

LaRue Village Council Meeting September 9, 2024

The LaRue Village Council met in regular session on September 9, 2024 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Dustin Ford, Clerk Mary Price, and Council Members: Connie Kendall, Andrew Trihaft, Maria Ford, David Stallsmith, and John Boyd.

Guests present: Jim Lynch, Mary Snyder, Diane Evans (Board of Public Affairs representative), Becky Speakman, and Brian Thomas.

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 David Stallsmith, motion passed.

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

Mayor – Mayor Ford suggested using the insurance safety grant program to purchase a backup camera for the dump truck. The safety grant program will reimburse the village up to \$1,000 to the Village.

Mayor Ford presented that he has been talking with the Landbank and both properties uptown that burnt are in the foreclosure process. This coming Thursday (9/12) @10am Mayor Ford and Judy Cobb have been invited to the Landbank meeting to discuss the situation.

BPA – Diane Evans presented that out to the lagoons one corner needs to be cleaned up with trees growing up and Tyler Howell found a contractor that can cleanup it for around \$1,000. The BPA is exploring new software that will allow for paperless billing and a portal where residents could see/pay their invoice. Mrs. Evans invited council to the demo of the new software so they can be aware of what's going on.

Maintenance – Mayor Ford presented that a demo was completed on a mower and eXmark is going to be another model to test out. \$3,900 trade in value of the current mower is and the final cost would be \$12,080. More information will be presented and the matter will be tabled.

Maria Ford would like Tyler Howell to check street lights around town.

Park – X
Zoning – X

Sheriff – X
Street and Alley – X

Tree Commission – Mayor Ford presented some tree work that needs to be completed around town. Connie Kendall is going to contact the JT Tree Service to get a quote for all the work.

Budget – A motion was made by Connie Kendall to increase the tree work appropriation by \$6,300 with a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

Fire & Safety – X

Buildings & Grounds – X

Old Business:

The Village is struggling to get David Stamolis to attend a council meeting and lack of response to correspondence.

Connie Kendall asked for an update about the South High Street Construction project and Mayor Ford stated he hasn't heard anything. Mayor Ford is going to reach out the Craig at Access Engineering to get an update.

New Business:

Becky Speakman was present to talk with council about what she can and cannot do during the farmers market at 350 High Street. Mayor Ford stated that the only concern was not having vendors set up directly on pump station area and make sure they are 6 feet away.

Jim Lynch was present to talk with Council about planting another evergreen and he was thinking of the old hardware location. Council reported that they do not own the property just yet it is in the transfer process. Once the village has ownership of the property then they will contact Mr. Lynch about a tree.

Chief Thomas, from the fire department, wanted to talk with Council about green address signs for residents in town. The fire department will go around and get properties that need street signs and send them a flyer with the information. All the townships and villages in the area going to be joining in this project. The street signs increase the response time for the fire department with locating properties. The project will be completed in phases and they are starting in Bowling Green Township. The concern with inside the Village is where to put the street signs because not every property has a mailbox so not sure where to put the sign. A couple other items is that the tornado siren can now be set off remotely and a grant may be applied for next year to replace a truck.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2024