



Meeting Minutes – August 18, 2014

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

Council Members Present: Gregory Kenner, Raymond Hoover, Juan Arroyo, Suellyn Mickem, Edna Bowser

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

Absent:

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

Council Member Arroyo made a motion to approve minutes from the August 4, 2014 meeting. Member Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Juana Dominguez was present to answer questions regarding her permit authorization request. She would like to put a “U” shaped drive at her property on the corner of Canal & Spring Streets. She explained that this was for extra parking for utility trailers. The Council discussed the amount of people using the street for parking and other possible issues. Member Hoover made a motion to deny the request, stating that losing the parking spaces in question would be a safety hazard and create a hardship for others using them. Member Mickem seconded the motion.

President Kenner then opened the meeting as a “Public Hearing” to discuss an additional appropriation in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the Local Law Enforcement Continuing education fund. There were no objections noted. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the additional appropriation, Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried. President Kenner closed the “Public Hearing”, and the council moved on to regular business.

WASTEWATER: Gave a monthly report of gallons of water treated, reported that the land application permit has been filed with IDEM; storm call outs, and then presented a list of needs for the plant. Discussed SSO points (Storm Sewer Overflows) and how we have reduced them to one. Also discussed the age and use of the Church Street lift station. Asked the council’s permission to proceed with getting quotes for the needs list items from DLZ. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the request, Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Water: Reported that NIPSCO has upgraded meters to ‘radio reads’ so all buildings will now have a 911 address for billing purposes. Presented plant upgrades to be figured into the Woodland Hills project.

FIRE: Discussed the proposed purchase of an ladder truck. An ad has been published to receive bids for a used truck, bids will be opened on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at the regular meeting.

POLICE: Reported that Officer Sprunger was injured during a training session. Also discussed trimming the trees on S Sherman Street to clear the view of the stop sign at US20 with Mrs. Dominquez. Working with Bill Eberhard’s office on the codification of ordinances.

Reported to the council that the Reserve officer’s funds will be purchasing new AR rifles for the department. Asked if it would be possible for the reserves to purchase the older rifles that would be traded in, at the trade in price. The council stated that they did not see an issue with the transaction, noting that reserves purchased the rifles originally.

Marshal Snyder reported that he has been working with the clerk to add worker compensation insurance for the Reserves. The clerk stated that there is a policy similar to what the Town is

required to carry for volunteer firemen, this policy would provide short term, long term and accidental death coverage for the police reserves. The cost for 6 reserves would be 910.00 per year. Member Mickem made a motion to expand the coverage. Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS (STREET, CEMETERY, PARK):

Park: Fencing will be completely repaired in 2-3 weeks. The council suggested securing any damaged area for safety reasons. Getting quotes on a new merry go round, as the current one is damaged.

Street: Working on scheduling "Electrical Hazard Training", REMC and NIPSCO could not do the training. The cost of \$800.00 may be offset by having other towns participate. The "stop ahead" sign at Sherman and Central Ave has been ordered, the dept is also looking at a white line to get the attention of drivers. API suggested a sealant for the Town Hall parking lot instead of crack fill. Discussed how long the Town will be responsible for mowing Spreuer park. It was noted that it is a temporary arrangement, but the mowing takes about 4 hours with no trimming.

Town Manager: Reported that the final billing for the Fillmore water line extension project has been submitted and is over the approved amount by about \$11,000.00. The manager would like the council to consider paying the excess. This will eliminate the need to have a reimbursement agreement with the County and Fillmore Equipment. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the payment, not to exceed \$15000.00. Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussed generator maintenance contracts.

CLERK: Presented cemetery deed transfers, and a permit to be sent to INDOT to close Detroit Street for Corn School. Member Mickem made a motion to sign all paperwork, Member Arroyo seconded the motion. Motion carried. Made the council aware of a worker compensation training seminar, free to all employees, in Auburn on October 22, 2014. The Council suggested all employees attend.

ATTORNEY: Discussed a sidewalk renewal program, will be working on details for the next meeting. Discussed the need to have a permit for sidewalk replacement to ensure all sidewalks will be ADA compliant in the future.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Discussed dog barking issues in town. Set a public hearing to discuss parking on Hillside Drive. The hearing will be Tuesday, September 02, 2014 at 7:00 pm. All registered owners will be notified.

ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS

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

ADJOURN

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



Gregory Turner, Council President



Attest: Laurie D. Miller, Clerk Treasurer