

Village of Laura Council and BOPA

7:00 PM

November 11,

2024

Attendees: Mayor :Ken James, Eric Stein, Monte Evans, Mark May, Glen McSparran, Chris Foster, BOPA: Dan Barker, Bradley Ingle, Steve Vore, Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Others Present- Robert Presley, Dee Jones, Jim House. Mote and Associates-Brian Mitch, Philip Hewitt.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the October 14, 2024 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged, with the following correction-Mr. Stein was present at this meeting. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster- Yes. The motion passed.

Sheriff's Report: 1. No Report.

Citizens Comments: 1. None.

Back Up Generator Quotes. Brian Mitch and Philip Hewitt of Mote & Associates were present to explain the bids received for the back up generator. Mr. Mitch noted there were three bids for the project. The engineer's estimate was \$102,000, the bids were Buscher Electric- \$128,450, Calvin Electric-\$131,000 and Garber Electric-\$168,300. A State law says that bids cannot be awarded if they are over 20% of the engineer's estimate, all bids were over that limit. Mr. Mitch noted the engineer's estimate was not quite up to current prices. They think we need to update the estimate and rebid the project. He thinks this can be done by the end of the year. Ms. Slagle stated the ARPA money can be obligated, not actually spent by the end of the year, as long as we have a contract, we should be okay. The new engineer's estimate is \$144,000 for the project.

Mr. Hewitt stated that he has looked into possible grant money and noted there isn't any available at this time. This means the Village would have to pay for the additional \$42,000. He presented loan data with possible solutions for the additional funds. Council and the Board reviewed the data sheet and water fund appropriations and discussed.

The BOPA has worked to save and put money aside for things like filter media, the water tower, and known repairs, and also puts money in a water enterprise reserve fund. but as in many cases, sometimes the things that break are expensive. We have cracks in our aerator that need addressed. Mr. Barker noted that he didn't want to deplete our water fund to the point that might put us without a cushion in our budget. Mr. Vore noted we need a backup generator, we saw what could happen after the Memorial Day tornados, Mr. Ingle agreed. Members of the BOPA were asked how they thought the additional money for the aerator should be obtained-Mr. Barker-Loan, Mr. Vore-Loan, Mr. Ingle-Loan. Mr. May noted there may be a need to look at increasing the water rates. Mr. Hewitt suggested an OWDA Loan and noted the interest rates he used to calculate the costs were conservative. He listed the costs of a 5-year loan at \$149,679.25 and a 7-Year loan at \$151,861.07. This would translate into an increase in rates of \$4.12 per utility for 5-year loan and \$3.08 per utility for a 7-year loan. We could possibly pay off the loan early and that would decrease the amount we would owe. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve an OWDA Loan of \$52,000 for the Village share of the Backup Generator. This would include up to 5 ½ percent interest and a 7-year loan. Mr. May seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster- Yes. The motion passed.

Solicitors Report: 1. 107 Second Street/Occupancy Permit/ Zoning Code. Mr. House has everything ready for the occupancy permit. Mr. James asked he come to the Zoning Board meeting next Tuesday.
2. 111 Pike Street/Burned House. Mr. Johnston has tried to get in touch with the new lawyer-Rob Harrison. Council asked Mr. Johnston to let Mr. Harrison know we may be willing to pursue legal action. A Dayton Daily News article noted a grant was awarded to have this property razed. We don't know how long it will take.
3. 8 School Street. No Report.

BOPA: Mr. Stein reported:

1. Water Plant Aerator. We have some estimates for repair or replacement of the aerator.
2. Mr. Barker noted we may want to look at buying the old railroad property between the water and sewer plants, if expansion were to occur.

Old Business. 1. 2022/2023 Audit. No Report.

3. Leaf Pick-Up. No Report.
4. 205 South Main Street/Tall Weeds, Trash. Ms. Slagle did not send a letter, she will send one.
5. Zoning Payments. Mr. James noted two zoning permits were finished and closed. Ms. Slagle will pay Mr. Presley \$25 for each permit. She still needs to pay him for 12 other permits from 2022 and 2023.

New Business. 1. 2024 Budget Commission Millage Rate. Ms. Slagle presented the 2024 Budget Commission rated of 3.40 inside millage. This rate will produce \$24, 453 revenue for the Village. Mr. Evans made a motion to approve the rate, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, 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	\$1124.48
Gretchen Slagle	444.87	Ken James	108.78
Amy Elmore	90.00	Shipman Dixon	495.00
Twillio	6.62	Rumpke	161.99
Wagner Paving	5000.00	Laura Fire Company	4000.00
Treasurer of State School	133.54	Internal Revenue	460.26
Ohio Dept. of Tax	76.71	OnSolve	32.00

Mr. Foster made a motion to close the meeting, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. All yeas, the motion passed.

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk