

La Rue Village Council Meeting May 3, 2021

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on May 3, 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: Jeff Winslow, Mr. & Mrs. Kasotis, and Doug Shawver (Board of Public Affairs Representative)

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

Minutes: The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved with a motion by John Howard and a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

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

Joann Kasotis was present to pass the Resolutions for the park renewal levy. John Howard brought up the discussion about if the levy is necessary since the pool is no longer in operation and the general fund has the funds now to support the park maintenance. Mr. Howard felt it would be a good gesture to the community to not renew the levy and give back a little when the opportunity is available. Council talked about the expenses of the park area and if the general fund could support them. Some Council members were concerned and were in favor of keeping the levy because of the park area around the municipal building with the things that could be done. A motion was made John Howard to let the park and pool levy expire with a second by John Boyd, 4 ayes and 2 nays, motion passed.

Mayor – X

BPA – Water tower is being sand blasted and primed along with the interior has been completed.

Lance Roberts asked about the fire hydrant in front of the Methodist Church and Tyler Howell reported the supplies are ready just waiting on Holcomb to come and dig it up.

Maintenance – Tyler Howell reported that the Village can no longer use the Duet brand mosquito spray since it has been outlawed for use. The two options would be a whole new type of machine or switch to a different chemical. A new machine doesn't seem reasonable at this point. The new mosquito spray that can be used will cost \$275 per gallon vs previously it cost \$235 per gallon. Typically, the Village uses 10-15 gallons of mosquito spray in a season. If the Village of New Bloomington still wants sprayed then the \$400 charge may need to go up based on the supply cost increase. May 19th the sprayer will need to be taken down to have it calibrated.

Tyler Howell reported that several tiles need to be jetted on the southeast corner of High and South Street along with Vine Street catch basins. Holcomb charges \$150 per hour to jet tiles. A motion was made by John Howard to have Holcomb come jet tiles up to \$750 budget with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

Tyler Howell reported that Council needs to figure out how they want curbs to be maintained and swept. The cheapest solution is another brush and use the leaf vac to suck up the materials that are collected. The expensive route would be a street sweeper truck. John Boyd mentioned a piece of equipment that brooms the curb and moves it into a holding container that then can be dumped. More research is going to be done and see what options are available for street sweeping and maintaining curbs.

Park & Pool – Tyler Howell reported on all the repairs that were completed at the park and Mr. Doss is going to give a quote for the door repair on the concession stand by the baseball fields.

Tyler Howell reported that ODNR has grant programs available for docks. John Howard made a motion to allow Tyler Howell to work with ODNR to get a dock for the pond through the grant program with a second by Melissa Shawver, motion passed.

A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to get stone for the cleaned-up area by the pond up to \$400 with a second by John Howard, motion passed. Council still would like to fill in the pool at some point.

Connie would like to look into a nature works grant for playground equipment for the area by the municipal building. The one-piece unit playgrounds need a whole foundation installed along with drainage lines. The LCA has Marion Area Foundation money that they have received for green space and they could assist with the project and possible the 25% match for the nature works grant. The Village's deadline for the nature works grant is June 1st. Discussion was held that maybe LCA could use Foundation grant money for one part of the project and the Village could apply for nature works grant money for the other part. Basically, the foundation laying and equipment goes together and we would need all the information like dollar amounts and sizing before applications can be submitted. Council would like to move forward and apply for the nature work grant. There are still a lot of unknowns with the project with what equipment should be purchased and who is going to design everything for the project. Connie Kendall is going to find out from Nature Works how much detail needs to be included in the application so Council can see if an application can be submitted before June 1st. Dustin Ford is going to call Craig from the Axes Engineering to ask him some questions.

Tyler Howell reported that it is very dark at the park when the baseball field lights are turned off because all the security lights don't work anymore since the pool meter was shut off. A new directional light could be installed to allow better lighting for the parking lot at the park. The municipal building needs another parking lot light installed for better coverage as well. John Howard made a motion to have AEP install two directional lights at the park and municipal building with a second Connie Kendall, motion passed.

Council all agreed to keep treating the pond to prevent it from being brown.

Sheriff – X

Zoning – X

Tree Commission – A motion made by John Howard to increase the tree appropriation budget to \$13,000 with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed. The increase will cover the tree work that was completed throughout the town this year.

Budget – X

Street and Alley – Dustin Ford reported that St Rt 37 on the curve is in very rough shape so the state is willing to fix the area if the Village pays for the materials for approximately \$1,500-\$2,000. A motion was made by Lance Roberts to allow the state to repair the curve with a second by John Howard, motion passed.

Fire & Safety – Lance Roberts reported a special fire board meeting will be held on May 5th and regular monthly meeting will be held on the 2nd Wednesday.

Buildings & Grounds – Dustin Ford reported that the library representative came to the LCA meeting and tried to blame the Mayor for the closing of the library. Nothing is clear with what exactly is happening with the library and the Village still does not have the keys. The library will not confirm if they are closing permanently.

Regional Planning – X

Old Business:

A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to move forward with direct deposit for payroll with a second by John Howard, motion passed. The following are the fees for the direct deposit with Richwood Bank:

- Business Online Banking Portal \$10 per month and ACH \$15 per month
 - * free business bill pay
 - * unlimited users
 - * customized access for each user
 - * \$3 per file (each time you submit your payroll)
 - * \$0.10 per person or \$0.20 if having to use the same day option
 - * You can also pay or pull funds from whomever (for example, a landscaping business can pull funds from their clients or they can pay the employees)

Resolution 2021-4 was read by Dustin Ford for the Village to join the Cooperative Purchasing Program. A motion was made by John Howard to approve the resolution and join the program with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed. The program will allow the Village to purchase items and equipment at a discounted state pricing.

John Howard brought up about cleanup day and he thinks Council should look into some form of a cleanup day rather than bringing in dumpsters. Discussion was held about using a contractor to pick up trash that residents could put out on the curb on a designated date. John Howard will contact some contracts and get more information with pricing and availability.

Community garage sale day June 5th

New Business:

Council discussed the Fiscal Officers pay and it was reported that the last raise Mary Price received was in 2012 in the amount of \$18,000. A motion was made by Melissa Shawver to increase Fiscal Officer Mary Price's pay to \$25,000 as long as the BPA approves with a second by John Boyd, motion passed.

John Howard asked council if they would interested in letting J Lenco rent the Village's tractor for some parking lot cleanup they need to complete. John Boyd expressed that he doesn't want anyone else running the equipment. Council all agreed that Tyler could operate the tractor and just charge J Lenco for the time spent. Tyler Howell mentioned that there was possible an agreement made about some plowing so that situation needs to be look into further.

LCA and Fire Department will be hosting a Fall Bang October 8 & 9th.

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

Mayor

Fiscal Officer