



TOWN OF
LaGrange
INDIANA

Laurie D. Miller, Clerk/Treasurer
Mark W. Eagleson, Town Manager
1201 N Townline Road
LaGrange Indiana 46761
260-463-3241

Meeting Minutes – March 7, 2016

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

Council Members Present: Juan Arroyo, Raymond Hoover, Suellyn Mickem, Edna Bowser, Deborah Naylor

Also present: Laurie Miller, Bill Eberhard

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

Member Bowser made a motion to approve the agenda with flexibility, Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council Member Mickem made a motion to approve minutes from the February 21, 2016 regular and executive meetings. Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bob Shanahan of the LaGrange County Planning and Zoning office gave a presentation on current use of a property on Old State Rd 9, formerly owned by Curtis Wrecking. The new owners have presented a building plan to house garbage trucks on the property. Shanahan's presentation included photos of the property in its current condition, which includes trash, old lumber, unlicensed vehicles, tires and other various violations. They were asked to get the property cleaned up, and as of today, (March 7th) some progress has been made. It is Shanahan's recommendation that when the Town Council is presented with a permit authorization for this property, they consider adding stipulations to granting the permit. Such as, but not limited to:

1. Cleaning up all trash, and not allowing outside storing.
2. Building to be used to house vehicles only
3. Fenced in
4. Parking kept to employees only.
5. No transfer station.

Attorney Eberhard stressed that the council take a serious look at the proposal and regulations.

An interlocal agreement was then presented to the Council regarding the transfer of ownership of a 1973 Ladder Fire Truck. The agreement was approved at a prior meeting, therefore, the Council moved forward with the signing of the agreement. Firefighter Dave Elick will take the agreement to the Elkhart Career Center Board meeting for their signatures.

WASTEWATER: No report

Water:

1. Asked the Council to consider a wastewater charge adjustment for Phil Miller at 406 E. Spring Street. Member Hoover made a motion to approve the adjustment, Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. New sample site location map completed and sent to IDEM
3. Official CCR report approved by IDEM
4. Submitting annual SWWR to the Indiana DNR this month.

POLICE:

1. Thanked the Fire department for use of the training facility for reserves training
2. Will be looking at purchasing new vests, hand held radios, and tasers
3. The application process is complete, the department received one application for the open position. Ryan Stewart, currently a reserve officer has applied for the position. Stewart has been a reserve officer for 4 years and is ready to move up. He has passed a written exam and the agility testing. Member Mickem asked where the position was advertised and for how long. Snyder stated that it was published in the local paper only and was open for 2 weeks. It was noted that in the future, she would like to see the search expanded. Member Hoover then made a motion to offer the position to Ryan Stewart with a 3 year contract, contingent on passing the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. Member Howser seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pay will be

set at the next meeting, Stewart will start in April.

FIRE:

1. Introduced to the Council the new assistant chief, Shawn Fryer; Secretary Josh Shotzman; Truck Maint contact Jeff Miller; Health & Safety Captain Max Lang; Michael Cole Captain and Jeremy Edwards Training Captain.
2. Also noted that we have one firefighter off duty due to an injury.
3. Received quotes for search lights: Larsen Elect \$619.00; Coastal Store \$619.00; and Fire Service Inc \$729.00. Chief McClish recommended purchasing from Larsen. Member Hoover made a motion to do so, Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. Set a meeting for the Township Trustees, Juan Arroyo and any other council member that would like to attend to discuss a 5 year and 10 year plan for the department.
5. Member Hoover discussed giving plaques to volunteers for services more than 20 years. Member Hoover then made a motion to get a plaque for retiring Asst Chief Keith Neff. Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Town Manager:

1. There will be an IACT round table on April 11th in Middlebury, if anyone from the council wishes to attend, please let us know.
2. Permit Authorizations for Cecil Moore - 202 W. Steuben Street & Fred & Carolyn Schrock 511 Hawpatch. Member Hoover made a motion to allow the authorizations, Member Mickem seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. Received an offer to purchase lots owned by the town in Northwood addition in the amount of \$9500.00. Member Hoover made a motion to accept the offer, seconded by Member Naylor. Motion carried.
4. Announced that the annual spring clean up will be the last weekend of April.
5. Discussed the purchase of 5 acres of bare ground adjacent to the Town Hall. The Bobilya family is asking 15,000.00 per acre. Member Hoover made a motion to get 2 appraisals on the property, Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CLERK:

1. Presented Ordinance 2016.03.07 amending the 2016 Wage and Salary ordinance, changing how the Town manager's pay is distributed. Member Hoover made a motion to approve and adopt the amendment, Member Naylor seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. Discussed upgrades to the Town website. Member Hoover stated that we need to have 3 quotes to move forward.

ATTORNEY:

1. **Working on tax abatements for ATJ; & Sale of the property at 214 W. Steuben.**

OPEN DISCUSSION:

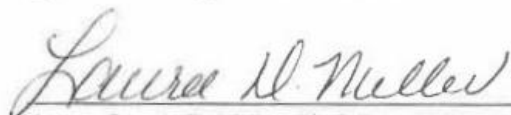
1. Discussed who is the caretaker of the light pole at St Rd 9 & US20. It needs a new light bulb.
2. Fire Department asked the Council, Trustees, Attorney and Town Manager to go into the Fire Station for a photo with the outgoing fire truck.

ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS: Member Mickem made a motion to approve claims, Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADJOURN: Member Hoover made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Member Bowser seconded the motion. Motion Carried.



Juan C. Arroyo, Council President



Attest: Laurie D. Miller, Clerk Treasurer