

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

February 12,

2024

Attendees: Mayor-Ken James, Eric Stein, Monte Evans, Mark May, Glen McSparran, Chris Foster. Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer. Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Others Present- Brent Kress/Wagner Paving, Robert Presley, Matt Wolf.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the January 8, 2024 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Stein made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein - Yes, Mr. Evans -Abstain, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Abstain. The motion passed.

Sheriff's Report: 1. No Report

Citizens Comments: 1. Matt Wolf / Property Services. Mr. James noted Kurt Troutwine had sent a letter informing Council he would not longer be able to mow the Village properties. Mr. James spoke to Mr. Wolf, Mr. Wolf is interested in putting in a quote for mowing. Council reviewed the quote of \$210 per mow. The park cost would be \$125.00, the sewer and water plants would be \$30.00 each and the Village building would be \$25.00. Mr. Wolf was asked about a cost for residential properties, he noted the typically charge \$45.00 an hour for this. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve Wolf Property Services to mow the Village properties for 2024, Mr. Stein seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein - Yes, Mr. Evans -Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed. Ms. Slagle will get a contract ready for Mr. Wolf.

2. Wagner Paving/Annexation. Brent Wagner presented a drawing of the property at 11191 State Route 571, the property they would like to annex into town, and a drawing of the proposed addition to the church on this property. They will be moving their offices to this property. Mr. Johnston stated he has been in contact with Wagner Paving's lawyers, and has a resolution ready if Council would choose to annex the property into the Village. He noted the annexation would take the property out of Union Township and put it within Village limits. Council really only has the option of accepting or rejecting the annexation approval, there is no other action for Council. Mr. James stated Zoning voted to approve the annexation and send their recommendation to Council. Council did not have any objection to annexing the property.

3. **Resolution 2-24/Annexation of 11191 St. Rt. 571. into the Village Limits.** Ms. Slagle read a resolution to annex this property into the Village of Laura. Mr. May made a motion to approve Resolution 2-24, Mr. Stein seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein - Yes, Mr. Evans -Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed.

Solicitors Report: 1. Annexation/Wagner Paving. See Citizens Comment #2. Mr. Johnston noted receiving documents from Wagner Paving concerning the annexation right after the last Council meeting.

2. Mr. Johnston noted filing the changes made to Council and the BOPA seats with the Board of Elections.

2. 25 Laura Circle. A hearing was held January 23, Mr. Johnston reviewed the timeline the Judge instituted for Mr. Rex to clean up his property. Mr. Miller took pictures of Mr. Rex's property on January 22; no noticeable action had been taken by Mr. Rex to clean up. The Judge set February 28 as the date Mr. Rex was to report back to court with evidence of titles for vehicles, registrations/licenses for vehicles, photos of the property cleaned up, etc. If appropriate action is not taken, the Judge told Mr. Rex he will be going to jail that day. The Village doesn't have to do anything this time, Mr. Rex is to provide proof of clean-up.

Council is concerned about what happens if the property isn't cleaned up, Mr. Rex serves his jail time and the town is back to square one, the property remains as it is now? Mr. Johnston stated every single day in violation of the Ordinance can be a fine, each charge filed can carry a penalty of 30 days in jail. Council could increase the number of charges, and we would then start the process again. Mr. Johnston suggested seeing it play out, first.

Mr. James asked about Mr. Rex running a business on a residential property. Mr. Johnston noted the action we took as a criminal case held the "most teeth", included jail time, and was less expensive as opposed to filing a civil suit. Council could file a civil suit if they chose that path of pursuit.

BOPA: Mr. Stein reported.

1. Curbs Stop prices and repairs were discussed.

2. Flow meter purchase for sewer plant was in progress.
3. Electrical panel at water plant has corrosion on it. There was a chlorine leak dripping on the panel. The Board is working on ways to clean it by dry ice blasting. They discussed a weather proof box and what might have to be done to the panel box when we get the back up generator.
4. Leaves/Gate. The leaves from the leaf-pick up were dumped in a place that prevents the gate to the sewer plant from opening up completely. Mr. James is working on getting a bobcat to move the leaves.
5. UV Lights for sewer plant need to be installed by May 1.
6. Pace Analytical. We haven't received any bills from Pace for over a year, Ms. Slagle has asked for bills, but never been sent. Pace has finally sent them from a new location, most of the wastewater bills have been paid.

Old Business. 1. 111 Pike Street Demolition Grant. Mr. James hasn't heard anything from the County.

2. Davis Voice & Data. Ms. Slagle stated the internet went out sometime within the last week, Mr. Davis came and fixed the internet. She asked him about getting internet at the water plant. Mr. Davis said there were some issues with getting the needed items. Our contract states Davis Voice & Data have internet installed at the water plant as part of the contract, it's been a number of years, and we still don't have internet at the plant. Mr. May suggested we review the contract we have with Davis Voice and Data and have Mr. Johnston send a letter requesting it be installed or we will look at other options.
3. No Parking/Stop Signs. No Report.

New Business. 1. Meeting Room Lights. The ballast in one of the overhead lights has stopped working. Mr. James has looked at it and suggests we look at hardwiring the light in to the ceiling and replace with LED lights. Council discussed and decided to replace the 6 lights in the meeting room and see how that works, we will decide what to do about the eight lights in the other rooms at a later date. Mr. Foster made a motion to allow up to \$600.00 for six LED light sets, to be installed in the meeting room, Mr. Stein seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein - Yes, Mr. Evans -Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed.

2. Snow Plowing Bill. Ms. Slagle asked Mr. James to review the 2nd bill for plowing. Mr. James said the dates were correct.
3. Building Cleaning. Amy Elmore has sent a note asking Council to consider a raise in salary for cleaning the building. We currently pay \$75.00 to clean it once a month. Council would like to know how many hours it takes her to clean the building each month.
4. PEP Safety Grant. Every year we have the opportunity to apply for a \$1000 safety grant from our insurance. This is a grant that applies to safety equipment or training events. Mr. James stated we could use more mulch at the park. Matt Wolf offered to send us a quote to top off the mulch. He noted he uses Chaney's in Troy for his business.
5. Dumpster Lock. We need to put a lock on the dumpster, per suggestion from the insurance review. Mr. James will contact Rumpke to see about getting this done.
6. Port-a-Johns. Mr. James will speak with Rumpke about getting a handicap unit for at the park again. We ask them to put it out from May 1 through Oct. 31.
7. Event at the Park. Mr. James asked if Council might be interested in holding some kind of event at the park this year. We'll think about this and bring it back up at a later date.
8. Community Garage Sales. Council will encourage participation in the Community Garage Sales the first weekend in June, and also, we want to get a dumpster to set in front of the Village building the week following the garage sales.

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

PERS	\$852.11	AES	\$1067.90
Gretchen Slagle	438.62	Ken James	108.78
Amy Elmore	75.00	Shipman Dixon	390.00
BWC	39.00	Twillio	77.00
Haney's Mowing	4685.00	Jim Stubbs	441.78
Internal Revenue	425.76	Oh Dept of Tax	72.38
School Tax	136.65		

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

