



Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, February 18, 2014

The regular meeting of the LaGrange Town Council met at 7:00 pm, at the LaGrange Town Hall.

**Council Members Present:** Suellyn Mickem, Juan Arroyo, Bruce Eagleson, Greg Kenner, Ray Hoover

**Also present:** Laurie Miller, Clerk Treasurer; Bill D. Eberhard Jr., Attorney

**Absent:**

President Kenner opened the regular meeting at promptly 7:00 pm.

Council Member Arroyo made a motion to approve minutes from the February 3<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting, February 13<sup>th</sup> Executive and February 13<sup>th</sup> special meetings. Member B. Eagleson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**WASTEWATER:** Gave monthly report on how the plant was working. Member Bruce Eagleson asked about the storage situation. Jeff Moore reported that the plant has sufficient storage for the time being. Discussed how many years the current facility had been in operation and the lifespan of wastewater plants. Discussed having a rate study done by HJ Umbaugh to see if water and wastewater rates need to be increased to plan for future plant upgrades and infrastructure needs. Member Arroyo made a motion to move ahead in researching the idea. Member Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Water:** Reported that the 8" meter that had been sent in for repairs is now back in service. The water dept has been responding to frozen lines. Discussed the possibility of giving credits to users that have been leaving water run to prevent water lines from freezing. Leu will watch the water use over the next couple of weeks and make a recommendation at that time.

**FIRE:** Attending the memorial service for Don Brode.

**POLICE:** Presented a monthly details report. Reported that Chief Deputy Michael Sprunger has had his "Master Instructor Paper" approved.

**PUBLIC WORKS (STREET, CEMETERY, PARK):**

**CLERK:** Reminded the council of the IACT Round Table meeting on February 25, 2014 at the Town hall.

Presented a thank you letter from the Veteran's Headstone Restoration Project for our donation.

**ATTORNEY:** Presented the council with annexation papers for Greenwood Cemetery. The County Commissioners approved the request, however the County Surveyor has asked that the property be re-surveyed.

Eberhard is working with the Town of Hudson to bring jobs to their municipal industrial park. He reported that the Bobilya family has approached him and the EDC about purchasing approximately 60 acres in the area of our Town Hall. The council discussed what could be done with the property regarding Economic Development. The Town Manager will follow up by contacting the sellers and see what could be worked out.

Presented an ordinance addressing "Snow Emergency Procedures". The ordinance was reviewed and discussed. Member Arroyo made a motion to approve and sign the ordinance, Member Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Eberhard then presented an ordinance addressing snow removal on sidewalks. The council discussed a time frame on getting sidewalks cleared after a snow storm, fines for not cleaning them, and what to do about vacant homes and those with elderly and disabled citizens. Also discussed who should be cleaning sidewalks downtown and where to pile the snow after it's taken off sidewalks. The ordinance will be edited and brought back to the council at the next session.

Town Court was then discussed, Member Suellyn Mickem asked if a committee could be formed to determine if this was something that would be feasible for the town to do.

Gave an update on the TIF expansion project.

**Town Manager:** Asked the council if the Cemetery employees could attend the Home and Garden Show in Fort Wayne on the 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> of February. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the request, Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reported that the Street Dept has been working on clearing storm drains from snow and ice. Will be getting quotes for ADA compliance work in the Town Hall, put an ad in the paper for an employee for the Water Department. Also received a written contract from Weaver & Boos to assist in a grant application to INDOT for sidewalk work thru Town. Member Hoover made a motion to move forward with the contract with Weaver & Boos., Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Council asked if the Town Manager will be putting a plan in place for sidewalk improvements for the summer. Eagleson stated that he would begin working on it as soon as possible.

#### OPEN DISCUSSION:

#### ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS

Member B. Eagleson made a motion, seconded by Member Hoover to allow claims. Motion carried

#### ADJOURN

Member Arroyo made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Member B. Eagleson. Motion carried.



Gregory Kummer, Council President

Attest:   
Laurie D. Miller, Clerk Treasurer