



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: September 3, 2019

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

Council Members Present: Raymond Hoover, Fred Romer, Catie Gayheart, Diane Cameron and Carolyn Glick

Also present: Laurie Miller, Bill D. Eberhard, Jr

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

Member Romer motioned to approve the agenda with flexibility, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council Member Romer made a motion to approve the August 19, 2019 minutes, Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President Hoover opened the meeting as the 2020 Budget Hearing. Clerk Treasurer Laurie Miller read the amount of the proposed budget as \$3,929,850.00, an approximate 5% increase from 2019. A question regarding the proposed employees for the Fire Department was asked. We are still waiting to meet with the Trustees to discuss the proposal. There were no further questions from the council or audience in attendance. President Hoover then closed the public hearing to move on to the regular meeting.

Jeff Rowe and Penny Price of Baker Tilly were present to discuss the findings of the Water Rate Study. A packet of information was provided to the council for review. Several options were presented regarding rate increases to provide funds to construct a new water treatment facility. Options include, cash on hand from town funds, a SRF (State Revolving Funds) Loan and selling Open Market Bonds. SRF funds would be the lowest interest rates, but has timing limitations.

Also discussed was how the Town of LaGrange rates, and proposed increases, compared to other towns of our size. Documentation of need, due to environmental, health and economic development issues would be important in the application process.

WASTEWATER:

- Catlyn Helmuth, Wastewater Maint Supervisor, was present to request approval to replace lighting at the treatment plant. The replacement lights would be LED, taking the number of lights in question from 9 to 5. The current lighting requires 10 minutes for them to "warm up and come on" and if you turn them off, you have to wait 20 minutes to turn the back on due to the heat they emit. The LED option would also save on energy bills. President Hoover noted that three quotes would be normally required. However, Member Romer made a motion to approve Byler Electric replacing the lights at a cost of \$1649.00. Member Glick seconded motion. Motion carried.
- Helmuth then requested approval for a conveyor unit to assist with the movement of sludge. Three companies were contacted.
 1. Quoted JDV Equipment Corp - \$70,000.00
 2. H.P. Thompson Co. - \$85,000.00
 3. E-Z Lift - \$15,111.00 plus \$2436.00 for the movable frame.

Member Romer motioned to purchase from E-Z Lift, Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WATER:

- Supt Mark Miller stated that the Poplar Street Project has been going well.
- Worked on a couple leaks. Also painting and repairing areas of the water system.
- Met with Silversmith and trained on the new GIS system.

FIRE:

- Run report for August
- Discussed the proposed fire department employees with the Clay and Bloomfield Township Trustees. They are

waiting on President Hoover to contact them.

- Received "STOP means STOP signs" from WNDU in regards to Busses picking up students. They are being placed strategically around the area and are available for the public at the Town Hall.

POLICE:

- Provided a report on details for August.
- Discussed the property at 512 E Spring Street and the status of ownership.
- Discussed meeting with the town attorney regard a few other problem properties and what can be done.

STREET:

- Presented a list of tasks that have been completed.

CLERK:

- Discussed a AIM Round table meeting set for September 19th in Middlebury. Contact Mark Eagleson to get registered if you would like to attend.
- Requested Trick or Treat hours be sent. Member Romer motioned to set the hours for October 31st from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm.
- Discussion of the "Halloween with Heroes" event, a tentative date of October 23rd , with a rain date of October 28th has been set. Member Romer motioned in favor of closing streets (Spring, Michigan and High) for the event. Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TOWN MANAGER:

- Presented a Resolution for the Adoption of the LaGrange County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Reviewed why it is needed and how it works. Member Romer made a motion to approve the resolution, Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Progress continues on the Hawpatch Street Project.
- NIPSCO repaired the cut on Townline Road
- Working with Dave Nyhof on a proposed housing development.
- INDOT looking at purchasing property and building a new facility on the edge of town.

ATTORNEY:

- Presented Ordinance #2019-9-3(A), an ordinance restricting parking on both sides of Poplar Street from Central Ave (US20) to Detroit Street (St Rd 9), and on Fenn Street from Poplar Street to Detroit Street. Council tabled the ordinance to look at the parking on Fenn Street.
- Presented Ordinance #2019-9-3(B) - Forming a Sewer Adjustment Board consisting of the Town Clerk, Town Manager, and Water Superintendent, adjustments not to exceed a credit of \$300.00, and reported to the council at the next meeting. Member Romer motioned to approve the ordinance on the first reading, waiving all further readings. Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Presented Ordinance #2019-09-03 (C), Allowing the clerk treasurer to pay certain types of claims in between meetings. Member Romer motioned to approve the ordinance on the first reading, waiving all further readings. Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Presented a proposed ordinance outlining truck routes in the town.
- Working on a "Fire Box" ordinance.

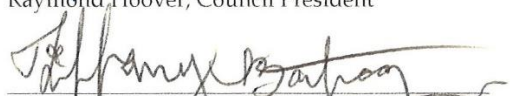
OPEN DISCUSSION:

- Member Glick discussed an event in the park, with a movie. Cost for the movie rental with equipment and set up is \$900.00. Suggested date was September 27th in the Town park, with a "inclement weather location" as the Fire Station or possibly the fairgrounds. Member Romer motioned to pay for the event from the promotional account in the general fund, Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Received a request from Parkview to designate December 3, 2019 a "Day of Giving". Member Romer motioned to approve the request, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Discussed a meeting invitation from Lawson Fisher Associates for September 19th at 9:00 am.

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

ADJOURN: Member Romer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion Carried.


Raymond Hoover, Council President


Attest: Tiffany Bontrager, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer