



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 1, 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:** Raymond Hoover, Fred Romer, Carolyn Glick, Catie Gayheart and Diane Cameron

**Also present:** Laurie Miller, Bill D. Eberhard, Jr (Zoom)

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 February 15, 2021 minutes, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**WASTEWATER:**

- Submitted corrected information on the Biosolids report to the EPA this week.
- Working on guidelines and fees for septic haulers to discharge waste into the wastewater plant.
- ICS should be ready to do the ditch upgrades within a week
- The ammonia issue reported earlier has been resolved.
- Working on the Sewer use ordinance with Bill Eberhard.

**WATER:**

- Hoosier Land (a boring company) has been installing fiber optic from Canal St to the BMV
- Would like to install a 6" or 10" valve at Michigan and Walnut. This helps eliminate multiple shut offs during repairs.
- Looking to install a valve at Lake and Detroit Streets and Michigan and Maple sometime this year. They are older valves and no longer are working. Will be working on quotes for the project. Projected costs are \$5540.00
- The fountain for the splash pad is nearly done. Will be taking it to Spreuers for final work.
- Discussed replacing older hydrants.

**FIRE:**

- The council received notice from Fire Chief Dave Elick that he will be resigning the position as of March 1, 2021. The notice stated that due to issues with his work schedule, he will no longer be able to keep up with the demands of the Chief position. Member Romer made a motion to accept the resignation, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried. Member Romer then made a motion to appoint the current Assistant Chief, Shawn Fryer, to the position of "Interim Chief". Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried. Fryer then gave the monthly report for the fire department. It was reported that the department responded to a total of 24 runs in February.
- Discussed the application process to make an appointment for the Fire Chief position. The Town Manager will advertise the opening, with a deadline of March 15<sup>th</sup> for applications to be submitted. Interviews will take place prior to April 5 2021.
- Discussed details of applying to the Health officer to hold the annual fish fry fund raiser.

**POLICE:**

- Provided a report of details for the month of February
- Deputy Nick Dubea has passed his Emergency Vehicle Operation (EVO) instructor course at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.
- Deputy Eric Patterson has requested approval to attend a 5 day, level 2 instructor course in Howell MI in October. The training will cost \$895.00 plus hotels and meals. Member Romer made a motion to approve the training, Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**STREET:**

- Plowing snow, treating roads and removing snow piles.
- Thanked Member Glick for working with the county to resolve a snow removal issue.
- Discussed the option of chip and seal and crack sealing to extend the life of some of our streets. Supervisor Rosendaul will contact the County Highway Dept to see if they would be willing to do some of the work.

**PARK:**

- Working on quotes to finish the park project. Including security cameras, sidewalks, landscaping and fencing. Hoping to bring more information to the next meeting.
- Member Glick also noted that she would like to waive any fees for food trucks at the park during the grand opening and other events for 2021, stating that we have no history of having enough support of events to warrant charging. This would be re-evaluated as we go if the events are well attended. It was noted that there is currently an ordinance prohibiting food trucks at this time, the Council can make exceptions on a case-by-case basis. No permission has been granted at this time.

**CLERK:**

- Requested a meeting of the Redevelopment Commission to meet a reporting requirement for Monday, April 5, 2021 at 6:45 pm. Meeting was set.
- Gave the financial report to the Council for the Tax Increment Financing Funds. The fund balance as of January 1, 2020 was \$1,283,486.03, 2020 Revenue was \$260,382.97, Expenses - \$2,220.00. The ending balance of the fund was \$1,541,949.00. Funds in the account are reserved for future expenses of building the new Water Treatment Plant and other infrastructure projects.

**TOWN MANAGER:**

- Working with the Cemetery staff and DLZ to review plans for the construction of the next section of burial plots.
- Discussed the need for an ordinance prohibiting snowmobiles in the Cemetery. The attorney will work with the Town manager to put one together for the next meeting.
- Also working with DLZ on phase 2 of the Walnut Street project. The first bid notice has been published, opening of bids is set for March 15, 2021.
- Asked the council for approval to take obsolete equipment to a local consignment auction. Member Romer motioned approval, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Requested a work session for March 15, 2021 at 6:15 to discuss the water plant project.

**ATTORNEY:**

- Still working with Member Cameron regarding Northwood Addition (utility services and/or annexation). Still discussing the situation with the County Attorney

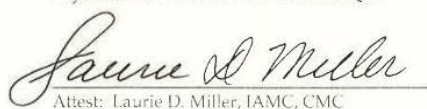
**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

- President Hoover stated that with the COVID19 cases in decline he would like to see the Town Hall re-open to the public. Member Romer made a motion to re-open the Town hall, with a mask requirement in place, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Clerk asked if the opening could be delayed until proper signs regarding masks, hours, and a directional sign can be in place. Miller noted that there have been a few people that believe the office is the COVID testing site, due to the Fire Station being attached to the building. The testing site is at the EMS building, just south of the Town Hall. To avoid confusion and inadvertent exposure, the staff would like to make sure it is clearly posted that the Town Hall is not the testing facility. The Council agreed to delay the opening until the signs can be posted. The clerk will begin the process Tuesday morning.
- It was suggested that the town work with other towns to get hydrants in bulk for a better price. The Clerk will ask if any other towns in the area are planning to upgrade their hydrants.
- Discussed what will happen to trees on Hawpatch Street during the LPA project in 2021.

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

**ADJOURN:** Member Romer 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