve, DAC Excavating was finally called in to dig out the valve. It was between 3-4 feet deep.

Old Business. 1. 3. Tree Limbs/301 and 303 S. Main Street. Ms. Slagle stated she didn't get the letters to these two property owners sent. A tree near a property line has a limb that is hanging into the street. Ms. Slagle will send the letters asking whoever owns the tree to trim the branch.

2. 25 MPH Speed Limit Signs. Mr. James picked up the 2 signs from the County.

3. Girl Scouts/Trees at Park. Mr. Foster stated the Girl Scouts planted trees at the park.

4. Curb Painting. Mr. James has tried to contact Coopers about getting on their list to paint our curbs. He hasn't heard back from them.

5. Leaf Pick-Up. Mr. James noted we had the first leaf pick-up on November 8. The next one is scheduled for November 29. Each pick-up is \$475.00.

6. Street Light/110 Pike Street. The light has been fixed. No report on the pole by Bradley Ingle's house on Pemberton Road.

New Business. 1. Laura Fire Company Contract. We will pay our annual fire protection fee this month. The cost is \$4000.00.

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

PERS	\$866.51	AES	\$412.40
Gretchen Slagle	431.12	Ken James	108.78
Amy Elmore	75.00	Shipman Dixon	150.00
Porta Klein	132.17	Miami County Engineer	80.00
Twillo	5.78	Arens Corp	130.00
MegaCity Fire & Security	52.75	Aim Midwest Media	40.50
Treasurer of State-State	76.75	Treasure of State School Tax	148.54

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk