

# Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

October 13,

2025

**Attendees:** Mayor: Ken James, Council Members: Mark May, Jackie Knight, Glen McSparran, Chris Foster, Fiscal Officer-Gretchen Slagle, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Absent-Monte Evans, Others Present- Graydon Filburn, Robert Presley

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes of the September 8, 2025 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. May made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. May-Yes, Ms. Knight -Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster -Yes. The motion passed.

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

**Citizens Comments:** 1. Graydon Filburn/503 Ludlow Street. Mr. Filburn stated he spoke with a representative from AES, it was cheaper to use poles to get electric to the new house. He will be running the poles off of Ludlow Street.

**Solicitors Report:** 1. 205 South Main Street. This property has been cleaned up; the fence has also been cleaned up.  
2. Board of Election Seats. Mr. Johnston sent a letter to the Board of Elections, notifying them of the seat Eric Stein vacated. The Board has a different list for the available seats than we have. Mr. Johnston noted we can fill seats according to what the Board of Elections have, or we can fill them according to our list. Ms. Knight will be the only occupied Council seat in January of 2026. Mr. Johnston explained the options for filling seats. In the past, we have followed the procedure for filling unexpired terms as Mr. Johnston suggested.

**BOPA:** 1. BL Anderson. The dialer we purchased has more options than we are using.  
2. The Board wants to Join Ohio Rural Water Association. They can provide guidance and lend equipment that would be beneficial to working on the water tower.  
3. The generator is fueled and tested.  
4. The Board will look at the trees around the water plant and generator to see if any need cut.  
5. Tower and Tank Restoration will be here this Wednesday or next Monday.  
6. Mr. May noted, speaking for himself on the issue of collecting money for a new water tower, the cost for a new tower is growing faster than originally planned for. He would consider raising water rates, as collecting more to help assure we have our share of funds for a new tower, help assure our Village can maintain our independent status.

**Old Business.** 1. Snow Plowing Quote: We have an estimate from M & T Excavating for snow plowing this season. The quote is within the ten percent increase Council approved. Salt cost increased; Council approved the salt costs. Mr. May made a motion to approve M&T Excavating to plow and salt Village streets this year. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. May-Yes, Ms. Knight -Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster -Yes. The motion passed.

2. Solar, Electronic Speed Limit Signs. No Report.  
3. 503 Ludlow Street/AES. See Citizens Comments #1.  
4. Street Sweeping//Leaf Pick-Up/West Milton. West Milton can do Spring cleanup, Mr. Herron will have to see what works for leaf-pick up after the leaves start falling. We'll see about a quote for this. Mr. May made a motion to approve West Milton doing leaf pick-up this year, providing the cost isn't more than 10 % of last year's costs. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. May-Yes, Ms. Knight -Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster -Yes. The motion passed.  
5. Potsdam/Water. We have not been contacted by Potsdam, we'll table this until we hear something.  
6. Phone Hack. Mr. May stated he tightened the settings on the fire wall for the phone.

**New Business.** 1. Trick or Treat. Trick or Treat will be October 30. 6-8pm.

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

|                        |          |                       |          |
|------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| PERS                   | \$852.11 | AES                   | \$822.76 |
| Gretchen Slagle        | 444.87   | Ken James             | 108.78   |
| Amy Elmore             | 90.00    | Shipman Dixon         | 345.00   |
| Wolf Property Services | 460.00   | Rumpke                | 1115.66  |
| Twilio                 | 2.72     | Treasure of State UAN | 7 62.00  |
| Park Credit Card       | 38.68    | Laura Fire Company    | 2831.36  |
| Miami Valley Lighting  | 3172.50  |                       |          |

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

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Kenneth James, Mayor

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Gretchen Slagle, Clerk