

**TOWN OF LAPAZ**  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 6:00 PM**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ADOPTION OF 2020 BUDGET**

**ATTENDANCE:** Roger Ecker, Ryan Young, Kellie Chavez, Tony Wagner, Lorraine Dove, Bill Reed, Jerry Auer, Paul Tyler. Patron Rex Hummel.

Patron Comments: none.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Roger made a motion to close the meeting Ryan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:04 pm

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 6:05 PM**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Roger made a motion to approve minutes as read from August 8, 2019 meeting. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Roger made a motion to pass the budget for 2020. Ryan voted aye. Kellie voted aye. Roger voted aye. The 2020 budget passed 3-0.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Roger presented the Ordinance 2019-04 for Park Authority. He made a motion to accept the ordinance. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0

Regarding the Unsafe Building Ordinance 2019-03 for LaPaz: Roger made a motion all those in favor to accept on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> reading signify by say aye or nay. All 3 board members signified by saying aye. Motion carried 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Roger said there will be monies left over in the stellar project. He suggested the town use the money for a water project study. He stated this could be \$10 – 20,000 for the study. Discussion was made among the board on the benefit to the town, the school system and surrounding residences. Water will be attractive to new business. After the discussion, Tony made an amendment to the resolution to the 2019-02 to include the study for a water project for the Town of LaPaz. The new amendment will be 2019-02A. Roger opened the forum up to discussion to the board. Kellie was in favor of LaPaz going forward with the study. Roger put forth reasons for the project: will bring in additional housing projects. Our school system is growing, gained over 200 students from South Bend this past year. Marshall County is in need of housing throughout the whole county.

Roger made a motion to pass the Resolution 2019-02A. Ryan seconds the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Town Wide Clean-up is October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Lorraine is to go to the ILMCT Meeting October 16 & 17 in Middlebury.

Summary of Findings for Sewer Utility Rate: Lorraine gave the board a copy of the email from Ross Hagen of Bakertilly. Mr. Ross said basically we have spent more money due to repairs than has come in since the new rate. It should even out as the year proceeds. Lorraine also gave the board an update on the number of sewer liens she will be filing by September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion was made on Republic Services new contact rates for 2020. The board discussed possibility of putting out for bid. Lorraine told the board the recycling is what is driving up the cost. She said we are not charging enough at this current time. We are billing \$12.16 for trash now but are paying \$12.34 for this service. The increase was not put on the bill this past year. Roger asked for an address print out for customers for an actual count. Lorraine was told we do not need an ordinance for a rate increase for the trash increase. Roger asked for Pete Callan of Republic to bring a contract to our next meeting.

Regarding property ordinance violation letters: Roger felt Fleck was making an attempt to clean up. He felt on the Josephine Frascetti property, the Rice property to respond within 14 days to finish cleaning up their property or the town will clean up at the cost to the home owner.

**SEWER DEPT** : County wide sewer district was discussed by Bill Reed. There is a meeting to be held. Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup>. Jerry reported they had trouble with transfer switch losing power. Banner Electric looked at it. They quoted \$3,000 to replace the switch to install it. Board OK'd the repair by for safety sake. Roger stated it would not hurt to get another quote.

Bill reported on his meeting conference. He discussed doing an asset management plan. Tony suggested asking MACOG for help in this. Bill discussed phosphorous and a new man made PFAS chemical that is for no stick surfaces. This new chemical is getting into the water systems and cannot break down. The conference touched on record retention records. Lorraine gave Bill a retention schedule to work on his records at the plant. State passed a new manual. Bill to rewrite new procedures.

**MVH**: Problem with catch basin by the fire department. Paul explained the problem to the board with where the old adjoined the new. Paul suggested we shut off the old field tile that goes from Pertic's field under the road to goes out to Louis Albert field. He had Haskins look at it already. He goes along with Paul's suggestion. Roger asked for an estimate from Haskin's. Louis Albert is happy with the spaying we did on his ditch. Mr. Albert asked if the town would burn off weeds after crops are out. Paul said that is muck and we should not burn. Roger asked we get a price for dredging the ditch once crops are out. Kellie told the board the street sign at Kale and Troyer is down and needs fixed. Roger also stated he had Banner Electric install new flasher lights at the intersection.

**PATRON COMMENTS:** none

**FINANCIALS:** Roger made motion to accept the APV's from August 9<sup>th</sup> through September 12<sup>th</sup>. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

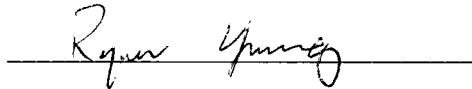
**ADJOURNMENT:** Roger made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM



Roger Ecker, Council President

10/10/19

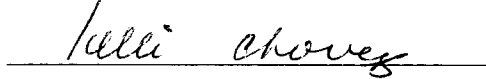
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Ryan Young, Council Member

10-10-2019

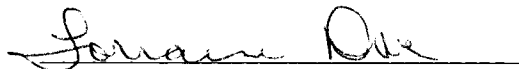
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Kelli Chavez, Council Member

10/10/19

date



Lorraine Dove, Clerk Treasurer

10/10/19

date