

LaRue Village Council Meeting April 1, 2024

The LaRue Village Council met in regular session on April 1, 2024 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Dustin Ford, Clerk Mary Price, Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Howell, and Council Members: Connie Kendall, Andrew Trihaft, John Boyd, Maria Ford, and John Hickman.

Guests present: See attached sheet

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 Connie Kendall and a second by Maria Ford, motion passed.

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

Public Meeting:

Craig Mescher was present to hold a public meeting to discuss the county funding for potential Village projects (\$700,000 potential funding). Residents had the option to fill out surveys and the results showed residents want streets repaired as #1 priority, #2 priority streets, and #3 sidewalks. St Rt 37 project 1st phase is still moving forward and additional funding will be available for the next phase in 2 more years. A new outlet to the river will be installed during construction and it was mentioned a backflow needs to be installed. The fire department asked about if an additional fire hydrant could be installed downtown during the construction of St Rt 37. Aqua water will be notified prior to construction if they want to replace and water lines. Looking to bid the project in December 2024 / January 2025 and construction will be in 2025.

Craig Mescher reported that he talked with Evie at Regional Planning about a separate pot of money for demolition. The top priority for properties to demo would be the burnt buildings on High Street. The application is due June 15th so the Board doesn't know if they can use the demo money on the burnt property since the Oates building has not been settled in court and ownership would be tricky.

Mayor – Mayor Ford presented pictures of the storm drain at the intersection of School & High Street. The storm drain is slow to drain every time it rains and its unknown where it goes under the ground. B.L. Excavating Services provided a quote for \$5,500 for new installation of a storm drain and then asphalt work afterwards. Additionally, \$2,400 quote was received for in front of Diane Evans house where the road is sinking. A motion was made by John Hickman to approve both projects and a second by Andrew Trihaft, motion passed.

BPA – Diane Evans reported that the Board is working on making a maintenance plan for the sewer system.

Maintenance – Tyler Howell reported that the asphalt roller sold at auction, he put down a ton of patch mix, sewer board paid to have 9 blowouts repaired at the lagoons, 15 stone installed at the alleys, 30 ton of stone installed at the park, bridge at the park was repaired, fencing at the park was repaired, and curbs were cleaned up through town.

Park – Connie Kendall reported on the discussion that is being held about installing bathrooms at the park on High Street. At this point temporary porta toilets will be brought for this year until another solution can be drafted.

Sheriff – X

Zoning – X

Tree Commission – X

Budget – X

Street and Alley –

Fire & Safety – Andrew Trihaft reported that the LCA needs to make sure the food trucks at the modular during the eclipse all have their food licenses and the fire department will be fully staffed.

Buildings & Grounds – X

Regional Planning – X

Old Business:

New Business:

Michael Fields reported that the property where the old hardware store was torn down didn't have dirt put down it was more of a clay material and he was concerned about it and suggested a keep off sign. Mayor Ford reported the County still owns that property.

Resolution 2024-2 was read to set Tyler Howell's Salary account breakdown (26.5% General, 26.5% Street, 40% Water, and 7% Sewer). A motion to suspend the rules was made by Connie Kendall and a second by John Hickman, motion passed. Connie Kendall made a motion to approve the resolution as written with a second by John Hickman, motion passed.

Next Meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2024.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer