

# LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL

## July 2018 MINUTES

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on July 16, 2018 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Milton Lightfoot, Clerk Mary Price, Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Howell, and Council Members: John Howard, Lisa Howard, Melissa Shawver, John Boyd, and Cindy Price.

Guests present: Richard Holcomb, Kenny Bookman, John Matthew, Clarence Greer, Mary Snyder, Deb Berry, John & Luana Matthew, Dawn Welsh, Diane Evans, Panfil Costea, Jessie Carl, Terri Erwin, Amy Kerr, and several others that names were not obtained.

The Meeting was opened by Mayor Milton Lightfoot with a prayer and a pledge to the American flag.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were approved with a motion by John Howard and a second by Lisa Howard.

**The financial report** was given and bills presented for payment. Melissa Shawver moved to pay the bills with a second by Lisa Howard, motion passed. 2019 Budget was approved with a motion by John Howard and second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed.

**Mayor-** The zero turn mower engine broke down that the Village has and is not worth repairing so a new mower is being researched. The best deal the Village has found is with Parrot Implement to purchase a new mower so it has a warranty and the Village gets a government discount. The mower would come with a 3 yr warrant and could be traded in after that to get another new mower. A motion was made by John Howard to approve the purchase of the mower at Parrott's with a second by Cindy Price, motion passed.

A request from Taryn Runkle to lease the property at 136 School Street has been received that she would like to use it for her dogs. Council had no issues with leasing the property for \$1. Mr. Heiser will be drafting a lease agreement once he returns to the office and the board would like to make sure it covers that she is responsible for mowing and the Village still has right away to the water way.

Agreement with the GPD Engineering Firm was presented for a 19 month period to provide engineering services for the Village. John Howard stated the Village would have a central contact person and specialists on hand that can assist with issues. A motion was made by John Boyd to approve the agreement with a second by Lisa Howard, motion passed.

Phoenix group is now going after a \$150,000 grant for the cleanup of the Village Property on the corner of Vine & High St to cover and hidden costs that may arise. All the required paperwork have been sent to the state.

### **BPA** –

Tyler Howell reported that he has completed all the hours that is needed for his water plant hours and he has submitted his paperwork to EPA.

Richard Holcomb reported an issue at Ridgway Hatchery with a line repair that the customer didn't feel it was their responsibility. The BPA will need to be addressed regarding this matter. Tyler Howell reported that according to the rule & regulations customers are responsible from the curb stop to the property.

Debra Michael expressed her concern with the water and that her husband is handicapped and drank the water during the high chlorine issues. Several other residents expressing their concern and dissatisfaction with cloudy water that smells like chlorine. Tyler Howell reported the plant had issues with the chlorine tank emptying too much chlorine into the system and everything should be straightened out at this point.

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Hydrants were all flushed around town to try and work the heavy chlorinated water out of the system. The cause of the cloudy water was still unknown and will be looked into further by Tyler Howell.

**Ordinance 2018-6** was read for the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading regarding water and sewer rates with an annual 3% increase. Roll call vote was taken with all nays, motion failed.

Communities members expressed they were completely against a water rate increase. Clarence Greer reported on numerous communities that were all lower than La Rue and he could not find a community that was higher. Residents expressed their dissatisfaction with the quality of the water and then the board is going to raise rates.

**Park & Pool** – The pool wanted to have a community party in July but they do not have enough time so they are looking at an end of the season event in August. The insurance company will not cover inflatables for the event so the company that is bringing in the inflatables has added the Village to their insurance policy. The Village’s insurance and solicitor has been contacted and they are both ok with the company adding the Village to their policy for the event.

The park and pool balance is at \$358 so the fundraiser committee that raised money for the pool was asked for assistance. The committee would like a breakdown of all the expenses and income that the pool has had to this point. Amy Kerr expressed she would like to have had more notice that the fund was getting lower. Clerk Mary Price reported that several large bills came in all at once and drained the account balance. The committee offered to pay for the chlorine pump repair, GFS bills, and chlorine.

Jessie Carl reported they had an issue with a pipe blowing apart in the pump house. Tyler Howell reported the pvc pipe broke at an elbow and isn’t an easy repair since the local hardware stores don’t carry the necessary parts but he is working as quickly as possible to repair.

Jessie Carl reported that a woman slipped on the ladder and was drowning in the deep end of the pool. Caitlyn Price was the lifeguard on duty and rescued her. All necessary paper has been filed to document the incident. The Board expressed their thanks that Caitlyn Price took quick actions and handled the situation perfectly.

August 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the close of the pool this season.

**Sheriff** – X

**Maintenance** – X

**Zoning** – X

**Tree Commission** – Still need to remove the tree at the bank and several other trees around town have been torn down already.

**Budget** – 2019 Budget was approved with a motion by John Howard with a second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed.

**Street and Alley** – Montgomery Township would like to chip and seal the entire Section Street on both sides. Council approved the work to be completed by Montgomery. Tyler Howell reported he still needs to patch holes on Front Street.

**Fire & Safety** – Cindy Price reported that 150 days of the year and 151 runs have been completed. The grant for air packs was received.

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**Buildings & Grounds** – Melissa Shawver reported a rental of the municipal building on Sunday and the rental room was extremely dirty from the lunch program. Mayor Lightfoot is going to follow up with Elgin.

**Cable** – X

**Regional Planning** – X

**Old Business:**

Tyler Howell reported he had to attend a pretrial regarding the property at 105 School Street stealing utilities. The judge decided on a figure of \$1000 which came out to a \$61 monthly payment and promise to not tamper with the water again. Tyler Howell reported he spoke with David Fassler about what they needed and the possibility of the Village providing a dumpster to clean up the property. Council doesn't agree with providing a dumpster to cleanup the property with tax payers money. The main issue is the house has been condemned by the health department and the residents are still living there. Cindy Price stated she has called the Health Department and they have just told her to contact the prosecutors office. Lastly Tyler Howell mentioned asking the LCA and Lions Club for donations for the dumpster.

Cindy Price asked how the clean up along Market Street tree lawn was going because she still feels it needs further attention from the water line repair. Richard Holcomb reported he would go back down and check on it.

Tyler Howell was asked when the last time the catch basins were cleaned out and he reported that still needs to be done.

Letter needs to be sent to the property at 375 Section Street regarding ducks on the property.

Catch basin and grate needs to be installed beside Greg Fields property.

**New Business:**

Ordinance 2018-7 was read to approve the resurfacing of 95 with a motion to suspend the rules by John Howard and second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed. A motion was then made to approve the ordinance as written by Melissa Shawver and a second by John Howard, motion passed.

The next regular meeting will be on August 6, 2018 in the Council Room (350 N High Street) at 7:00pm.

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Mayor

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Clerk