

## LaRue Village Council Meeting August 12, 2024

The LaRue Village Council met in regular session on August 12, 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, Maria Ford, John Hickman, David Stallsmith, and John Boyd.

**Guests present:** Becky Speakman, Diane Johnson, Judy Cobb, Diane Evans, Dan Downs, Jennifer Conroy, Craig Hibner, and Mary Snyder

**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 David Stallsmith and a second by John Hickman, motion passed.

**The financial report** was presented and a motion was made Andrew Trihaft to approve the bills with a second by Maria Ford, motion passed.

**Mayor** – X

**BPA** – X

**Maintenance** – Tyler Howell reported 38,000 pounds of junk was removed on the clean-up days. The new style of clean-up day was costlier and more labor intensive for Tyler Howell, but seemed to have better results. The lawn mower is up for trade in so Tyler Howell would like to demo some mowers this fall. Night at the Museum will be held in the building beside the bank that Doss owns on October 24th.

**Park** – X

**Zoning** – X

**Sheriff** – X

**Street and Alley** – X

**Tree Commission** – Council discussed what tree they would be planting this year and they decided on a maple tree by the t-ball field.

**Budget** – X

**Fire & Safety** – Andrew Trihaft reported some information on the tornado siren and having the ability to turn it on remotely. The surrounding townships are looking at getting mailbox signage.

**Buildings & Grounds** – X

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Diane Johnson was present to speak with Council about Christmas in the Village and get the event back to how it was originally. She would like to hold the event and have everything free like it use to be and she has received permission to utilize the dollar start parking lot. She would like to hold the event on a Thursday in December and would like permission to close the street in front of Coonie. Council had no issue with the event and closing the street. Ms. Johnson wanted to know the status of the burnt building and Mayor Ford reported that they are working with the Land Bank and the Village's engineering firm to try and secure funds. Additionally, the status of the lot beside Coonie's was asked about and Mayor Ford stated he would contact Regional Planning.

Danny Downs was present to discuss the burnt property and he would like the Village to commit to acquiring the property because once the Village owns the property then his insurance company can go on site to repair

Judy Cobb's building. Mayor Ford presented that he would contact Evie Cummings at Regional Planning about how to acquire the burnt property. Council and Danny Downs discussed getting ownership of the two burnt properties and discussion that has been held with the owners.

Becky Speakman reported that she holds the farmers market at the modular building each Saturday and she was told by Bob Howell that they can't park in the grass. She wanted clarification if her vendors have permission to unload in the grass and Council didn't have a problem as long as the grass isn't wet. Mayor Ford reported that he would take care of the situation.

Mary Snyder wanted to thank the Village for the cleanup days.

Jennifer Conroy was present to discuss the Village's insurance policy along with Craig Hibner from Public Entities. A quote was presented and reviewed with Council from MJ Knapp insurance. A motion was made by John Hickman to approve the quote from MJ Knapp with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed with 5 ayes and 1 nay. Mayor Ford is going to contact Rinehart Insurance to cancel the policy.

Trick or Treat will be held on Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30pm

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2024