

LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL

March 2021 MINUTES

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on March 1, 2021 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Dustin Ford, Clerk Mary Price, Tyler Howell, and Council Members: Connie Kendall, Melissa Shawver, John Howard and John Boyd.

Guests present: Diane Evans (Board of Public Affairs) and Brian Lightfoot

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

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

Mayor – Dustin Ford reported that the new lawn mower has been ordered.

An email was received from Jerry Lee's lawyer regarding the Dollar Store property stating that the buyer waves all contingencies in the contract and will move forward with the purchase. Per the contract now that all contingencies have been waved then the property will need to close within 30 days, which starts on February 28th.

BPA –

Ordinance 2020-6 was read for the third reading for the proposed \$3.50 rate increase for the water base rate to cover the water tower expenses. The new base rate will increase from \$35.00 to \$38.50 per month and will take effect April 2021. A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to approve ordinance 2020-6 as written with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed with 4 yes and 1 no vote and 1 absent member.

The tower is all the way installed and the final welds still need to be completed. A phone conference was held during the last BPA meeting and it was decided to paint the tower KC Blue and white La Rue lettering. The line crews are working on the line installation and they have the valve installed and it appears they are installing a hydrant.

The north well has been cleaned and one set of ROs have been replaced at the water plant. The Board has approved for the south well to be cleaned and the other set of ROs have been ordered. A water leak is somewhere in the system since Friday and it has not been located. RCAP and EPA have been contacted to get someone to locate the leak but nothing can be done until the ground water moves out.

Craig from Access engineering is working on an application to the EPA to try and get grant money to overhaul the water plant with a different type of filtering system that would cut the Board operating cost.

Maintenance – Tyler Howell reported that he plowed snow all month and the plow did great.

Park & Pool – X

Sheriff – X

Zoning – X

Tree Commission – X

Budget – X

Street and Alley – Tyler Howell reported that he was unable to find any cold mix for street patching so the only option is bag mix or wait until they start making it. The bag mix is \$11.88 for a 50-pound bag. A motion was made by John Howard to purchase 40 bags of cold mix for street patching with a second by

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Connie Kendall, motion passed. Tyler Howell is going to contact the state again to make sure they do not have any mix before he purchases the bags.

Tyler Howell reported he is going to start purchasing the Village's salt from the County, which will cost \$53 for 3 tons compared to Johnson's charging the Village \$400.

Fire & Safety – X

Buildings & Grounds – X

Regional Planning – X

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Brian Lightfoot was present from the masonic lodge and they are currently meeting above the grocery store and having issues with the property owner. The grocery store owner is taking the lodge to court this coming week with an eviction notice. They are looking at other options because they feel they have always taken care of their responsibilities with the lease they have for usage of the building. The roof is leaking in the store but it is not leaking in the lodge area and the owner is requiring the lodge to replace it. The lodge meets twice per month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday. Council all felt it would be fine for the lodge to utilize the municipal building if they need a new space to meet.

Connie Kendall reported that she has contacted two trees companies that will be in town to give quotes on the tree work that needs taken care of around the Village. A list of trees that need attention was compiled last year with the Village's arborist, Lisa Bowers.

Connie Kendall reviewed a list that was composed of 2020 Village accomplishments along with 2021 goals (Document attached).

One item that was discussed was that Adam Ireys' property on High Street is a safety hazard and the sidewalk needs to be blocked until something is done. Dustin Ford is going to contact the prosecutor again regarding Ireys' building. Tyler Howell stated that he noticed a brick area on the Village's building needs to be looked at so James Doss is going to be contacted for an inspection.

The personnel policy document will be tabled until next month's meeting.

A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to adjourn the meeting with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed. Next meeting will be April 5, 2021 @7pm.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer