



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:

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:** Tiffany Bontrager, 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 September 3, 2019 minutes, Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**DLZ:**

- Background
  - System consists of (3) production wells, aerator, (2) high service pumps, and (6) vertical pressure filters to remove iron and manganese prior to distribution
  - No major renovations to the current WTP since the 1960s
  - DLZ prepared draft Preliminary Engineering Report for new WTP (Concept Level Design\_)
    - Alternative 1 - Near Existing WTP
    - Alternative 2 - North Wellfield
  - Baker Tilly provided Preliminary Rate Study
- Next Steps/Recommendations
  - Grant administrator for Income Survey and Grant Writing
    - Kleinpeter Consulting Group LLC (Mike Kleinpeter)
    - Priority Project Resources, Inc. (Shannon McLeod, located by Greensburg)
  - Finalize Preliminary Engineering Report
    - Submit PER application to the State Revolving Loan Fund Program (SRF)
    - Incorporate any Town comments into PER
    - PER Public Hearing
    - Complete and pass resolutions for PER approval and designation of Town SRF
    - Submit Final PER to SRF
  - Proceed with Preliminary Design
    - Approximate project duration of 3 years
- Council Member Romer made a motion for the committee to contact each grant administrator to schedule a meeting or conference call, Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- The board and Mark Miller will meet with DLZ for a work session on September 30, 2019 at 5:00 PM.
- Board members who are available will take a tour of the St. Joseph Energy Center Water Treatment Plant with DLZ on September 23, 2019. They will leave the Town Hall at 9:30 AM and return at approximately 2:00 PM.

**PARK:**

- Lighting for the movie at the park was addressed. Member Glick believed that with the TV screen left on, there will be enough brightness for people to see should they need to move for any reason. The fire station is still the inclement weather location.
- Start time for the event will be 7 PM and end time will be 8:30 PM. They will be accepting donations for the Food & Clothes Basket. Movie showing will be Hotel Transylvania. (1 hr 32 min runtime).

**WASTEWATER:**

- Supt Jeff Moore was present and gave a brief summary of the performance and activities associated with the Town of LaGrange Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).
- Received and discharged 14.020 million gallons of treated wastewater
- Effluent flows averaged 0.452 MGD, for 25% of the design capacity
- The Monthly Report of Operations (MRO) and Discharge Monitoring Report (NetDMR) have been submitted to IDEM
- The Land Application Monthly Report has been submitted to IDEM
- No Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO)
- No parameter violations of the NPDES Permit
- 66 work orders completed
- Zero sewer work orders completed

**WATER:**

- Supt Mark Miller stated that the Poplar Street project is still moving along. Several more water taps and lines are done. We have 14 more services to switch over before we can retire the old 4" water main. Two more sewer manholes have been replaced. We had to raise one hydrant by Mastercraft one foot so it could function when the road is raised in that area.
- Our GIS system is now functional. We now have all our data available; water and sewer lines, hydrants, etc. Now we need to go through all the data points and correct any that are not right. We also need to purchase more tablets for the other departments and establish other user accounts for them.
- Supt. Mark Miller has been working on water main specs for Dave Nyhof's project on 200 N. All parties are on the same page as to department expectations.
- We are now about a year and a half into our meter replacement program. Bob's meter replacement count is now 325, which is roughly 25%. We started with the intent to replace all the meters in 5 years, and we are on pace to accomplish that.

**FIRE:**

- Fire Chief Elick stated that the fire department helped with the Frick Lumber fire in Brimfield.
- They helped at Jim Neuman's funeral.
- Will be going to the Indiana Fire Chief's Conference in Indianapolis September 18-21, 2019.

**POLICE:**

- Town Marshal Snyder was not present due to bereavement leave.

**STREET:**

- Details Report was provided to the Board.
- There have been issues with flushable wipes. They are involved in almost every blockage; they do not break down and are causing a lot of backups. It would be nice to inform people not to flush them. Attorney Eberhard will work with Town Manager Eagleson to send letters to prominent problem areas.

**CLERK:**

- Laurie is scheduled to return to the office on Thursday, September 19, 2019.

**TOWN MANAGER:**

- Attorney Eberhard and Town Manager Eagleson were able to negotiate the Easement Agreement with Farm Bureau Insurance for the sidewalk on Poplar Street. Member Romer made a motion for President Hoover to sign the Easement Agreement. Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Reminder that the AIM Roundtable is in Middlebury this Thursday, September 19, 2019. Ray, Diane, Laurie, Amy, and Mark are registered to attend. If anyone else wants to attend, he or she needs to let him know.
- Mark Miller, Jeff, Mike, and Mark Eagleson met with Dave Nyhof and his engineers last Friday regarding the housing development on Marquis Road.(200 North). Discussion went well.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Indiana Regional Economic Forum is set for Friday, October 4, 2019 from 9-2 at the Blue Gate Garden Inn, Shipshewana. This year's forum will focus on housing. Please let me know if you need assistance in getting registered if you would like to attend.
- He mentioned that there was an article in the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette regarding next year's Motor Vehicle Highway Funds. The article discusses a mistake found in the distribution formula that could have a negative impact on our Motor Vehicle Road Funds in 2020. The 8% drop in road funding could impact us around \$60,000.00. He will continue to monitor this issue.
- County had a contractor replace the bricks they removed on Spring Street while building the new Justice Building this week.
- AIM has an upcoming training pertaining to SEA 4 and HEA 1406 on October 8 from 9:30 AM-4:30 PM in Zionsville. These bills contain some significant new requirements for Water Utilities. He will be attending this training.

**ATTORNEY:**

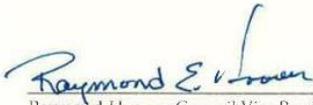
- Attorney Eberhard mentioned that there is a new law in place that will require the Town to either file eminent domain or bury a Y and mark it for people to hook into a sanitary sewer system. Member Romer made a motion for Attorney Eberhard to contact the Amigas group asking the State to repeal this requirement. Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- He spoke with the county attorney, and that they are working on creating a permitting system for oversized/overweight vehicles on the county roads, and he is working to coordinate our ordinance with theirs.
- Town Manager Eagleson mentioned that he has heard from several community members that they want there to be parking on the north side of Fenn Street between Poplar and Detroit Streets.

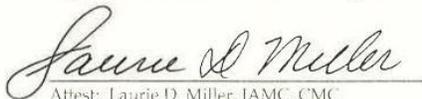
**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

- Representative from Northwood addition asked for a status update she can take back to her neighbors. She informed the board that one member who didn't sign will go with the majority and one is still opposed to annexation.
- A question was asked regarding the Family Dollar fire. President Hoover informed the citizen that we have done what we can to clean up the area, but that we are unable to do anything with the land, as it is privately owned. Attorney Eberhard informed him that tonight he learned that there is an ongoing lawsuit, and that is likely why there isn't activity on the lot.

**ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS:** Member Cameron made a motion to approve claims, Member Romer 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 Vice President

  
Attest: Laurie D. Miller, IAMC, CMC  
Clerk Treasurer