

LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL September 2019 MINUTES

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on September 9, 2019 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Milton Lightfoot, Clerk Mary Price, Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Howell, and Council Members: John Howard, David Stallsmith, Connie Kendall, Melissa Shawver, and John Boyd.

Guests present: Dustin Ford, Richard Holcomb, Mary Snyder, Kenny Bookman, Oscar Holcomb, Paul Kerr, two representatives from the fire department.

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 John Howard.

The financial report was given and bills presented for payment. John Howard moved to pay the bills with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed. Additional bill was presented at the meeting from Richard Holcomb for \$4,300 for storm tile repair that approved with a motion by John Howard and a second by Connie Kendall.

Mayor –

Mayor Lightfoot reported he attended a meeting regarding the upcoming census and they are looking at developing a countywide committee rather than each community developing their own committees. The committees are formed to make sure everyone is counted in the census.

Mayor Lightfoot reported he contacted Steve Fox to survey the alley by South Street and it would be 4-6 weeks with a cost around \$300-\$400.

Update on the Tucker's property on Front Street is the Marion Community Improvement Corporation is not meeting until October 20th to approve the sale of the land. The Tuckers would like to get everything done before the end of the month because the buyers they have will have to renegotiate with the bank. Council granted approval to have everything move forward with the Village Solicitor if the Improvement Corporation approves the sale. Connie Kendall asked who is going to be responsible for the legal charges and Mayor Lightfoot stated that Council originally did not decide who would be financially responsible, but he would talk to the Tuckers.

Mayor Lightfoot reported that a public notice would be posted in the newspaper that is required due to the chemicals that will be placed in the ground at 36 N High Street. The chemical being used is a bacterium that will eat away at the contamination.

BPA – Tyler Howell reported that he sealed the driveway at the plant. The Lift station on South Street was vandalized and the county has taken care of it since they manage all the sewer system.

Park & Pool – Tyler Howell reported trimming around the park and the pond has all been completed. The pool has been drained and all the plugs have been removed so it will be ready if Council decides to open it next season. Connie Kendall asked about what all needs to be repaired at the pool and the condition of everything. Tyler Howell reported that the liner is past its life span but still is holding water, newer sand filter that is 4-5 yrs old, pump is brand new, plumbing to the pump is brand new, and the only issue that is known is a leak leading to the pump house under the building. Council discussed advertising for a manager earlier to see if they can find a quality candidate to run the pool and financially what the pool cost the general fund. Council will discuss the pool further to decide if opening it would be an option this coming season.

Sheriff – Mayor Lightfoot passed a call report around for Council to review.

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Maintenance – Estimate to have the dump bed repaired was presented and the cost would be between \$3,000-\$4,000 with J & K Custom Painting & Sandblasting out of Kenton. A motion was made by John Howard to approve the repairs to the dump bed for to \$4,000 with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

Tyler Howell did some research on a new Village vehicle since the current ranger is not running properly and needs to be replaced. A price for a brand new ranger was presented for \$25,305 with a yearly payment of \$4,900. The Village is looking at getting a truck because Tyler Howell reported a van would not meet all his needs. Council would like to do some more research and find a used vehicle with maybe the same payment amount as the dump truck that was just paid off and fewer years.

Tyler Howell reported everything has been jetted on the south end tile except from the section from the catch basin at Applefellers across the Street to Alan Barnes.

Tyler Howell reported the following maintenance items:

- All the catch basins have been cleaned out except two. The only ones that were not cleaned out were the catch basin on the southwest corner of Chestnut and Vine Street and the one in front of OM Roux property because there was a vehicle in the way.
- Six high water signs were installed all around town.
- Bob Howell stained the ramp and steps at the municipal building.
- The brush pile was burned with a year's worth of brush that has been collected.
- The guardrails have all been cleaned around.
- Flags are going to need to be replaced next year they are all getting rough in shape.

Zoning – X

Tree Commission – Kenny Bookman reported that almost all the tree work has been completed. The company is waiting on a new piece of equipment to complete the last tree that needs taken down. Bob Howell has been trimming trees that are hanging low for the tree commission.

Budget – X

Street and Alley – X

Fire & Safety – Going to be getting some information out to help support the 3.9 mil levy on the ballot in November. The levy will help fund 24 hr coverage at the fire station. If the levy passes, the department will ease into manning the station all day. Several grants are being worked on and one Walmart grant for a stair chair was received and will only cost the department \$500. The EMS director came to the station and presented a grant check for \$32,000. Mayor Lightfoot asked how Council could help with the levy and Paul Kerr stated they have flyers and signs that they will be passing out on October 6th.

Question last month was brought up about mutual aid and leaving the Village without any coverage. John Howard stated it was discussed and typically only one unit is sent but the last mutual aid request they asked for two units. The main issue with sending two units out would be the lack of man power present in town. If the Village would have an issue then a unit could have been released and sent back to town so the department does not see an issue in that situation with leaving the Village unprotected.

Buildings & Grounds – X

Cable – X

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Regional Planning – Mayor Lightfoot presented at the last meeting they had a memorial for three of their members. A hotel is going to be built on McMahan Blvd across from Kohl's called My Place Hotel.

Old Business:

John Howard asked what the status of the water tower project was and Mayor Lightfoot responded that we are waiting on EPA design loan approval. The EPA design loan should be approved in October. A historical survey will have to be completed on the land. Paul Kerr asked if any new lines would be installed and Tyler Howell stated just a new line from the tower to connect it to the system.

Connie Kendall asked if they are still on track for the Kiwanis meter replacement and Tyler Howell said Pickens is still scheduled to be here sometime in September.

New Business:

Resolution 2019-3 was read to return the insurance money held at 78 Vine Street to the original property owner. A motion was made to approve the Resolution by John Boyd and a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

An invoice was presented from Richard Holcomb for the storm drain repair on South side of town on High Street. The issue discovered when jetting out the tile was that the sewer line was installed through the storm tile. The sewer line and storm line were both repaired and installed correctly that is why the invoice amount was much higher at \$4,300.

John Howard had a proposal for a project to install a culvert under the driveway at Chris Lowry's property. The State completed the curve project on St RT 37 and installed a new culvert and drainage. The driveway at Chris Lowry's house is hindering water movement from that area to reach the new culvert that was installed. ODOT will coordinate the project and is only requiring the Village to purchase the pipe for the project. The LCA has offered to split the cost of the pipe, which is \$650 with the Village. A motion was made by David Stallsmith to approve the new culvert under Lowry's driveway for \$325 with a second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed.

Connie Kendall reported that the LCA had Deputy Cline come to a meeting and he provided Ordinances that Prospect uses to enforce junk cars and run down properties that are enforceable. The Village has ordinances on junk cars and junk properties, but Connie felt maybe it was time to review and update. Any junk or unlicensed cars around town can be report and a letter will be mailed out. Clerk Mary Price is going to email council the ordinances from Prospect and what La Rue current has to see if any changes need to be made.

Trick or Treat October 31st from 5-6:30.

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

Mayor

Fiscal Officer