

LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL

May 2019 MINUTES

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on May 6, 2019 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Milton Lightfoot, Clerk Mary Price, Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Howell, and Council Members: John Howard, Lisa Howard, David Stallsmith, Connie Kendall, and John Boyd.

Guests present: Richard Spracklen, Kenny Price, Chad Stover, Oscar Holcomb, Dan Hicks, Mary Snyder, Representatives from RCAP, Wendy Crabtree, Danny Moore, Richard Hoover, Jeff Combs, and Alicia Cobb.

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 David Stallsmith and a second by Connie Kendall.

The financial report was given and bills presented for payment. John Boyd moved to pay the bills with a second by John Howard, motion passed.

Mayor –

Family Dollar wants an extension on the original contract to a date of August 31, 2020 for the vacant property uptown. A motion was made by John Boyd to approve the extension to the contract with a second David Stallsmith. The latest report from the Environmental Group is that they are going to put chemicals down the eight test wells due to the polluted water and it should neutralize it. The estimated completion date for the lot cleanup is now possible the summer of 2020.

Mayor Lightfoot went to the solicitor about making the area behind the municipal building a park and Council simple needs to deem it a park by resolution or proclamation.

Mayor presented information about insurance money in an escrow account that has been held for the property at 78 Vine St that burned several years back. When the property burnt, the owner was Rauschers. The insurance company gave the Village \$2,000 from the policy to hold until the property was taken care of after the fire. Rauschers are no longer the owners of property but council all agreed that they should be the ones contacted regarding the money that is still being held.

Tom Tuckers is selling a property along Front Street and is having issues because the house is in the right away and Huntington bank is not approving the sale. Several letters have been sent stating that the road is not going to be widened so it will not be an issue but Huntington is not satisfied with that. The Village's solicitor is still trying to make contact with Huntington Bank to find out what documentation they need to get the sale processed.

Elgin students will be in town for community service on May 23rd.

Land bank is tearing down the house at 139 Vine Street this summer.

BPA –

Ordinance 2019-5 was read declaring the replacement of the water tower an emergency, forego the formal advertising, and bid process. A motion was made by David Stallsmith to suspend the rules with a second by John Howard, motion passed. A motion was then made by John Howard to approve the ordinance as written with a second by Lisa Howard, motion passed with all ayes.

The north well is back up along with the all the filters in RO 1 have been replaced. John Howard wanted to know when the meter at Kiwanis would be replaced and Tyler Howell said it is ready to go once the yard dries out.

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Park & Pool –

Danny's Roofing was present reporting there was some confusion with the work that was performed, and the entire shelter house ended up being roofed. The Village received a quote for half the roof with shingles and another quote for whole roof metal. The insurance company only would cover shingle replacement. Danny assumed after the village got the second quote for whole roof metal we then wanted a whole roof shingled. The cost of the repair was double from what the quote was since he did the whole roof rather than half the roof. Danny reported that he saw some damage on the other side and he will type up a new quote so the Village and submit that to get the additional money covered by the insurance company.

John Boyd reported that Baseball For Youth has been working hard at the park improving the fields. The fence has been repaired, dugouts painted, and dirt hauled in. The Village has contributed to the improvements along with donations from the LCA. The door on the concession stand needs replaced but will not be easy due to the way they originally constructed it.

The septic tank at the park had to be pumped out because it was overflowing. Tyler Howell reported he borrowed Richard Holcomb's honey wagon to pump out the tank since he did not want to put that material into the Village's honey wagon.

Lisa Howard and Connie Kendall are going to pick out a swing set and Mary Price will submit an application to Mid-Ohio Energy for grant money.

Sheriff – X

Maintenance – The dump truck bed needs repaired and weatherized underneath.

Tyler Howell reported that the exterior of the municipal building is in rough shape. The corners of the building are deteriorating and falling apart.

Council approved to have Richard Holcomb jet some tiles throughout town.

John Boyd asked if the catch basins have been cleaned and Tyler Howell reported he cleans them twice a year.

Tyler Howell reported that he traded the Village's enclosed trailer for a road roller.

Zoning – X

Tree Commission – X

Budget – X

Street and Alley – Discussion was held regarding the repaving and maintenance of St Rt 95 and 37. The highways will not be repaved this year. The Village council is concerned because the state is no longer maintaining the highways and the Village does not bring in enough revenue to maintain those roads. John Howard reported he has a conference call with Tracy Richardson coming up and he will be discussing this matter with her at that time.

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Fire & Safety – John Howard reported the fire department is talking to the health department about Hepatitis A vaccines and they will charge \$45 each. The board approved a blanket PO to vaccinate 21 fire department staff. Discussion on the well at the fire station.

Buildings & Grounds –

Cable – X

Regional Planning – X-

Old Business:

Cleanup day May 18th and Cindy Price will take care of Sims and all the advertisement.

New Business:

Chad Stover from Department of Commerce Bureau of Census was present to update on the 2020 census and information regarding the committees that can be used to provide awareness to the community. The census is extremely important for federal funds and other programs use the data. Spreading the word is vital so that each person is counted. A complete count committee can be formed and trained so they become census ambassadors that can help spread the word and reach out to people. August will be the first time that people hired from our area will be out checking and verifying addresses. A Resolution or proclamation will need to be passed to approve a Complete Count Committee. To find out available jobs the following website can be used: 2020census.gov/jobs

Kurtis from RCAP and Scott Jaffee from GPD Engineering were present to discuss the proposed water tower project with Council. RCAP presented that the application was sent to Ohio EPA loan program after the deadline but they accepted it due to the nature of the project. Sometime in mid-May the list will come out stating what all the Village qualified for with the project. The Village could probably expect a 30-year loan at 0%. RCAP made it clear that the Village will not be able get to the project 100% covered with grants and it will be a combination of grant and loan. The Village can go after CDBG grant, which could cover 50% of the project, but the village will be responsible for the rest. Any type of grants the Village goes after like CDBG and OPWC will extend the project construction out further. Going with just the Ohio EPA loan would speed the process up and could be ready for construction in 5 months. RCAPs services are free and they can assist with whatever funding options the village wants. John Howard asked about the location of the new proposed tower and at this point, the plan is to put it on the Village's existing municipal property behind the municipal building. John Howard also asked about if it was feasible to rehab the other tower and no information was available since this was not previously discussed. Rehabbing the existing tower would require a full inspection and approval by EPA and the funding options my change. Lastly, once the Ohio EPA list comes out the Village can see what options they have from there.

David Stallsmith asked if the Village could mulch the pump station beside his house.

Richard Spracklen was present and wanted to know what was going to happen with the alley by the old lumber mill since the project had stopped. The project was stopped because Council was not sure which direction they wanted to take it. Residents brought up several areas of concerns and they felt the project needed to have an engineer evaluate it and proper funding obtained to do it correctly. Mayor Lightfoot stated he granted Tyler Howell permission to start the project along with Richard Holcomb to help move water. John Howard offered to have the area that was dug up filled back in until the Village can obtain proper funding and engineering for the project. Kenny Price wanted to know why a tile along the alley was taken out and Mayor Lightfoot stated he did not know of any tile that was removed. Dan Hicks stated there is a safety hazard with the ditch and the ditch has standing water in it all the time. Lastly,

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Richard Hoover would like to have some cleanup completed in his yard from the materials left over from the project.

The next regular meeting will be held on June 3, 2019 in the Council Room (350 N High Street) at 7:00pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer