

## LaRue Village Council Meeting January 13, 2025

The LaRue Village Council met in regular session on January 13, 2025 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, Diane Evans, and Craig Mescher.

**Opening:** Mayor Dustin 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 David Stallsmith to approve the bills with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

A motion was to nominate Andrew Trihaft as council president with a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

**Resolution 2025-1** was read to approve POs for 2025 with a motion to suspend the rules by Andrew Trihaft and a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed. A motion was made by John Hickman to approve the resolution with a second by Andrew Trihaft, motion passed

**Ordinance 2025-1** was read to approve 2025 appropriations. A motion was made to suspend the rules by Andrew Trihaft and a second by David Stallsmith, motion passed. A motion to approve the ordinance as written was made by John Hickman and a second by Connie Kendall, motion passed.

### **Mayor – None**

### **BPA –**

Diane Evans reported that she and Doug met with Phil Wright this afternoon to discuss the pump stations. The South Street pump station had a breakdown in December and needs to be updated/parts replaced with an estimate of \$25,000. The pump station has been temporarily repaired and Marion County Sanitary is going to order the necessary parts with a lead time of 8 weeks. Additionally, the other two pump stations need additional repairs that the Board is looking at completing.

The billing software is going to be upgraded with the current company. The new upgrade will allow for online billing and online payment options.

House Bill 93 states that property owners cannot be held responsible for tenants' delinquent utilities. The Board is continuing to monitor the status of the bill and what needs to be done to protect the Village.

### **Maintenance –**

Tyler Howell reported everything was submitted for the insurance safety reimbursement program.

### **Buildings & Grounds –**

Mayor Mosley asked Andrew Trihaft to contact the Josh Harper about ordering the key boxes that the fire department wants the Village to install.

### **Park –X**

**Sheriff – X**

### **Budget – X**

**Zoning – X**

### **Tree Commission – X**

### **Street and Alley –**

Tyler Howell is going to get a quote to chip & seal Front Street with permissive tax money. Current running balance is \$30,542. Mary Price is going to submit the application for the permissive tax once the quote comes back.

Mary Snyder reported street sign at the intersection of Swain & Market St is missing.

**Fire & Safety** –

Andrew Trihaft presented that the fire department purchased 4 new sets of gear and looking into more grants available. 2024 – 377 service calls

**Old Business:**

Craig Mescher provided an updated estimate for the St Rt 37 Project with an estimate of 1.35 million. The project can be adjusted based on how the bidding comes back. Discussion was held about the repaving at 350 High Street parking lot portion of the project and what was it going to entail. Council would like the entrance section off of High Street and Half Street drive entrance section to be repaved. Attachment A is included with the minutes with the project estimate. The final environmental survey is being finalized. Mr. Mescher reported he will be back in February with final plans for review.

**New Business:**

Jack Vanbibber was scheduled to attend the meeting this evening, but he did not show.

Diane Evans reported to Council that they should each look over House Bill 331 so they are aware what's all involved.

Connie Kendall proposed that she needs representatives from Council for a park board to apply for a Nature Works Grant. Dustin Ford, John Hickman, and Marie Ford all volunteered.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2025