

MEETING MINUTES

LaPaz Town Council

108 E Randolph ST., LaPaz, IN 46537
Thursday February 10, 2022 6:00 PM

Council Members

Roger Ecker, Pres.
Donella Emmons
Ryan Young

Council Members present- Roger Ecker, Donella Emmons, Ryan Young

Council Members absent – none

Town Clerk- Treasurer – present

Town Attorney - absent

Call to order - meeting started at 6:00PM

Patrons: Jerry Auer, Steve Stacy, Shannon McLeod - PPR, Linda Sanders & Adam Sitka - Wessler, Sandy Fisher, Matt Haskins, Phil Ellinger, Angela Cornell – Pilot News.

Approval of Minutes: President Ecker made a motion to approve January 13, 2021 minutes as written. Young seconded the motion. – Roll call. Young aye, Ecker aye, Emmons aye / 0 nays – Motion carried 3 - 0.

Old Business: **Ordinance 2021-09 Regulation of Animals**: Ecker made a motion to pass the new ordinance #2021-09 Regulation of animals. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Police Explorer: A quote for repair of the transmission for the 2015 Ford Explorer was introduced to the council from All Motion Solutions for \$4600.00. Ecker made a motion to have the work done. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Water Project: Wessler Engineering provided a map of the areas for discussion of the water project. It was decided not to go south of US 6 to include the trailer parks. The project would focus on the area of town limits out to the Union-United School Corporation, the housing project located behind the schools and out west on US 6 to the new US 31 interchange. It was also discussed by the grant writer, Shannon McLeod a possible multi agreement between the school corporation and the town to share the cost of installation of the distribution system out to the schools. Having the pipeline ready to the interchange to US 31 and US 6 would be an incentive for future growth for the town. Baker-Tilly will be contacted on Monday to get a quote for the preliminary rate study. Money from the ARP fund will be used for the cost. Ecker made the motion to go forth with the rate study for the town limits, out to the schools, housing project behind schools and out west on US 6 to the US 31 interchange. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

601 S Michigan ST: Shannon McLeod discussed what will be needed to acquire the property for the town. A contractor estimate of the cost for necessary interior improvements, get a commercial appraisal, hire an architect to do plans for the building, then look for grant funding.

MVH: Clerk stated to the council a new truck for the department was needed. The current truck, a 2000 Dodge 350 can no longer get parts to fix the linkage transmission. Skiles has welded a washer to the problem, hoping it will hold for now.

Page 2 minutes continued:

SEWER DEPT: Clerk informed Council an error was made in past with billing of property located at 2100 S Michigan Street. The sewer hookup was disconnected by the owner May 6, 2016. The house was demolished; all services were disconnected and inspected by Jerry Auer. This information was not input into the utility billing system by the former clerk-treasurer. The property owner had been paying the usual bill since then, he thought he had to pay since it was a town wide utility service.

It was only discovered by the present clerk-treasurer, Lorraine Dove when the property had been sold January 25, 2022. Clerk question the council as to whether the town should refund the former property owner, Richard Gadson for the payment of utilities. After discussion, the council said since Mr. Gadson had not formally informed the clerk at of the demolition the town did not have to refund Mr. Gadson. It was then brought up my Matt Haskins that the fire department has been paying the sewer debt service on the vacant lot where the former community building was located. He asked the council if the town would waive the debt fee for the fire department. Since COVID the funds have been low. Council discussed, they thought this debt service was being paid by the trustee, not the fire department itself. Ecker made a motion to not refund Mr. Gadson his former payments, but to end the debt fee on the property located at 2100 S Michigan St., refund the \$172.77 paid by S&B Storage Company (new owners of the 2100 S Michigan ST) that paid for non-existing services and waive the debt fee for the community building lot property. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business: Assets: Clerk asked the council permission to hire Larry Tipton to update the assets for the town. She looked into adding the Key- Asset Program to the current software system at a cost of \$2605.00. Mr. Tipton would update his work from last year for \$200.00. It was approved.

CD Renewal: The town's CD is to mature on February 12th. The Clerk asked the council if they wanted it renewed or deposited into the fund account. Current rate of interest is 1.000%. If renewed it would mature in 2026. After discussion of rates of interest, Ecker made a motion to not renew the CD at this time. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Police Body Cam grant: Currently the department has one body camera. It was discussed since the town is going to hire a full time officer the town would apply for the grant. Clerk noted Marshall County is going to a new CAD system so there will be new license agreement and software. Ecker made a motion to have PPR apply for the COPS Body Camera Grant. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Patron Comments: none

ATTORNEY UPDATE: none / on vacation

Clerk Update: Clerk office will be closed March 13th- March 17th. Clerk will be attending ILMCT Conference in Muncie. Mr. Jaskarndeet Signh donated \$9.53 to Christmas light fund.

Financials: Clerk asked the council to approve a transfer of funds. Resolution #2022-01 / Appropriation Transfer Resolution. Transferring \$7000.00 from MVH Repair & Maintenance to MVH Salaries. Transferring \$4000.00 from CCD-Park Splash Pad to CCD Professional. Ecker made the motion to approve Resolution 2022-01. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Ecker made a motion to approve APV'S from January 14th – February 10, 2022 / APV # 3476 - 3518. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0.

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Adjournment: Ecker made a motion to close the meeting. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker aye, Young aye, Emmons aye. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM



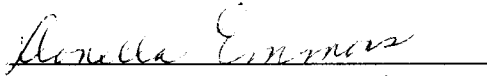
Roger Ecker, Council President

3-10-2022
date



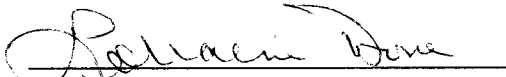
Ryan Young, Council Member

3-10-2022
date



Donella Emmons, Council Member

date



Lorraine Dove, Clerk – Treasurer

3-10-2022
date