

# Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

May 13,

2024

**Attendees:** Mayor :Ken James, Eric Stein, Mark May, Glen McSparran, Chris Foster, Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer. Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Absent: Monte Evans. Others Present- Robert Presley, Lori James.

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes of the April 11, 2024 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. McSparran made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Stein seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster-Abstain. The motion passed.

**Sheriff's Report:** 1. No Report

**Citizens Comments:** 1. Community Garage Sales. Council agreed to repost on the website, the dates of the garage sales to include Thursday, May 30.

**Solicitors Report:** 1. Davis Voice and Data. Mr. Johnston sent a letter to Davis Voice and Data requesting the water plant have internet installed as per our contract. Davis Voice and Data has not replied.

2. 25 Laura Circle/Rex Property. Mr. Johnston stated that Mr. Rex has been in jail the last 27 days, he was due to be released today. Mr. Johnston did not send a letter yet to Mr. Rex regarding the violation of zoning code for the trailer and camper. He also noted there hasn't been a hearing date set for Mr. Rex. Mr. Johnston said Council would have to consider what the end point for this issue might be, has there been enough progress made cleaning up the property, or would they like to see it completely cleaned. Mr. Johnston stated the Court system would likely act on what Council would consider cleaned up. Council discussed. We have not had any drone pictures taken since the last hearing, we don't know what the back yard looks like. There has been considerable improvement to the front of the property, but what might happen when Mr. Rex is released? Can we ask the court for a review in three months? Mr. Johnston didn't know the answer to that. Mr. Johnston suggested waiting until the next meeting, see what happens to the property and then maybe decide. Council concurred.

3. 8 School Street/Vacant Property. Mr. James asked about getting this vacant property mowed.

4. 129 N. Main Street. Ms. Slagle noted when the water system was installed, there were 2 properties that were exempted from hooking into the Village water system, one of these properties was 129 N. Main St. The property owner was connected to the sewer system when it was put in. The property owner has not paid his sewer bill. Usually the water is shut off for nonpayment of utilities, but since the property is not connected to our water system, we can't prevent his continued use of the sewer system. Is there any way we can get him to pay? Every year in September, we assess any unpaid utilities to the County Auditor, Mr. Johnston stated that may be the best way to collect the unpaid utility amount.

5. 4-Way Stop/Pike and Main Streets. Mr. Foster lives at this intersection and noted the number of cars that don't stop at the 4-way stop sign. We recently has a car flip over on Pike Street, the car had to run the stop sign to be going fast enough to flip over. He would like to figure out a way to help slow cars down, would speed bumps be something that we could consider installing? Mr. Johnston didn't know exact legislation on this, but thought that there were a range of options available, we are a self-ruled entity so we could probably establish some type of deterrent. We could talk to Wagner Paving, they might have some suggestions, we could also hire a consulting firm for some kind of traffic study and they could make some recommendations. We will look into costs of removable speed bumps, and talk to Wagner Paving to see if they might have some suggestions.

**BOPA:** Mr. Stein reported:

1. Smith and Associates Insurance/Septic Discharge. While replacing a light post, the septic discharge for this business was damaged. The light company repaired the line. Mr. Vore was present to see the repair and said they did a good job on the repair.
2. Extension Ladder. There is a shortage of the ladder the Board would like to purchase.

3. Back-Up Generator. No report, Mote and Associates should be moving things along.
4. Leaves at Sewer Plant Gate. The leaves are in the way of completely opening the gate to the sewer plant. Mr. James will work on this.
5. Flow Meter, Shut-Off Lids, No Report.

**Old Business.**

1. Demo/111 Pike Street. No Report.
2. Garage Sales Dumpster. The cost for this is \$601. We will have it the week of June 3-10, or until it is full. The dumpster sits in the street, Mrs. Deere used the fire department's flashing lights to put around the dumpster. Council thought it was a good idea to have the lights. Mr. May made a motion to allow up to \$200 to purchase flashing lights to place around the dumpster. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed. Mr. James will purchase them.
3. Porta Pot/Park. Mr. James has ordered the porta-john, it hasn't been delivered yet. He gave Rumpke Mr. McSparran's contact information, Mr. McSparran hasn't heard anything either. We'll check on it.
4. Water Plant Mowing. There was a misunderstanding with Wolf Property Services, about mowing the water plant. Mr. Wolf didn't realize we had a separate water plant. Mr. James spoke with Mr. Wolf and the plant will be mowed.
- 5.

**New Business.** 1. Vacant Lot/Ludlow Street. A neighbor has been mowing the vacant lot at 108 Ludlow Street. We thought it might be the bank keeping it up. The neighbor told Mr. James they would no longer be mowing the property. Mr. Foster made a motion to have Wolf Property Services mow this lot every two weeks, Mr. Stein seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed.

2. 8 School Street. This property has not been mowed and is very overgrown. Ms. Slagle will send a letter to the owner asking them to mow the property, or we will have it mowed and send them the bill.
3. Crosswalk Striping. We have a quote from Cooper's for \$1680.00 to repaint the crosswalks. Mr. May made a motion to approve this amount for striping, Mr. Stein seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed.
4. Curb Painting. Mr. Foster noted he thought the paint we bought and used to paint a section of the curb in front of his house held up better then the paint the last company used, to paint the curbs through-out town. Council discussed if students were still required to have community service credit, if the county had community service through the court system as mean to possibly get the curbs painted. We'll check into these possibilities.
5. Basketball Rim Nets. One of the nets at the park needs replaced. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve up to \$50 for two nets for the basketball rims. Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed. Mr. James will purchase these when he looks for the lights and cones.
6. PEP Insurance Cyberspace Review. Ms. Slagle met with a representative of our insurance to evaluate our internet security system. They have sent their recommendations. Mr. May will review the list and we'll work on their recommendations.
7. Insurance Costs. Ms. Slagle noted we appropriated \$8400 for insurance, the bill was for around \$9300. She will look into a comparison for costs for this next year.

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

PERS	\$852.11	AES	\$992.39
Gretchen Slagle	431.12	Ken James	108.78
Amy Elmore	90.00	Shipman Dixon	615.00
Twillio	6.23		

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

