



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

## Meeting Minutes: Monday, June 7, 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

Present via Zoom were Jeff Rowe and Penny Price, representatives of Baker Tilly Financial Advisors, LLC, the Town's municipal advisor. Others in attendance, Phil LeBrash, and Holly Miller of DLZ,

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

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

Council Member Romer made a motion to approve the May 17, 2021 minutes, Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Town Attorney, Bill D. Eberhard, Jr., then stated that a form of rate ordinance had been prepared for consideration by the Town Council in the matter of setting rates and charges for the use and service rendered by the waterworks of the Town entitled "An Ordinance Amending the Rates and Charges of the Town of LaGrange Municipal Water Utility". It was noted that the ordinance had been introduced for a first reading at the May 3, 2021 meeting, numbered as Ordinance No. 2021-05-03(a), and set for a public hearing at this time.

The Clerk-Treasurer informed the Town Council that notice of the public hearing was: (i) published in accordance with IC §5-3-1 on May 13, 2021 in the *LaGrange News* newspaper and on May 10, 2021 and May 17, 2021 in the *LaGrange Standard* newspaper; (ii) mailed to owners of vacant or unimproved property if the ordinance included a fee for water service to vacant or unimproved property; and (iii) mailed to users of the waterworks for service to property located outside the Town's corporate boundaries. The President of the Council then opened the public hearing and all public comments were heard. The public hearing was then closed.

The President stated that final action on said ordinance would now be in order. The President then directed the Clerk-Treasurer to read said Ordinance No. 2021-05-03(a) by title. Ordinance No. 2021-05-03(a) was then again read by title. Said ordinance having again been read by title, Carolyn Glick then moved that the ordinance be adopted as read. This motion was seconded by Fred Romer, and on call of the roll was carried by the following vote: Ayes: Raymond Hoover, Fred Romer, Catie Gayheart, Carolyn Glick, and Diane Cameron. Nays: N/A

The President of the Council announced that there being at least a majority of the members elect of the Council present at the meeting and the motion for adoption having been carried by a majority vote of all such elected members, Ordinance No. 2021-05-03(a) had been duly passed and adopted.

The Clerk Treasurer then opened a second Public Hearing to approve the Proposed Sewer Use Ordinance, numbered as 2021-09-07 (A). The council reviewed and discussed the changes in the ordinance, which included, user fees for service connections, such as tap fees. Member Romer motioned to approve the Ordinance as presented on first reading, noting that the ordinance has been discussed at previous meetings and only minor changes were made. Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Clerk Treasurer then opened a third Public Hearing to present a tax abatement for Keller Development, 706 S Detroit Street. (Formerly Preferred Auto) Danielle Beberstein, representing Keller Development, requested a 100% Tax Abatement for 10 years, if approved, they would only be taxed for the lot, not the building improvements. Member Glick motioned to approve the proposed abatement as presented. Member Romer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Hearings were all closed at that time. Council then moved on to their regular business meeting.

Bond Issue: Member Glick made a motion to move forward with the execution of all documents necessary for the bond issue as it relates to the construction of a new Water Treatment Facility. Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**WASTEWATER:**

- Supervisor Helmuth stated that the septage intake is going well, the Clerk billed almost \$16,000.00 for services to local septic haulers for the Month of May.

**WATER:**

- Supervisor Miller stated that his department is working with the newest upgrades to the GIS system.
- Reported that the SplashPad used about 81,000 gallons of water during Grand Opening weekend. The use has been dialed back since then, usage is down to 20 gallons per minutes.

**FIRE:**

- Reported 41 fire incidents for the Month of May.
- Member Glick thanked the Department Volunteers for helping at the Park Opening.
- Working with Five Alarm on quotes for Turn out gear for new members that have passed the initial training requirements.
- Attorney Eberhard discussed the possible need to change how we do billing for the fire incidents.

**POLICE:**

- Marshal Snyder presented the report of details for May 2021.
- Requested approval for Deputy Dubea and Smoker to attend a K9 Conference in Nashville TN in September. The cost is \$295 per person plus lodging and food expenses. Member Romer motioned to approve the training, Member Glick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**STREET:**

- Working with the wastewater dept on sewer sanitary sewer line maintenance.
- Replaced the entry door on the Red Building
- Brown Equipment provided 7 hours of free training on the proper use of equipment in relation to the Vactor Truck.
- Requested approval to move forward with seeking bids for a new Vactor. Council gave the go ahead to do so.

**PARK:**

- Grand Opening of the Splashpad/Park was a huge success. Nearly 500 people were in attendance. Member Glick clarified to the public that the Town will be paying the water/sewer billing to the Water/Sewer Departments, the rates for water are not related to the splashpad use.
- Discussed rates for pavilion use. Attorney Eberhard will put something together for the next meeting.

**CLERK:**

- Presented the May Bank Reconciliation Reports. Member Romer motioned to approve the documents, Member Gayheart seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Sent a Public Hearing for additional appropriations in relation to the Water Plant Construction for Monday, June 21, 2021.

**TOWN MANAGER:**

- Discussed the Right of Way Buying Contract and Supplemental Contract Agreement regarding the Hawpach Street Project with DLZ. Member Glick motioned to approve the agreement, seconded by Member Fred. Motion carried.
- Presented a Contract for DLZ in regards to Phase 4 of the Water Treatment Construction. Member Romer motioned to approve the Agreement for Engineering Services and Construction Administration.

Member Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Reminder that Spring Clean up is June 12<sup>th</sup>
- Discussed the Church of Christ's public hearing that goes before the Town BZA. They are installing a new sign
- Jonas Miller, owner of the property north of the Town Hall will be building a new home, off grid. They will be on a septic system, unless there are strong objections. No objection for a single dwelling, however if it is tuned into a development of homes, it will be reconsidered.
- Discussed the Indiana Finance Authority opening the SWIF Grant Application today. Received confirmation that we can still apply for this grant even though we will be closing on the SRF loan in June.

**ATTORNEY:**

- Discussed what he has been working on throughout the meeting.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

- Discussed the Truck Route Ordinance
- Noted that the first meeting in July will be Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup>, not Monday, the 5<sup>th</sup>

**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 Vice President

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