

## MEETING MINUTES

108 E Randolph ST., LaPaz, IN 46537  
Thursday February 11, 2021 6:00 PM

### Council Members

Roger Ecker, Pres.  
Ryan Young  
Kelli Chavez

**Council Members present:** Roger Ecker, Ryan Young

**Council Members absent** – Kelli Chavez

Town Clerk- Treasurer – present

Town Attorney – present

**Call to order** – meeting started at 6:00PM – Due to COVID restrictions President Ecker stated that each department head could leave (if so inclined) the meeting as soon as their section of the meeting was through.

**Patrons:** Steve Stacy, Paul Tyler, Linda Sanders of Wessler Engineering

**Approval of Minutes:** Ecker made a motion to approve January 14, 2021 minutes as written. Young 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Roll call. 2 ayes / 0 nays – motion carried.

**MVH:** The truck has been repaired and working good. Paul Tyler informed the council the county garage is not open on the weekends. He has to get salt & sand on Fridays for the weekend. President Ecker asked Paul to make sure the intersections are taken care of to keep people from sliding through.

**Sewer Dept:** Steve Stacy stated the department is running good. No problems.

**OLD Business: LED SIGN:** Ecker gave council an update on the LED sign project. After speaking with the North Township Board it was decided that Chief Haskins will determine where the sign will be located in front of the fire station. Haskins said the sign will replace the original sign in same location. Haskins will organize the work detail to take down the old sign. The Township board did request the town put in a separate electric meter to the sign for billing purposes. Ecker spoke to Richie Gay regarding upgrading the electric to 30 amps.

**Unsafe building:** Chavez was not present. Council did speak with her through a phone call, to give an update. Chavez had nothing new to report. The Unsafe Building Committee will meet again on February 25<sup>th</sup>. The clerk stated the new building inspector is Steve Howard. He started February 1<sup>st</sup>. She asked Kelli to continue with the Figueroa building located at 115 S Michigan ST. and the old apartment building at 101 S Michigan ST. owned by Conley.

### **New Business:**

Ecker has a meeting with Steve Stacy, and Linda Sanders, Aaron Hutton, Adam Sitka all of Wessler Engineering regarding the water planning. It was decided the LaPaz Town council will meet on Thursday February 25<sup>th</sup> to further discuss plans.

**page 2 minutes**

**New Business continued:**

**Stellar:** Ecker stated that Bremen had one street project turned down. This means one million dollars to back into Stellar Fund for other areas. LaPaz is up for extra funds since we had the least amount of money coming from the Stellar Grant. It was discussed use the funds to put in new sidewalks on the west side of Michigan Street from Walnut Street intersection to the intersection of Vintage and Michigan Street. It would be an 80/20 grant. Ecker made a motion to go ahead with to get pricing for the sidewalk project. Young second the motion. Roll Call: 2 ayes – 0 nays- 1 abstain. Motion carried.

**County Wide Park Board:** In new stages of development. It would not include existing parks from area towns. They want a member from each town to participate.

**Assets:** The clerk asked the board to consider hiring Larry Tippin CPA to compile complete updated assets for the town. It had not been done properly in the past. It is a requirement by SBOA to be compliant. Discussion was made on this. Clerk asked the sewer department and street department to start compiling the necessary information needed. Ecker made a motion to hire Mr. Tippin for the proposed amount between \$2000 - \$3000 to do the work. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays- 1 abstain. Motion carried 2-0.

**Patron Comments:** none

**Clerk update:** \* Clerk asked for approval to attend the ILMCT Virtual Conference on March 15<sup>th</sup> – March 18<sup>th</sup>. The fee is \$300.00 for the session.

\* Clerk asked board if they wanted to suspend service with Husband Exterminator Service and do the monthly spraying in house. It would save \$42.00 per month. Item was put on hold for further discussion.

\* Clerk announced that the town submitted a total of 12 claims to the Cares Act Fund. The total reimbursement to the town was \$ 17,811.00 for claims paid.

**Attorney Update:** \* Attorney presented the board with the updated ordinance for the Dishonored Check Fee. The motion was made by Ecker to pass on the first reading of Ordinance #2021-01. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried on first reading of Ordinance 2021-01.

\* Discussion was made regarding the over grown bushes encroaching on the right of way by the property owned by Fawn Shirley at 106 W First Road. The bushes are interfering with the snow plowing of the street. The attorney will draft a letter to send to Ms. Shirley. \*Regarding the untimely time sheet for Officer Pippenger: The clerk had asked the attorney for a letter stating the approval to pay a timesheet from April 2019. Ecker made the motion to pay Officer Pippenger. Young second the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0. \* Regarding CCD – the board gave approval for Tony and Clerk to speak with Bakertilly to update the current CCD.

Minutes page 3

**Financials:** \*Clerk asked for approval of Resolution #01-2021 for transfer of funds within the MVH Fund Account. It would move \$2500.00 from MVH Repair and Maintenance to MVH Payroll to balance MVH appropriations for the end of 2020. Ecker made the motion to approve Resolution # 01-2021. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes – 0 nays. Motion carried 2-0.

\*Ecker made a motion to approve APV's from January 15<sup>th</sup> – February 11<sup>th</sup>. Young 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Roll call: 2 ayes - 0 nays- motion carried 2-0.

**Close:** Ecker made a motion to close the council meeting. Young 2<sup>nd</sup> – roll call – 2 ayes / 0 nays – motion carried. Adjourned at 6:50 PM

**Announcements:** Next Council meeting will be March 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger Ecker, Council President

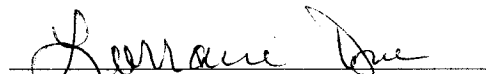
3-11-2021  
date

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

3-11-2021  
date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

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

3-11-21  
date