

LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL

February 2020 MINUTES

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on February 4, 2020 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Dustin Ford, Clerk Mary Price, Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Howell, and Council Members: Melissa Shawver, Connie Kendall, David Stallsmith, Lance Roberts, and John Boyd.

Guests present: Mary Snyder, Diane Evans, Jeff Winslow, Oscar Holcomb, and Richard Spracklen.

Mayor Dustin Ford opened the Meeting with a pledge to the American flag.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved with a motion by Connie Kendall and a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

The financial report was presented and a motion was made John Boyd to approve the bills with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

Mayor – X

BPA –

Mayor Ford presented an independent contract for RCAP, which outlines their services during the tower project for a maximum of \$20,000 that will all be covered with project grant money. A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to approve the contract with RCAP with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

Ordinance 2020-3 was read to adopt an anti-displacement and relocation assistance program for the Village during the water tower construction. A motion was made by Connie Kendall to suspend the rules with a second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed. A motion was made by Connie Kendall to pass the ordinance as written with a second by Lance Roberts, motion passed.

Resolution 2020-2 was read to allow the Mayor to apply for CDBG funding for the water tower project. A motion was made by Connie Kendall to approve the Resolution with a second by Lance Roberts, motion passed.

Resolution 2020-3 was read to allow the Mayor to enter into a Water Supply Revolving Loan for the water tower project. A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to approve the Resolution with a second by Dave Stallsmith, motion passed.

Tyler Howell reported that there were two line breaks this past month that were repaired.

Diane Evans reported that the Board billed Trillium for 200,000 gallons of water from the grain bin fire out on St Rt 309.

Steve Kendall passed his water certification test and Brad Albert did not show up to take the water test.

Park & Pool – Council just received one resume for the pool manager position and no others for manager or lifeguards. Mayor Ford presented that he does not feel with the current financial situation of the Village it is feasible to open the pool. Diane Evans mentioned that the YMCA is offering the last YMCA class this month so that may be an issue with finding lifeguards at this point. Council further discussed the pool situation and if it was fiscally feasible to open it and with the lack of interest in staffing it. A motion was made by John Boyd to permanently close the pool with a second by Lance Roberts, motion passed. Connie Kendall presented that LCA is currently looking into options for a splash pad at the park. Council continued to discuss the process of how the pool would be abandon and Tyler Howell stated there is equipment that is worth money inside the pump house. The concession stand was brought

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up and if the Baseball for Youth could use the concession stand and purchase the Village's food license to sell hot food. Connie Kendall will contact Baseball for Youth and let them know the situation.

Tyler reported the Thew shelter house supports in the ground need to be repaired / replaced.

Sheriff – Dustin Ford spoke with the Sheriff and they reported that the department is hiring more staff so we may see more coverage in the Village. No report was received for calls.

Maintenance – Tyler Howell reported the Ranger sold for \$1700.

Tyler Howell presented he talked with Dick Holcomb about the Lumber Yard alley and the two of them believe it would be a good idea to fill the area in with riprap and top dress it with 2 & 3s to work it like a french drain system. The original plan was to install a tile. Council did not make any decisions on the project at this time.

Tyler Howell brought up the dirt pile behind Rauscher's property and what exactly Council would like him to do with it. The area needs to have a drain or something installed to help the water move across South Street. Currently where the dirt pile is located, water is now sitting in the ditch area. Richard Spracklen stated there originally was a plan to install a tile that ran to Market Street along with another backflow device but the project would be costly. Additionally the alley needs paved or something to prevent wash out then let the water flow from Market Street to South Street. Council discussed numerous options with tiling and abandoning South Street all to help water move through the area. The main issue at this point is the dirt pile needs addressed. Council has tabled the discussion at this point.

Little area at the municipal building was vandalized and the camera footage showed who did it so they have been contacted to clean it up.

Zoning – X

Tree Commission – X

Budget – X

Street and Alley – Dustin Ford presented the Village rolled permissive tax money over this year. The commissioners stated that permissive tax money could be used towards the village portion of a grant. Connie Kendall presented that Evelyn Cummings and Ken Lengieza will be at the next LCA meeting and Council is encouraged to come to discuss projects.

Tyler Howell reported he put 1 ½ ton down on the roads of asphalt for patching.

Tyler Howell reported that the signs on the edge of town are getting rough looking, he talked with the Lions Club, and they donated \$100 to clean them up. Lions Club stated they approached all the organizations to replace the signs previously and only had a couple that replied. Tyler Howell is going to update the signs and remove the old signs that are not readable.

Tyler Howell presented a list of all the street signs and stop signs that need purchased throughout town. The price through Marion County and Kleem is the same price however, Dustin Ford stated if the County has it in stock then shipping costs would be saved.

Tyler Howell reported he put a lot of work into cleaning catch basins but the following are not draining and need jetted: Basin in front of OM Roux, Section and Vine Street, Vine and Chestnut Street

Holcomb will charge \$200 to bring equipment in and \$100 per hour to jet the lines.

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Tyler Howell reported that every year the Board needs to appoint a street commissioner. A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to make Tyler Howell the street commissioner with a second by Dave Stallsmith, motion passed.

Fire & Safety – Lance Roberts reported the fire department agreed to purchase a new ambulance for \$224,000 and should arrive in May. To stock the ambulance it will be \$113,000, which will be covered by many grants. The department has two fire fighters on 12 hr shifts and in a couple months 24 hr coverage. They talked about the feed mill fire and reported 25 members currently with three more possible. Majority of calls are EMS and the department only gets paid when the insurance covers the call. The money from the EMS call will be enough to cover the new ambulance. John Boyd expressed his concern with La Rue and New Bloomington being low income and the cost of the fire station with all the levies.

Tyler Howell reported he talked with Butch Winslow about the alley by the fire station needing to be repaired. The fire department is going to discuss if they could allocate money to help with the project.

Buildings & Grounds – X
Regional Planning – X

Old Business:

Dustin Ford updated on the 4-wheeler situation that after talking with the sheriff the 4-wheeler is not street legal and the only license you can get is for a state park.

New Business:

Following letters need to be sent:

1. Evan Trigg on South street needs a letter regarding 4 wheelers
2. Demoris Brown needs letters for unlicensed vehicles
3. Cody Lowe needs a letter for unlicensed and junk cars
4. Property on the corner of Front and Market have a trailer that is parked on the right away

Dustin Ford presented that the grate area on Front and Market Street needs to be repaired so a quote needs to be obtained to fix the area.

Tyler Howell reported he needs his yearly evaluation, which should have happened back in July.

Council discussed Tyler Howell's yearly reviewed if it based off his hire date (July) or off his last pay raise (February). Council agreed to fill out an evaluation form that will be sent to them by Mary Price and go over his review at the next regular meeting. The current personnel policy needs to be reviewed and updated. Last February Council voted to give Tyler a raise to \$50,000 with a yearly 5% with a good evaluation. Council talked about giving Tyler 1 day a week off and having Steve Kendall come in and complete the chemical testing. Long term a solution needs to be figured out for coverage at the plant and Tyler taking time off. Currently with Tyler being salary, he does not get comp time so he usually makes up for all the overage by working less in Jan, Feb, and March. Council did not make any decisions and will review everything at the next meeting after completing the evaluation form.

The next regular meeting will be held on March 2, 2020 in the Council Room (350 N High Street) at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn by Melissa Shawver with a second by Lance Roberts, motion passed.

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Mayor

Fiscal Officer