

LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2020 MINUTES

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on September 14, 2020 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Dustin Ford, Clerk Mary Price, Tyler Howell, and Council Members: Connie Kendall, Melissa Shawver, Lance Roberts, and John Boyd.

Guests present: Diane Evans, Cindy Price, Brian Blair, Dave McKinniss

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 Melissa Shawver and a second by John Boyd, motion passed.

The financial report was presented and a motion was made Connie Kendall to approve the bills with a second by Lance Roberts, motion passed.

Mayor – Mayor Ford reported that the park does not look very good and has weeds growing up all around so he decided to no longer use Ric's Landscaping to mow. Bob Howell is going to be mowing the Village properties the remainder of the season. Mayor Ford reported that they would be getting estimates for the cost to trade the John Deere mower in for something larger.

Mayor Ford stated that he has been given direction that The Village could send a letter to the prosecutor's office regarding James Monk's property. Clerk Mary Price will be typing up a letter that Mayor Ford will be sending into the prosecutor to try to get them to move on selling the property.

BPA – Tyler Howell reported the Vine Street project was completed and five valves ended up being replaced. During construction an additional valve was located that needed to be replaced so it was done and the Village will be responsible for around \$500 since the grant money was all used.

Tyler Howell reported on the water tower that they have been working on the concrete footers and moving forward there will not be much action because they will be building off site.

Tyler Howell reported the Water Board provided paint to the fire department and they will be painting the hydrants.

Maintenance – Tyler Howell reported that the catch basin on High St across from the municipal building seems to be too so small and cannot get rid of the water fast enough. He reported that J-Lenco added a couple holes to the lid and going to monitor it to see if it helps move the water.

A new catch basin lid is going to be installed at 180 S High. Tyler Howell stated the Board might incur some minimal cost from Holcomb like 1-2 hours to dig up the basin because it is probably set in concrete.

Tyler Howell reported he has picked up 25 loads of brush since the last meeting.

Tyler Howell reported that he painted around the Village building up town, painted catch basins downtown, rebuilt South Street from the millings at the park, built a tank to water grass seed around town, and Chestnut Street had patching done because it was donated by leftover materials from Columbia Gas.

Sidewalk in front of Charlie Craig's house needs repaired and a tile installed to eliminate the issue. Melissa Shawver motion to complete the work on the sidewalk and the work not to exceed \$500 with second by Connie Kendall, motion passed

LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 2020 MINUTES

A motion was made Melissa Shawver to purchase a new chain saw no more than \$400 with second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

Park & Pool – Mayor Ford reported that he had someone ask about the lounge chairs at the pool. The chairs are currently being stored in the pool house. The Board is not interested in selling them at this time because they may be able to use them if the splash pad is built. Mayor Ford asked Tyler Howell to move the chairs to the municipal building for storage.

It was reported that Baseball for Youth allowed Elgin School to use the bleachers at the park without the Village's knowledge and changed the locks on the concession stand bathrooms. Connie Kendall is going to contact Baseball for Youth, talk with them about the issues, and see if they can attend a Council meeting to discuss everything. Baseball for Youth stated they are paying an electric bill at the park and The Village is not aware which one they are paying because there are 2 meters at the park and the Village is paying both of those bills.

Tyler Howell reported that over the weekend, the Thew shelter house was repaired and Council is thinking it could be The Lion's Club. Council discussed donating some park money to the Lion's Club if they are the ones that repaired the shelter; more information is going to be gathered.

Sheriff – X

Zoning – X

Tree Commission – No updates on Arbor Day Ceremony and if Council will be planting a tree.

Budget – X

Street and Alley – Mayor Ford presented that the state wants to repair guardrails in town and Melissa Shawver made a motion to approve the work with **Resolution 2020-13** and a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

Fire & Safety – Dave McKinniss was present to talk with Council representing the Scioto Valley Fire Department regarding the Cares Act and money that is available. Dustin Ford brought up that the Village is eligible for \$19,023 and that the Village could use the money for businesses in town that had expenses directly related to Covid. The Village could also gift the money directly to the fire department for the expenses that they have been incurring. Businesses in town will need to provide documentation for Covid expenses directly and the Fire Department will be a different process. Mayor Ford stated he wants to see the money used in the community because if it is not used then it goes back and Marion County can use it.

Lance Roberts reported that Grand Townships does not want to contribute finically to the Fire District so Scioto Valley Department is trying to work out the situation.

Buildings & Grounds – X

Regional Planning – X

Old Business:

Connie Kendall asked about the dump truck bed situation and Tyler Howell stated that it is still an issue and could be a problem with leaf pickup. The previous quotes received were \$9000 for a steel bed and \$12,000 for stainless steel. Council all agreed that the repair needs to be done and to replace the bed

LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 2020 MINUTES

rather than patching it. A motion was made by John Boyd to replace the bed with stainless steel to not exceed \$13,000 with a second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed.

Dustin Ford reported on the vacant lot cleanup that Phoenix Environmental has submitted paperwork to EPA for final approval and release of the property.

New Business:

Cindy Price and Brian Blair were present to talk with Council about the upcoming election in November. Absentee ballots are now being accepted and the deadline is October 31st. A new drop box is now available at the County building and updates are all available on the Board of Elections website. Early voter registration starts on October 6th at 240 West Church St and in person voting will still be taking place on Election Day.

Council discussed David Price's property on Price Street and that it needs to be cleaned up.

Letters will be sent to 40 N Section Street for mowing and 455 Vine St for an unlicensed car.

Ordinance 2020-5 was read to hire Michael Swartz as the Village's solicitor at \$125 per hour with a motion to suspend the rules by Melissa Shawver and second by Connie Kendall, motion passed. A motion was made by Connie Kendall to approve the Ordinance with a second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed.

The next regular meeting will be held on October 5, 2020 in the Council Room (350 N High Street) at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn by Melissa Shawver with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer