

# Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

March 9,

2026

**Attendees:** Mayor: Glen McSparran, Council Members: Angi Deere, Jess McSparran, Jackie Knight, Chris Foster, Fiscal Officer-Gretchen Slagle, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Others Present- Andy Shuman-Choice One Engineering, Robert Presley, Dee Jones.

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes of the February 9, 2026 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mrs. Deere noted a correction to a sentence in New Business #7, to read modify the speed bumps instead of flatten them. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction, Mrs. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mrs. McSparran -Yes, Ms. Knight -Abstain, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

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

**Citizens Comments:** 1. Choice One Engineering/ EPA Water Tower and Aerator WPCLF and WSRLA Project Nomination form. Mr. Shuman had an application that will allow us to apply for grants for the water tower and an aerator at the water plant. Mrs. Deere made a motion to approve Resolution 3-26, to submit an application for consideration for grant monies for a new water tower and a new aerator at the water plant. Ms. Knight seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mrs. McSparran -Yes, Ms. Knight -Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

**Solicitors Report:** 1. No Report

1. Mr. Presley asked about updating our zoning book, there were some typographical errors, and corrections they would like to fix. Mr. Johnston noted he had the means to convert our zoning book from a pdf document to a word document if we would like to do this. He will work on getting us the converted zoning book.

**BOPA:** 1. See Citizens Comments

- Old Business.**
1. Port-a-Jon. We usually put a port-a-jon at the park from May 1 through October 31. Mrs. Deere and Mrs. McSparran will work on contacting Rumpke and setting this up. We have had problems with the pick -update the last few years. Ms. Slagle would like to make sure we have a contract or documentation for these dates.
  2. Solar, Electronic Speed Limit Signs. The application has been submitted.
  3. Speed Bumps. Mrs. Deere provided information about the differences between speed bumps and speed humps. The speed humps are wider and not as tall as a speed bump. Speed humps could act as a cross walk in that area. Council would like to know the cost to modify the speed bumps, and the cost of the existing bumps.
  4. Stop Signs. The stop sign at the 4-way stop has been fixed. We still need do straighten the one in the alley by the Village building, at South Main Street.
  5. Dumpster Key. Mrs. Deere asked if the Fire Department could have access to the dumpster. They help keep trash picked up at the park, but need a place to dump it. We have one key to the dumpster, accessible to all the Village Officials and the water and sewer workers. Council agreed that any official can provide the key, as needed to the fire department to use our dumpster.
  6. Board of Public Affairs/ increase wages. They are going to look at this when they do appropriations

**New Business.** 1. Raises for BOPA members. We would like to wait until we do appropriations to consider this.

2. Mowing 2026. We have a quote from Wolfe Lawn Service for mowing this year. It is very similar to the prices from last year. We also have a quote from Matt Mulholland. Ms. Slagle noted we have used Wolf Lawn Service for a few years and noted if Council wanted to consider someone else for mowing, we should put mowing out for bids. Mr. Foster stated he was happy with Wolf Property Service. Mrs. Deere noted there were issues with weeds and sticker plants under and around some of the equipment last year., which made it hard for kids to play in those areas. We need to keep the grass under and around the equipment weeded or sprayed. Council discussed and agreed to have the mayor talk to Mr. Wolf about keeping the weeds down around the equipment. If Mr. Wolf can't do it, we will look into contacting someone with a license to spray to spray around the equipment.

Mr. Foster made a motion to approve Wolf Property Service to mow the village properties for this year. Mrs. Deere seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Deere-Yes, Mrs. McSparran -Yes, Ms. Knight -Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed. We also need to get a price for mowing vacant properties around town, or other areas that need some attention. We could check with other businesses if Mr. Wolf can't do the extra properties.

3. Town Clean-Up. Mrs. Deere noted there are trees and bushes making their way out into the right-of-way of some of our streets, B Street, School Street, the South end of Main Street, almost out of town. Doug Randolph owns the property along B Street that has vegetation hanging out over the street. The trash truck is hitting these limbs. Ms. Deere would like to send Mr. Randolph a letter asking him to trim and maintain the vegetation along B Street. Ms. Slagle will send the letter. The property at 129 North Main Street has a barn that is falling down on it. Can we do something to get that cleaned up?

4. Village Clean-Up Dumpster. Council discussed having the committee garage sale weekend. Mr. Foster asked if Council had considered providing a dumpster two times a year instead of once. Council discussed ways to help put focus on cleaning up properties and yards. The Fire Department is having an open house, maybe Council could consider doing something like that.

5. SkyMesh Contract. This is the contract for using the water tower for internet service and internet transmission. Ms. Slagle will have this next meeting.

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

PERS	\$852.11	AES	\$2088.71
Gretchen Slagle	444.87	Glen McSparran	106.xx
Amy Elmore	90.00	Shipman Dixon	547.50
M & T Excavating	2360.00	M & T Excavating	960.00
Jim Stubbs	355.66	Sedgwick	215.00
Twilio	2.72	RD Holder	686.45

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