

Village of Lawrence

Common Council Meeting

May 11th, 2021

www.lawrencemi.org

Call to Order

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of Village of Lawrence was called to order by President Quick at 7:00 PM via Zoom and live.

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie

Webster, Lorenzo-via Zoom.

Absent: NA

Also, Present: Theresa Stroud, Becky Everhart, Paul Bianco, Don Hanson, Donna Spenner and Mike Anchor

Guests: Derik Sever from Abonmarche.

Additions to Agenda:

- i. Special Session and Public Hearing for Grant prior to May 28th.

Conflict of Interest items

No conflict of Interest

Approval to pay bills and Approval of Consent Agenda and Minutes from April 13th and May 4th meetings.

Motion by Gritter

2nd by Ouzts

All Aye-Motion carried

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie, Webster, Lorenzo

Absent: NA

Presentations and Guests

County Commissioner presented by Don Hanson-

- i. Review of personal tax assessment.
- ii. Palisades Congressional funds available. John Paul to write the grant.
- iii. Frank Harvester as new Administrator
- iv. Veteran Services-operates out of a van to pick up residents at their home. \$1,000.00 per Veteran for free with completion of DD2-14 form.
 - a. Ouzts-How much is generated from Palisade's power plant?
 - i. Hanson-2 plants

No further discussion.

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Township Supervisor-presented by Donna Spenner

- i. Doing interviews for the Marijuana Administrator position this week. Will make decision by Thursday also determine if position will be full time or part time.
 - a. Stroud-Do you have an update on how much the State is releasing?
 - i. Spenner-Not yet.
 - b. Stroud-Has checked website but appears to still in need of cleanup. Some municipalities are listed multiple times.
 - i. Spenner-As soon as the funds are received, she will contact Village to hold a meeting to discuss distribution of funds.

Lawrence Township Emergency Services Report – Chief Mike Anchor

- i. Still working on IT issues with The Tech at fire station.
- ii. Replacement of grass rig; will be presenting bid to Board on Thursday. They hope to get \$4,000.00 back on old rig.
- iii. School will be holding a Grad Parade on May 27th; line up starts at 5:30 and parade starts at 6:00 pm. Will wrap up with a cookout sponsored by Joe Lagrow with RH Investment Holdings and 374 Farms with each donating \$11,000.00 toward event.

Quick-To jump to 305 Farms New Business.

- i. Reservation permit for 35 Licenses. Has the fee of \$2,000.00 per permit been paid?
 - a. Stroud-Yes
 - b. Gritter-Is this in addition for current permits?
 - i. Quick-they currently have 5 or 6 permits. The permit will allow them to reserve the 35 additional permits for up to 3 years.
 - ii. Ouzts-Since this property is outside the Industrial Park it has a different set of rules.

Additional Comments: NA

Quick-call for motion to approve Reservation Permit for 305 Farms.

Motion by Gritter
2nd by DeLoach

All Aye-Motion Carried

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie, Webster, Lorenzo

Absent: NA

Reports:

Clerk-Presented by Everhart

- i. Need motion and approval for the Amended Credit Card Resolution, ACH Resolution and Resolution for Tax payments.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

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- a. CC Resolution-changes made to remove individual names of previous employees and add titles.
- b. ACH Resolution-had no policy on file.
- c. Tax Resolution-add the ability to accept Tax payments at the Village through February 28th. Delinquent taxes would be handled at the County.

Quick-call for motion.

Motion by Ouzts

2nd by Gritter

All-Aye-Motion Carried

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie, Webster, Lorenzo

Absent: NA

Clerk-Presented by Everhart

- ii. Do we want to charge penalties on golf carts if they do not register for permit?
 - a. Stroud-we currently have language in the Ordinance that states there is a penalty but there is nothing in the fee schedule or language to indicate what the penalty would be.
 - b. Ouzts-Ordinance follows state law.
 - c. Quick-do we want to make it a tier penalty? \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 by violation.
 - d. Glennie-what type of ticket would be issued?
 - i. Bianco-would be based on the Ordinance but could do fine which would fall under the Village.
 - e. Quick-likes the idea of doing a fine versus a citation.
 - f. DeLoach-Do residents need to show proof of insurance?
 - i. Group consensus is not sure.
 - g. Ouzts-We need to get with attorney to go over language in the Ordinance.
 - i. Stroud-could also include removal of Sunset Clause in current Ordinance.
 - h. Glennie-would this be the same as Blight?
 - i. Bainco-No blight citations go through the County and can go to court.
 - i. All agree to have attorney review Ordinance and do as a fine and write as a policy so changes can be made without redoing the Ordinance.
- iii. Postage machine-having continued issues with the Lawrence USPS. Looked into getting an upgrade on current postage meter. Was provided 2 options but lowest options would be an additional \$50.00 month from current meter. We do not feel the additional cost is effective. Called Paw Paw USPS to see if account could be moved to their facility. Spoke with Sharon; she is researching this option but would require us to get a new permit number. We have Utility Bill stock in house for an additional couple of months with the current permit number so have time to research before making a decision.

