

# LARUE VILLAGE COUNCIL

## April 2021 MINUTES

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on April 4, 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, Lance Roberts, David Stallsmith, and John Boyd.

Guests present: Diane Evans Board of Public Affairs representative

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 David Stallsmith and a second by John Howard, motion passed.

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

### **Mayor** –

Mayor Ford reported the new mower has arrived and Bob Howell has mowed a little with it and it rides smoother than the previous mower.

Mayor Ford has been working with the lawyer for the closing of 36 N High Street property and it should be closing on 4/9/21 with Jerry Lee.

Mayor Ford reported that the maintenance man for the library called and wanted to give the Village the keys, but nothing is official that the library is closing. The library director has not been in contact with anyone regarding the library officially closing. Council discussed moving the Council room to the library space if they can get control of it. John Boyd expressed his concern with the library space being small in addition, no large town meetings could held there along with the condition of the building being old. Council discussed the concern with The Lodge just moving into the current municipal building and the quilting club that uses a room. The current municipal building cost around \$300-\$400 in monthly utilities along with maintenance.

Council all agreed to send flowers to the funeral home for Kenny Bookman that passed away. In addition, Council thought that the next tree that is planted by the Village could be in his memory.

**BPA** – Tyler Howell reported that both wells have been cleaned and all membranes in both ROs have been replaced. The mysterious leak was found on North Street at Renee Davis's vacant property.

**Maintenance** – Tyler Howell reported at the River and Front backflow device there was a logjam that was removed.

**Park & Pool** – Council decided to tear down one set of swings behind the municipal building on the playground and several other repairs to the equipment will be done.

Tyler Howell reported on some issues at the park with the plumbing and some repairs that need to be completed. Repairs needed:

- Door frame on the concession stand needs replaced (quote being obtained)
- Water main needs rerouted
- Water heater needs replaced
- Lattice replaced on a shelter structure
- Plumbing through park needs fixed
- Walking path needs weeds sprayed
- The wood holding the guard rails need to be replaced they are rotting

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- Sewer system at the park needs to be repaired because it is not functioning properly

Baseball for Youth asked if the Village would donate dirt again for the fields. A motion was made by John Howard to donate dirt to the fields for \$400 with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed. A motion was made by John Howard to approve up to \$2,500 at the park for repairs with a second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed.

**Sheriff** – X

**Zoning** – X

**Tree Commission** – Tyler Howell reported the trees up town have all been trimmed. Connie Kendall reported on proposed tree work that needs to be done around town along with three quotes for the work. A list of the proposed work is attached. Council all agreed that any trees that would be removed should have the stump ground down. A motion was made by John Howard to approve the hiring of JT Tree Service for \$9,600 along with the cost to grind stumps with a second by Lance Roberts, motion passed.

**Budget** – X

**Street and Alley** – Tyler Howell reported potholes were patched this past month and it is time to purchase asphalt. A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to approve up to \$500 for asphalt to patch streets with a second by John Howard, motion passed.

**Fire & Safety** – John Boyd wanted Lance Roberts to find out more information about why the Scioto Valley Fire Department did not respond to a mutual aid call on Sunday for a house fire.

**Buildings & Grounds** – X

**Regional Planning** – X

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

John Boyd read a newspaper article about a town that is coming down on properties that are nuisances and he feels La Rue needs to put pressure on properties in town to clean things up. Mayor Ford brought up about sending the Village's nuisance building ordinance to the solicitor and see if it has the authority needed to enforce it since it was passed in 2012. Additional ordinances will be sent to the solicitor for review like the unlicensed vehicle, weed control, and noise ordinance.

A motion to adjourn by Melissa Shawver with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed. Next meeting will be May 3, 2021 at 7pm.

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Mayor

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Fiscal Officer