

## MEETING MINUTES

### LaPaz Town Council

108 E Randolph ST., LaPaz, IN 46537  
Thursday December 9, 2021 6:00 PM

#### Council Members

Roger Ecker, Pres.  
Ryan Young  
Kelli Chavez

**Council Members present**- Ryan Young, Roger Ecker via Zoom due to quarantine for COVID exposure.

**Council Members absent** – Kelli Chavez

**Town Clerk- Treasurer** – present

**Town Attorney** - present

**Call to order** - meeting started at 6:00PM

**Patrons:** Paul Tyler, Steve Stacy, Kevin Berger of Easterday Construction, Phil Ellinger, Matthew Haskins, Andrew Hostetler.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilman Young made a motion to approve November 11, 2021 minutes as written. Ecker seconded the motion. – Roll call. 2 ayes / 0 nays – motion carried 2-0.

**Old Business:** Update on church property at 601 S Michigan Street, LaPaz; Ecker had the church inspected. He forwarded the report to the other council members and the attorney. The town is still waiting on an appraisal of the property. Ecker spoke with the property manager, he was told 2 other church organizations gave interest in the building but have not toured the building yet. Ecker told the manager the town has to go through the grant for purchase and that could take up to 6 months. He believed the manager did not want to wait that long to sell.

**Ordinance 2021-09 Regulation of Animals:** Ordinance was put on hold till January's meeting.

**MVH:** Ecker reported he contacted Susan of I&M to fix the missing light connections for the Christmas Lighting on the poles. Ecker reminded her we still want to be on the list for updating street lights to LED.

**SEWER DEPT:** Steve Stacy reported that the Town of Lakeville was inquiring about the LaPaz Plant doing their sewer testing for them. Where their testing is done it takes 3 weeks to get back results. Lakeville wants LaPaz to do the testing for faster results to be compliant with the state. Stacy will calculate the time and materials needed to do Lakeville's sewer testing and quote them a price. Ecker made a motion to approve going forward to do a contract with the Town of Lakeville for their testing for sewer services, based on the calculated cost that Stacy compiles for the Town of Lakeville. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes- 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0.

**New Business: Police officer:** The town has received 3 resumes for the position of police officer, another person stated interested. The clerk stated the town has not received the official letter from the COPS Grant nor the funds as of yet. The town is waiting on this to begin interviewing.

**Water Rate Study:** Ecker made a motion to go forth with the next step of hiring someone to do the water rate study. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0.

**North Township & LaPaz:** The attorney is to prepare an inter-local agreement letter for the Council to take to the meeting at the fire station on Monday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. This will be an agreement between the town and the township for the park for a new park board going forward.

**Page 2 minutes continued:**

**Swan Lake** - The Marshall County Development meeting will be at Swan Lake 11:30 to 1:00 PM. President Ecker encouraged the board members to attend these meetings.

**Christmas Light Contest:** President Ecker will work on getting prize donations for the contest. He will work on the details.

**Salary Ordinance:** Ecker made a motion to amend the salary ordinance for 2022. He made the motion that the council members are to receive their paycheck the night of the monthly council meeting. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0.

**ATTORNEY UPDATE:** Wagner presented the council Ordinance 2021-10 creating a fund for the promotion of business and community events. Ecker made the motion to pass the ordinance on all three readings. Young seconded. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0. Wagner then presented his contract for attorney services stating it was the same as in the past. Ecker made a motion to approve the new contract. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0. For the property located at 101 S Michigan Street, the attorney will be contacting the owner of the Bottle Stop to see if they are interested in the property.

**Patron Comments:** Kevin Berger gave an update on the property. The Plymouth Riverside Commons project has broken ground on November 2nd. They will start on the first set of foundations. LaPaz Commons will have a separate ground breaking ceremony in the spring.

**Clerk Update:** Clerk informed the council she will be on vacation December 19<sup>th</sup> – December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Financials:** Young made a motion to approve APV'S from November 12<sup>th</sup> – December 9<sup>th</sup> / APV #3368 - 3406. Ecker seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0.

**Adjournment:** President Ecker made a motion to close the meeting. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM

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Roger Ecker, Council President

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date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Young, Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT  
Kelli Chavez, Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorraine Dove, Clerk – Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

