



Meeting Minutes – June 16, 2014

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

Council Members Present: Bruce Eagleson, Gregory Kenner, Raymond Hoover, Juan Arroyo, Suellyn Mickem

Also present: Laurie Miller, Bill Eberhard, Jr

President Kenner opened the meeting at precisely 7:00 pm.

Council Member Bruce Eagleson made a motion to approve minutes from the June 2, 2014 meeting. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lora Tormanen of the LEDC was present to discuss a possible tax abatement for Yoder Wood Products; now located in the All That Jazz complex on North Detroit Street. The company showed an example of the products they produce, novelty outdoor grilling utensils. They currently have 5 employees and machinery valued at \$253,000.00. They plan to add 5 more employees. After discussing the abatement, Member Hoover made a motion to approve the abatement upon signature of the Petition for Tax Abatement and the "Findings and Resolution Designating Specific Property as Economic Revitalization Area". Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kristine Christlieb and Nancy Block were present to discuss a USDA grant for the farmer's market. They submitted a proposed itemized budget and project schedule for the market grant. A letter of support was given to President Kenner for approval. Member Hoover made a motion to sign the letter and submit the grant proposal. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Block then requested more space as the market is growing. The council discussed the possibility of moving it back into the county lot at High & Spring Street. It was noted that the vendors would prefer to be in the street to avoid controversy with the County. Issues of being in the street were discussed, such as automobiles running the barricades and emergency response vehicles. After discussing several options, Member Hoover made a motion to allow an overflow area to be closed on Saturdays if needed. The area would be the section of Spring Street going South on High Street to the first alley. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried. Block was asked to optimize the space on Spring Street.

WASTEWATER: Presented a monthly report, noting no violations for the month of May. The council asked for an update on the request from Norris Truck and Miller's Super Valu. Moore is working with both to resolve any issues.

Water: Consumer Confidence Reports have been delivered; working with the fairgrounds on upgrading the camping sites; repaired 4 service leaks, met with Utility Service to inspect the North Water tower, will be meeting with DLZ and Beer & Slabaugh to do a final inspection of the Fillmore water line inspection (State Rd 9 North to 300N)

FIRE: Working with the Town Manager on information for a lease agreement for a new fire truck. Asked the Council to consider "No Parking" on the west side of Hillside Drive. The street is narrow and difficult to get emergency vehicles thru if cars are parked on both sides. Chief McClish mentioned the property adjacent from 211 E Michigan Street (Water Dept) being so overgrown you can no longer see the home.

POLICE: Presented a details report for May. Would like to see the nuisance ordinance regarding tall grass (12") be revised. The council discussed different kinds of equipment that could be used to take the taller grass/weeds down efficiently.

Looking at training equipment that would be interactive. Will bring more information to the July 7, 2014 meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS (STREET, CEMETERY, PARK):

PWD Weir presented a details list of what each department has been working on.

Cemetery: Amber Coburn began working today. Asked if he could use the cemetery utility vehicle for the Topeka parade on the 4th of July. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the request. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Park: Working on fence repairs. Asked several contractors to participate in a bid to repair fencing, only one, Warren Fence, responded with a quote of \$2490.00. Member Mickem made a motion to move ahead with the repairs. Member Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Street: Working on 2014 Street repair projects. Presented a plan and estimate to the council. The total estimated cost of the repairs would be \$51,724.00 and would include Mill & Resurface; Crack Fill; Reclamite; Crack Fill/CRF. Also discussed the purchase of a "2 Ton Hotbox" for hot patch (16,575.00) and a 14" W Planar attachment (9700.00). This equipment would allow the department to better repair problem areas. After discussing the equipment, member Hoover made a motion to purchase the "Planar" as presented. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Member Hoover also made a motion to proceed with the mill and resurface portion of the street improvements proposal. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CLERK: Presented a thank you letter to the council for their donation to the LaGrange Heritage Initiative Fund.

ATTORNEY: Asked the Clerk to include approximately \$1000.00 in the 2015 budget for a hearing officer to preside over ordinance violation hearings.

Presented a revised copy of the "Unsafe Building Ordinance". The council reviewed the ordinance and discussed why this would be needed. Member Hoover made a motion to implement the ordinance #2014-06-16(B). Member Arroyo seconded the motion, motion carried.

Presented a new Capital Improvement Plan #2014-06-16 C. The plan included water and sewer services to the Woodland Hills subdivision (west of LaGrange) and plotting lots and roads in the newer section of Greenwood Cemetery. Member Hoover made a motion to adopt the plan, Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Town Manager: Discussed water and sewer line expansion and annexation of Woodland Hills; has applied for FEMA reimbursement for expenses incurred during the extreme winter. Attorney Eberhard suggested the council consider annexing prior to expanding water and sewer lines.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Member Bruce Eagleson submitted his resignation, effective June 30, 2014. The Council thanked him for his service. Town Manager Mark Eagleson stated that Edna Bowser has expressed interest in the position and has filed for candidacy for the fall 2014 election to fill the seat. The Democratic Board will need to set a caucus to fill the remainder of Member Eagleson's term for 2014.

ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS

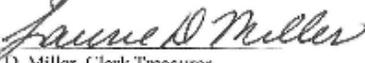
Member Arroyo made a motion, seconded by Member Hoover to allow claims. Motion carried

ADJOURN

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



Gregory Turner, Council President

Attest: 
Laurie D. Miller, Clerk Treasurer