

LaRue Village Council Meeting October 7, 2024

The LaRue Village Council met in regular session on October 7, 2024 in the Village Council Room. Present were Mayor Dustin Ford, Clerk Mary Price, Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Howell, and Council Members: Connie Kendall, John Hickman, Andrew Trihaft, Maria Ford, David Stallsmith, and John Boyd.

Guests present: 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 Connie Kendall and a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed.

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

Mayor –

Mayor Ford reported that CDBG critical infrastructure grant was awarded to the Village for \$750,000 for the St Rt 37 project.

Mayor Ford reported that the Village now owns 31-39 N High Street (Old hardware Store). Council is going to talk with the owner of Coonies because she has expressed interest in purchasing the lot. Council would like to get some dirt hauled in to help level the lot out better and it was estimated around \$1,000 for 10 loads of dirt. John Boyd suggested that Council talk with Coonies before they put any money into lot. A motion was made by Connie Kendall to approve working up the ground and getting the lot leveled out for up to \$1,000 with a second by John Hickman, motion passed.

BPA –

Maintenance – Connie Kendall expressed how good all the paint, trim, and sign on the municipal building looks. Tyler Howell reported that he has talked with Mark at the Barbershop and what could be done on the front of his business to make it look nicer. Tyler Howell is estimating around \$100 for the updates to the front of the Barbershop. John Hickman made a motion to approve up to \$300 to repair the barbershop front with a second by Maria Ford, motion passed.

Tyler Howell reported that all the street lights that are out have been turned into AEP for service and all the lights have been logged. The street light beside the fire station is not coming on because the fire station lights are too bright so council wants to look at relocating the light. Tyler Howell reported pot holes have been patched, municipal building painted, and some repairs to the playground equipment at 350 High Street that was in rough shape. Council discussed tearing out all the old equipment behind the garage building at 350 High Street due to the condition of the equipment and the liability. There are several benches that could be relocated that are in decent shape. Tyler Howell reported that Holcomb will need to be contacted to tear out the tires at the park because the Village doesn't have the equipment.

Park – X

Sheriff – X

Buildings & Grounds – X

Zoning – X

Street and Alley – X

Budget – X

Tree Commission – Council would like Tyler Howell to purchase the tree (maple) that will be planted this year. David Stallsmith suggested the Village hire a couple part time employees to help with leaf pickup. The Village needs a new leaf blower so a motion was made by John Hickman to purchase on up to \$350 with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

David Stallsmith reported that Bob Howell was using his own equipment to cut up a tree for the Village and it was damaged so he thinks it needs to be replaced. Furthermore, the Village needs a better saw to complete tree trimming. A motion was made John Hickman to reimburse Bob Howell for loss of personal equipment that was being used for Village purposes at \$182.30 with a second by Maria Ford, motion passed. A motion was made by Connie Kendall to approve the purchase of a 16inch gas powered chain saw up to \$450 with a second by John Hickman, motion passed.

Fire & Safety – Andrew Trihaft reported on the street sign project. The fire department would install the signs if the Village would cover the cost of the signs. If Council would commit the funds then the fire department will canvas the town with how many needs installed. The main issue with the Village is where would the signs be installed since most properties don't have mailboxes by the road. Council all agreed to move forward with the sign project.

Andre Trihaft reported on some grants the fire department is working on.

Old Business:

B.L. Excavating Services completed the work in front of Diane Evans property and the storm drain at the intersection of High & School St. The next project that will be completed is the manhole catch basin project located by 143 Market Street.

New Business:

Ordinance 2024-2 was read to give consent for ODOT to perform maintain and repair state highways within the Village limits with a motion to suspend the rules by Connie Kendall and a second by John Hickman, motion passed. A motion to approved the ordinance as written was made by David Stallsmith with a second by Andrew Trihaft, motion passed.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2024