



Laurie D. Miller, Clerk/Treasurer  
Mark W. Eagleson, Town Manager  
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LaGrange Indiana 46761  
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## Meeting Minutes: January 19, 2021

The regular meeting of the LaGrange Town Council met at 7:00 pm, at the LaGrange Town Hall.  
(Also available via Zoom)

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

**Also present:** Laurie Miller, Clerk

**Present via Zoom:** Raymond Hoover and Bill D. Eberhard, Jr

Vice President Romer opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

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

Council Member Glick made a motion to approve the January 4, 2021 minutes, Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Lloyd Eash and Perry Troyer** were present to discuss their proposed re-zoning of property on 200N. Both have businesses they would like to build that would require the property be rezoned. After discussing the various implications on the wastewater plant of both businesses, and the IDEM requirements, Member Cameron made a motion to give a favorable recommendation for rezoning to I2 to the LaGrange County Zoning Board. Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **WASTEWATER:**

- All reporting submitted to IDEM without any violations. Plant running at 18% design capacity
- Prepping tanks for warmer weather and the septic hauler tank
- Has been working with Mr. Troyer and Mr. Eash on requirements for their proposed businesses.

### **WATER:**

- Fixed a water line on E North Street. The leak was caused due to the contractor that installed line 30 years ago used inferior materials.
- Raising water valves in order to have easier access to main valves
- Discussed service lines and who is responsible for what. Property owners are responsible for the lines from our mains to the home. This is outlined in the Water Department's rules and regulations.

### **FIRE:**

- Reported on fire run totals for December 2020
- Moved Mack Grobis from Lieutenant to Captain on the department. Matt Huffman has taken a step back to firefighter.

### **POLICE:**

- The Department has joined the military program (LSO) to receive riot gear and other items. They have received a mechanical robot that will need two rechargeable batteries.
- Would like to start the process to purchase a new police vehicle. After having two Durango's, the department has realized that having the extra room and maneuverability Marshal Snyder would like to add a third to the fleet. Member Glick motioned approval to start the purchasing process, Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **STREET:**

- Picking up limbs damaged by ice and snow
- Working on sewer line maintenance
- Installed a backup camera on one more truck. The goal is to have one on every piece of equipment for safety.
- Updating assets to Silversmith, storm and sanitary manholes and inlets. Mark Miller is working on some updates so we will be able to add lines and remove incorrect information on the maps.
- Researching vactor trucks. They are now making a mid-size combination sewer cleaning truck.

**CLERK:**

- Presented a resolution to Encumber 2020 Appropriations into the 2021 Budget. This would be for the Cemetery vehicle ordered in 2020. Member Glick motioned to approve and sign Resolution #2021.01.19 to Encumber Appropriations. Member Gayheart. Motion carried.
- Presented the Bank Reconciliation Report for Approval, asked for a motion to allow Vice President Romer to approve and sign the document. Member Glick made the motion to approve the report. Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Presented quotes to update the Town Capital Asset schedule. Quotes were as follows:
  1. Ron Heller \$5000.00 - infrastructure
  2. London Witte Group (Jim Higgins) -not to exceed \$5000.00, including mileage (infrastructure only)
  3. Wells Evaluations - \$16,750.00 (Update all records) or \$8000.00 to update the infrastructure only.

It was noted that Jim Higgins is a former State Board of Accounts employee, has been doing this type of work for several years and comes highly recommended by other small towns.

Also noted that Wells Evaluations has previously done work for the Town of LaGrange. (prior to 1999) Mr. Heller has done this work prior in Illinois and locally in Dekalb County Indiana, he now resides in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

After discussing the proposals, and benefits of each one, it was noted that considering Mr. Higgins had experience with the Indiana State Board of Accounts, and his knowledge of what was required to update the records, along with his statement in the proposal that he would not exceed determined amounts on services, Member Glick made a motion to approve the quoted given by Jim Higgins, London Witte Group. Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**TOWN MANAGER:**

- Working with the county on an address change for Lightning Hills Apartments. The current address includes a street name of "Lightning Hill Boulevard" that does not exist. The street address should be Factory Street. A plan for numbering the complex was presented to the Council for a favorable recommendation. Member Glick motioned to move forward with the address changes, Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Received two (2) applications for the open full-time position at Greenwood Cemetery. Eagleson recommended giving the position to former part time employee Lucas Begley. Begley is currently working part time to give relief to the full-time employees for weekend funerals. He is familiar with the special aspects of working in a cemetery. It was suggested to increase Begley's current part time pay to \$15.00 per hour, then when he is available for full time work (end of February - early March) the rate increase to \$17.00 per hour. Member Glick motioned to approve the hiring of Lucas Begley at the rates suggested. Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Met with NIPSCO to discuss better coordination of work planned. They would like to see a committee put together to organize work to be done to coordinate with our street projects. This would be helpful to both parties.
- Will be attending two meetings with DLX regarding the new Water Treatment Plant. The first being the County Plat Committed meeting on Thursday January 21<sup>st</sup>, and then the County Plan Commission meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**ATTORNEY:**

- Working with Fire Chief Dave Elick on various projects.
- Also working with Wastewater Supervisor Cat Helmuth on a Sewer Use Ordinance.

**ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS:** Member Cameron made a motion to approve claims, Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

  
Raymond Hoover, Council Vice President

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