

# Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

October 14,

2024

**Attendees:** Mayor: Ken James, Monte Evans, Mark May, Glen McSparran, Chris Foster, Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Absent: Eric Stein.  
Others Present- Robert Presley, Jim House, Joe House, Dee Jones.

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes of the September 9, 2024 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. McSparran made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster-Yes. The motion passed.

**Sheriff's Report:** 1. No Report.

**Citizens Comments:** 1. Robert Presley/111 Pike Street. Mr. Presley, Zoning Inspector, was present to express concern once again about this Pike Street property. It's working on over a year now, and the property is becoming more hazardous as time goes by. He asked if there wasn't something we can do? Can we demolish the remains and assess the property taxes, or file a lawsuit or something? Mr. Johnston noted it is private property, we can't do anything if it's not Village property. We could file a civil nuisance suit, but it could be costly and time consuming. Mr. Johnston tried to contact the lawyer for the executor of the property, but had not had a response from him. He has since found out a new lawyer had been retained by the executor. Council asked Mr. Johnston to send a letter to the new lawyer, requesting a timeline, date for demo, and any information that could provide progress on getting this issue resolved.

2. Jim House/107 Second Street. Mr. House stated he has addressed the issues that were found at his house. He has to have a final inspection for house approval and should be ready before or by next Council meeting. He should contact the Zoning board when he is ready to apply for an occupancy permit.

**Solicitors Report:** 1. 107 Second Street/Occupancy Permit/ Zoning Code. See Citizens Comment #2.  
2. 111 Pike Street/Burned House. See Citizens Comment #1.  
3. 8 School Street. Mr. Johnston stated the Health Department has looked at the property, this issue is working its way thru the chain of command at the Health Department.

**BOPA:** Mr. Stein reported:

1. Water Plant Aerator. We are waiting on information from Mote & Associates.
2. Back-Up Generator. Mote & Associates will provide a timeline for the bid process for the back-up Generator

**Old Business.** 1. **Resolution 9-24/Speed Bump Resolution.** The speed bumps were installed today.  
2. 2022/2023 Audit. Ms. Slagle has sent the preliminary, confidential audit report to Council members.  
3. Leaf Collection, West Milton has a quote of \$135.00 per hour for leaf collection this year. We'll try to do two collections, when Milton has time to come out. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the \$135.00 per hour for West Milton to pick up leaves around town, Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster- Yes. The motion passed. We don't have any dates yet.  
4. Snow Plowing. Council reviewed quotes from M & T Excavating, See-Thru Window Cleaning & Property Maintenance, Wolf Property Services and E&M Lawn Maintenance. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve M&T to plow the Village streets this season, Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster- Yes. The motion passed.

**New Business.** 1. Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mr. James noted the County would like us to update Resolution 4-18, if we would like to continue to be part of this County wide plan. Mr. May made a motion to approve being part of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster- Yes. The motion passed.

2. Laura Fire Company Contract. Our current three-year contract will end December 31, 2024. We have a renewal three-year contract available, the annual payment would be \$4000.00. Mr. Stein made a motion to approve the three-year contract with the Fire Company for \$4000.00 per year, Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster- Yes. The motion passed.

3. 205 South Main Street. This property has a lot of brush, rubbish, furniture, etc. in the yard. Council asked Ms. Slagle to send a letter asking the property owner to clean up the property.

4. Unleashed Dogs. Mr. Stein noted there have been some dogs running around town, he has had an encounter with one as he walked his dog around town. Mr. James stated residents should contact the County offices, the County Resource Officer can check to see if a pet is licensed.

5. Zoning Inspections. Mr. Presley asked about getting paid for zoning inspections from 2022 to present. Ms. Slagle stated she didn't know the inspections were approved. Mr. James will report zoning inspections to Council during meetings, this way, we can stay current with filings and paying Mr. Presley when an inspection is done. Mr. Evans made a motion to pay Mr. Presley for three inspections in 2022 and ten inspections from 2023 and 2024 so far. Mr. Stein seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran - Yes, Mr. Foster- Yes. The motion passed.

**Bills.** Mr. May made a motion to pay the following bills, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes Mr. Foster - Yes. The motion passed.

PERS	\$885.11	AES	\$1209.63
Gretchen Slagle	444.87	Ken James	108.78
Amy Elmore	90.00	Shipman Dixon	495.00
Twillio	6.62	NameCheap	17.06
ABCO Printing	193.86	Rumpke	162.95

Mr. Stein made a motion to close the meeting, Mr. May seconded the motion. All yeas, the motion passed.

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Kenneth James, Mayor

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Gretchen Slagle, Clerk