No further discussion.

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Village Manager-Presented by Stroud

- i. Milage-will not be done as a milage but will have to be done as a special assessment. Will need to create a new district. Has contacted MML and is awaiting a response. Working on Resolution and has had conversations with Joslin.
- ii. Website redesign-Requesting action item for \$1,500.00 toward redesign of website. Would cover 50 hours for designer to create better functionality and add a community calendar. Brought in a Word Press specialist to try to add the community calendar to current website. Spent 2 hours but was not allow complete edits or additions to the current site without changing the main design of the calendar.
 - a. Glennie-This is why they previously went with Word Press.
 - i. Stroud-not user friendly; needs additional functionality. Would also like to add a section for current events that residents could click on as a link.
 - b. Quick-Do we have the money in the budget?
 - i. Stroud-Yes

Quick-call for motion to approve \$1,500.0 for new website design not to exceed this amount.

Motion by DeLoach

2nd by Gritter

All-Aye-Motion Carried

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie, Webster, Lorenzo

Absent: NA

Additional Comments:

- I. Glennie-Who will be doing the website design?
 - a. Stroud-has someone in mind and will do a preliminary proposal and present to Council prior to completion.

No further discussion.

Chief of Police-Presented by Bianco

- i. Since last meeting officers have had 14 written reports from residents.
- ii. Incident at the school involving a confiscated knife.
- iii. Traffic enforcement.
 - a. Cordes-issued 1 citation.
 - b. Bianco-issued 3 speeding citations; all going at least 20 over speed limit but citations were issued for 10 above.
- i. Assisted Chief Anchor on a fire call. Car fire on I-94 with minor injuries.
- ii. Actively working on Blight; has completed 7 of the 16 on the list provided by Stroud.
- iii. Are doing Golf Cart inspections.
- iv. Both Cordes and Bianco have been working with the School; attending softball games and showing presence.

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- v. Mixing up shifts.
- vi. Had an accident with a stolen car from Covert. Injuries were minor.
 - a. Glennie-Can I submit a claim for damage done to yard?
 - i. Bianco-yes; would need to file with the court. Not sure if it would do any good as car was stolen and thief does not appear to have the funds.
 - ii. DeLoach-what about the sign damaged in the accident; who is responsible for replacement?
 - Johnson-since it was a sign for I-94 it would be MDOT.
- i. New Car-has signed paperwork on the car and parts have been ordered, computer, printer etc. Purchased as "Ready for the Road Package" which will be a cost savings for the Village.

Abonmarche-Presented by Derik Sever.

- i. On call to confirm if anything is needed and get update on our status for the grant application.
 - a. Johhson-reviewing the resolution. Need to change language for CIP, will need Special Council and Public Hearing. Is meeting with Dan to discuss site plan review.

Administration-no meeting

Community Development: presented by Glennie.

- ii. Will be hosting a house decoration contest for 4th of July.
- iii. Music in the Park.
- iv. Open Mic Night.
- v. History Lecture at Twp Hall

No Additional Comments.

DDA-Presented by President Quick

- i. Has had conversations with DDA regarding the water tower agreement. Due to missing tax capture that was not funded to DDA due to parcels not correctly identified; the Village will cover the next payment in August to cover the tax fund shortage.
 - a. Stroud-missing tax capture is around \$22,000.00.
- ii. Quick approves and is working with Joslin to present a written agreement to reflect this.
- iii. Had an appointment with Rog Cogar to sign agreement to purchase property next to Freedom; Roy was a no call no show. If not contacted Quick will present to another buyer.

