

## **La Rue Village Council Meeting September 14, 2023**

The La Rue Village Council met in regular session on September 14, 2023 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Dustin Ford, Clerk Mary Price, Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Howell, and Council Members: David Stallsmith, John Howard, Lance Roberts, and John Boyd.

**Guests present:** Mary Snyder, Pam Holcomb, and Diane Evans (BPA representative)

**Opening:** Mayor 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 John Howard to approve the bills with a second by John Boyd motion passed.

**Mayor** – Mayor Ford reported that Judy Cobb’s lawyer sent 2 letters to the Village. One letter addressed a public records request wanting a copy of the Village’s liability insurance and then the second letter wanted the Village to take action. Mary Price reported that she satisfied the records request and made sure Eddie Bibler was copied on everything.

### **BPA – X**

**Maintenance** – Tyler Howell reported that they’ve hauled 12 loads of brush, 2 ton of asphalt was used to patch holes, St Rt 95 patch has been completed, rough mowed the school & lagoons one last time this year, graded down by the Davis Ditch, seeded the flood wall, backflow device arrived so Richard was working on that, and the new playground has been completed. AEP is going to be contacted because a new light needs to be installed to shine towards the playground since there are no lights in that area.

**Park** – Tyler Howell reported some issues with people throwing picnic tables into the pond so the sheriff was contacted and moving forward anyone caught should be charged.

A list of items has been requested by Baseball for Youth as follows:

- 10-20 ton of Washington Ball Mix
- Touch up dug out paint
- Stand up popcorn machine
- Rules & regulations sign needs updated
- Front field fencing needs replaced in a couple areas
- Back stop fencing needs replaced
- Perforated pipe along to fencing
- Electric box overheating

Follow-up – Mayor Ford will contact K & L regarding the electric issues, Tyler Howell will contact Tackett fencing for a quote, Mayor Ford will contact the sheriff’s office to see if the inmate program can come out and help paint at the park.

**Sheriff** – X

**Zoning** – X

**Tree Commission** – Council decided to plant a buckeye tree at the park outside of town.

**Budget** – X

**Street and Alley** – Tyler Howell reported after he completed some asphalt patching that Front Street needs to be repaved because it’s deteriorating so badly and an area needs to be addressed in the parking lot at 350 High Street in front of the garage.

Tyler Howell brought up the the issue in front of Diane Evans driveway and it needs dug out so it can be investigated and the line jetted. Council agreed to contact Richard Holcomb to complete that work. Mayor Ford presented that if Mr. Holcomb does not complete the work in a timely manner he has another contact that is willing to complete the work.

**Fire & Safety** – X

**Buildings & Grounds** – X

**Regional Planning** – X

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Rex Aranyosi was present from Alternative Energy Source to discuss the Village’s electric bills and contracting with another supplier to lower the cost. Pricing proposals with different rates and time frames were presented to the Board. John Howard made a motion to agree to contract with Dynegy Energy for 48months @ \$0.05930 per Kwh with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed. Mr. Aranyosi stated he could also look at the Village’s Columbia Gas invoices.

A motion was made by John Howard to hold trick or treat for all years moving forward to be held on the Saturday preceding Halloween from 5-6:30pm with a second by Lance Roberts, motion passed.

Mary Snyder had a concern with a tree in front of her house and one across the street needs to be investigated due to deterioration. The Village’s Tree Company will be contacted to come in town to look at the trees.

Pam Holcomb was present and wanted an update on the demolition of the burnt buildings up town. Council informed her that the Village doesn’t own the buildings so they are unable to tear them down.

Ordinance 2023-3 was read to approve the annexation of property located at 516 & 552 Section Street into the Village with a motion to suspend the rules by John Howard and second by David Stallsmith, motion passed. A motion to approve the Ordinance as written by David Stallsmith and a second by John Howard, motion passed.

An update on the playground was presented and Council felt that the Lion’s Club needs to be credited for their part in the playground construction.

A motion to adjourn by John Howard and a second by Lance Roberts motion passed. Next meeting will be October 2, 2023 at 7:00pm.

---

Mayor

---

Fiscal Officer

