

Village of Laura Council

7:00 PM

January 13,

2025

Attendees: Mayor :Ken James, Eric Stein, Monte Evans, Mark May, Glen McSparran, Absent-Jackie Knight, Gretchen Slagle-Fiscal Officer, Solicitor-Andrew Johnston. Others Present- Doug Baker-Ambulance Board

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the December 9, 2024 meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. James noted in the Solicitors Report, line 3, there was an errant #85, it should be struck from the sentence. Mr. May made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster -Abstain. The motion passed.

Emergency Meeting. Minutes of the December 18 Emergency meeting were previously reviewed and acknowledged. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. McSparran seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Abstain, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster -Yes, the motion passed.

Sheriff's Report: 1. No Report.

Citizens Comments: 1. Doug Baker/Ambulance Board. Mr. Baker was present to let Council know of the issues the Ambulance Board is experiencing. Since the new plat has been build outside of West Milton, along St. Rt. 571 and Iddings road, Union Township life squad has had 58 runs to Randall Residence. The life squad does not receive any tax money from this plat, the residents and businesses have been given exemptions for a certain number of years. With an increased number of calls for assistance, there has been an increased number of incidences where other mutual aid entities surrounding Union Township are responding to calls when the life squad is not available.

The Ambulance Board has requested financial aid from West Milton, asking for funding for the calls to the plat. West Milton has not responded to calls or requests for meetings from the ambulance Board. The ambulance board has talked to a lawyer, but feel their hands are tied as to what can be done to help pay for calls out to that plat. West Milton has suggested the Board ask for an additional levy, the Board does not want to put a levy on the ballot, they don't think it would be right to ask for additional funds from Union Township residents to subsidize the plat. Mr. Baker noted all are welcome to come support the ambulance Board at the West Milton workshop session on January 28 at 6:30 pm.

Solicitors Report: 1. 111 Pike Street/Burned House. Mr. Johnston spoke with Miami County Commissioners and Planning. There will be an asbestos assessment on the remains of the house, then after the results of that, the house will be accordingly razed. Approximately 90-100 days have been estimated for total completion.

2. 8 School Street. Mr. Johnston spoke with various people from the County about this property. It seems this property may be in limbo, so to speak. The property owner doesn't plan to do anything to the property. The Health Department acknowledges the house is in bad shape. Mr. Johnston noted the Miami County Prosecutor could be the one taking the lead on this, filing minor misdemeanor charges against the property owner, Betty Davis. Council discussed if the Village could buy the property. Discussion about back taxes, is it a big enough property to rebuild, would we have a use for it. Mr. Johnston said the Village could buy it. Mr. Johnston noted the County would probably try to help us if they can, in resolving the issue.

3. Board of Elections. Mr. Johnston filed a letter noting the vacant seat was filled.

4. Water Tower Contract. Ms. Slagle will look for the contract and get it to Mr. Johnston.

BOPA: Mr. Stein reported:

1. Back Up Generator. Calvin Electric was awarded the contract.
2. The Board would like to look at other engineering firms for the water tower.

Old Business. 1. Porta-John. Ms. Slagle will call Rumpke about picking up the porta-John. We asked to have it picked up the end of October.

New Business. 1. Wagner Paving. Wagner is moving its offices out to the new office. This will leave the offices on Pike Street empty.

1. **Resolution 1-25 / Amend 2024 Permanent Appropriation.** This Resolution was read. Mr. Foster made a motion to approve Resolution 1/25, Mr. Evans seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster -Yes, the motion passed.
2. **Resolution 1-25A / 2025 Temporary Appropriation.** This Resolution was read. Mr. May made a motion to approve Resolution 1/25A, Mr. Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Stein-Yes, Mr. Evans-Yes, Mr. May - Yes, Mr. McSparran -Yes, Mr. Foster -Yes, the motion passed.
3. 2025 Committees. Tabled until next meeting.

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

PERS	\$852.11	AES	\$1242.02
Gretchen Slagle	444.87	Ken James	108.78
Amy Elmore	90.00	Shipman Dixon	330.00
Twillio	6.60	Cooper Blacktop	1680.00
Eric Stein	109.32	Monte Evans	145.76
Mark May	109.32	Jackie Knight	72.48
Glen McSparran	144.96	Chris Foster	144.96
Treasurer of State Audit	397.70	Treasure of State UAN	762.00
M & T Excavating	420.00		

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

Kenneth James, Mayor

Gretchen Slagle, Clerk