Parks & Rec-presented by Lorenzo

- i. Would like to request a budget amendment to cover the cost of wood chips for the Park. Cost would be \$2,00.00.
 - a. Quick-How often do we replace?
 - i. DeLoach-every 2 to 3 years in the past. Doesn't feel it is necessary annually.
- ii. Would like to work with Shawn Baker at ISD to see if we can combine delivery on future orders to cut cost.
- iii. Met with Amos Alexander with True Leaf. Toured all possible locations. Amos recommended the North River location as it is visible to the public. Amos is an active Kayaker and showed interest in sponsoring.

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- iv. Working with vendor out of Paw Paw to get quote on dock and would like to get additional quotes.
 - a. Ouzts-what was Amos's response?
 - i. Lorenzo-all for it. Will need to get some solid figures and hold additional conversation.
 - ii.

Quick-call for motion to approve the budget amendment not to exceed \$2,200.00 for the purchase of wood chips.

Motion by Webster

2nd by Gritter

All Aye-Motion Carried.

Additional Comments:

- i. Glennie-Do we need to remove old chips?
 - a. DeLoach-was just at Park; still has good texture and no removal of old chips is needed.

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie, Webster, Lorenzo

No further discussion.

LDFA-no report.

Planning-Presented by Ouzts.

- ii. Myndset-Ready to proceed and awaiting review of application.
 - a. Stroud-completing the review and will make a priority tomorrow.
- iii. Golden Greens sign has been received and approved.
- iv. Mirror concerns regarding Blight issues.
- v. Wightman-would need 2 to 3 weeks.
 - a. Stroud-will this not eat up the original funds?
 - i. Ouzts-yes but \$20,000.00 more coming in for additional 4 permits.
 - ii. Quick-had conversation with Joslin regarding the use of Marijuana funds for roads and water tower. Joslin thinks this is not a good idea due to restrictions on funds.
 - iii. Quick-Can Village start tracking time spent on Marijuana?
 - 1. Stroud-Yes; can create a timesheet line to indicate time spent.

PSC-Presented by Gritter

- i. Water Ordinance; just a couple of items remaining.
- ii. Water disconnect policy in progress.
- iii. Consumers-done with their part of the 305 water lines and have been approved.
- iv. Grant-working with Abonmarche.
 - a. Quick-will set Special Session of the Council.

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No further discussion.

DPW- presented by Johnson

- i. Hydro flushing started next week.
- ii. Next Lead and Copper to start next week.
- iii. Communications: will be doing a test run tomorrow.
- iv. Ox Roast-are we having the event? Will it still be 3 days?
 - a. Glennie-yes; wanted 3 days to generate revenue for vendors. Will hold Truck parade and regular parade on Monday with a follow up of fireworks.
 - b. Stroud-who do vendors need to contact for entries into the parade?
 - i. Glennie-In the past it has been Janet Utter but will need to reach out to her. Mary Muday may also be an option.

No further discussion.

Quick-call for motion to close Regular Session and go into Closed Session.

Motion by Glennie

2nd by DeLoach

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie, Webster, Lorenzo

Absent: NA

Regular Session adjourned at 8:22 PM

Quick-call to motion to go into Closed Session.

Motion by Webster

2nd by Gritter

Roll Call

Present: Quick, Gritter, Ouzts, DeLoach, Glennie, Webster, Lorenzo

Absent: NA

Quick-call for motion to open Regular Council

Motion by Ouzts

2nd by Gritter

Roll Call

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Absent: NA

Regular Session open at 8:31

Redevelopment: -No meeting.

ZBA-no meeting.

New Business:

- a. Budget Amendment for Parks & Recs for woodchips.
- b. Website redesign
- c. 305 Farms Resolution & Agreement

Old Business. No old business.

No Further Discussion.

Public Comment: NA

Council Comments:

Webster-Thank you to Thresa for her contribution to the Village.

Lorenzo-currently studying to obtain her Real-estate license.

Glennie-Would like to request acknowledgement for Jean Carr; 97 old resident who was instrumental in the development of the old water tower in the 70's.

Stroud-would like to do some research on old announcements to put together a plaque to honor Jean.

Ouzts-child is approaching school record. New residents moving in next door.

Gritter-Can we preauthorize approval for plaque for Jean Carr?

Stroud-has it within her approval to cover funds. Would also like to extend invitation to newspaper to cover.

Gritter-Are there definitions for the Golf Cart ordinance (ATV, UTV).

Quick/Ouzts-yes; they are provided in the Ordinance.

Quick-Please be watchful for emails regarding upcoming special meetings.

Quick-call for motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion by Gritter

2nd by Glennie

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Attest:

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Becky Everhart, Clerk

David Quick, President