

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

November 13,

2023

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

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the October 9, 2023 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. May made a motion to approve the minutes with the following correction: Solicitors Report # 3- In the sentence “Mr. James noted that when we issue a zoning permit, we only look at placement of a fence, shed, addition, etc. most of the time”, delete the words :most of the time”. Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Abstain, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed.

Sheriff's Report: 1. None

Citizens Comments: 1. None

Solicitors Report: 1. 25 Laura Circle. Mr. Johnston looked through the file on the trial. Mr. Rex was given six months from the trial date to clean up his property, substantially cleaned at ninety days. If there hasn't been substantial cleanup, Mr. Johnston suggests we hire Mr. Miller to take pictures of Mr. Rex's property using his drone, on or around day ninety-one, and send them to Mr. Johnston. Mr. Johnston wants to have everything ready to present to the judge, by December 11. Mr. May made a motion to hire Wayne Miller to take some photos of Mr. Rex's property if it is not substantially cleaned up. Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed.

2. Wagner Paving Annexation Request. A lawyer for Wagner Paving sent Mr. Johnston notice that Wagner's bought Main St. Baptist Church, next to their property on St. Rt. 571, and would like to annex the property into town. Mr. Johnston will forward that email to the Village.

3. State Issue 2/Marijuana Ordinance. Mr. James asked Mr. Johnston what the passage of Issue 2 meant for the Village, we passed an ordinance prohibiting any kind of marijuana businesses in Laura. Mr. Johnston noted when the Issue takes effect , people could grow and possess it, but can't buy it in Ohio. He suggested continuing as we have been until the end of next year and see where it goes with the legislature.

BOPA: Mr. May reported:

1. Donnie Smith of Bob's Excavating confirmed a new septic line at 27 N. Main was installed correctly.
2. Mr. James noted that during our fire extinguisher check, the door to the sewer plant was found unlocked. The lab was not as maintained as it has been in the past.
3. PEP Insurance Grant. We still have a \$1000 Safety Grant available. Council may be interested in some Hi-Viz vests, or traffic signs. Ms. Slagle will get some prices. The grant has to be used by the end of the year.

Old Business. 1. Shrub Trimming/2910 Pemberton Road. Mr. Foster noted the shrubs are growing onto the road and need to be trimmed. He isn't sure whose property the bushes are on. Ms. Slagle will send a letter asking the bushes to be trimmed.

2. Leaf Pick-Up. Mr. James checked the fallen leaves around town and didn't think there were enough leaves down to have West Milton make a trip out to collect them. He called West Milton about rescheduling dates for leaf pick-up.

3. Regional Planning/West Milton Sewer Grant Projects. Mr. James noted getting email correspondence from the Regional Planning group, they are trying to organize interest in possible infrastructure for Laura and Potsdam to hook into West Milton's utility systems. Mr. May attended a meeting, and noted Laura wasn't opposed to a study, The Board of Public Affairs and Council are happy with our utilities, and don't have an interest in working toward grant money for joining Milton's system.

4. Davis Voice & Data. No Report.

5. Fiscal Officer CE Class. Ms. Slagle took the 6-hour class at Austin Landing on October 19.

6. No Parking Sign. Have not been made yet by Miami County Engineers Office.

7. B Street Stop Sign. No Report.

New Business. 1. Open Seats/ 2024. There will be two Council seats open in January, 2024, and the Mayor’s seat will be available. There will be two open BOPA seats also.
2. The Port-a-John was removed from the park last week.

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

PERS	\$972.86	AES	\$978.84
Gretchen Slagle	431.12	Ken James	108.78
Amy Elmore	75.00	Shipman Dixon	187.50
Kurt Troutwine	420.00	Rumpke	169.57
Laura Fire Company	4000.00	Gunkle Tree	4000.00
Miami County Engineers	75.00	Internal Revenue	517.62
State of Ohio School	150.53	Ohio Dept of Tax	80.88

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk