

## MEETING MINUTES

108 E Randolph ST., LaPaz, IN 46537

Thursday May 12, 2022 6:00 PM

### Council Members

Roger Ecker, Pres.

Ryan Young

Donella Emmons

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

**Council Members absent** – none

Town Clerk- Treasurer – present

Town Attorney – present

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

**Patrons:** Paul Tyler, Jerry Auer, Steve Stacy, Sandy Fisher, Justin Sherma, Phil Ellinger, Greg Hilderbrand, Matt Haskins, Angela Cornell of Pilot News, Jose Gonzales, and Arturio Valdez.

**Approval of Minutes:** Ecker made a motion to approve the minutes from April 14 and April 26, 2022 as written. Young second the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Emmons-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

**Old Business:** Wessler engineering: Not in attendance.

**Park Project:** The council met with the North Township May 9<sup>th</sup>. North Township has agreed to gift the park property to the Town of LaPaz. An email from Trustee Smith was read at the meeting stating the transfer. Ecker stated the town will further discuss with the township the exact boundaries after the town has the property surveyed in order to apply to split the property the best way for each entity. The township wants to have enough property to expand in the future. Discussion will include the basketball court area, town property area, fire department / community building area and the actual fire department area. Matt Haskins will meet with the fire fighters to discuss their property options. Ecker stated he wants to do a survey for what are the public thoughts for the new park. He is working with LaVille Schools to put our survey on their website to get more responses for town and township.

**Hiring of officer:** An executive meeting was held before the regular council meeting. The council came up with a job description and an application to be put on the town website and the police website. Insurance was discussed as well for the new hire. Ecker is to get back with the 3 quotes needed for body camera grant at the May meeting.

**MVH:** Tyler reported he will be filling pot holes soon. Ecker has an application for someone to work part time for the summer.

**Sewer Dept.:** The tests are running fine. Normal routine repairs.

**New Business:** Greg Hilderbrand of MCEC gave the council an overview of what MCEC has helped in accomplishing in Marshall County in the last year. He reported MCEC had 13.2 million in capital expenditures which resulted in 114 new jobs. In retaining and expanding current industry, 80.2 million were in expenditures which resulted in 331 new jobs. They sold their manufacturing center to Divert. During COVID they spent \$243,000.00 to 36 Marshall County small businesses to help them through the pandemic. To their website they added a page to attract veterans. Businesses can post job openings for free. Ready grant program was given 49 million dollars to Marshall County from the federal government. MCEC wants to develop a revolving loan program so private industry can take advantage of. Workforce is becoming a real problem. They want to develop a career center for those students who are not collage bond can get training. MCEC has been active in the housing development in the county. MCEC is working to rezone the land around US 6 and new US 31. He is aware LaPaz would want to expand the town limits there.

**New Business Minutes Continued page 2**

CAD System Agreement: Council read through the agreement for the CAD System for the police. Ecker made a motion to accept the agreement for license, software and annual fee for a total of \$9,165.00. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Emmons-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Patron Comments: Phil Ellinger questioned the council on the alley right away adjoining his property and the Welch property. Health department was contacted in the past regarding the cat litter. The attorney will be sending letters to all parties involved. Arturo Valdez questioned selling the property at 101 S Michigan Street. The Council will discuss and let him inspect the building after the meeting.

Attorney Update: The court date was set for June 2<sup>nd</sup> for the property at 227 S Michigan Street.

ATV & Motorized Vehicles Ordinance: Mr. Wagner gave a copy of the new ordinance to the council for approval. Ecker made a motion to accept Ordinance 2022-03 on the first reading. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Emmons-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Vintage Trail: Wagner and Mrs. Goodsell discussed the trail. She did not want to take possession of the trail. She wants it paved. Ecker stated it will not happen. The town has higher priorities.

Financials: Ecker made a motion to approve the APV's from April 15 – May 12, 2022 # 3622-3663 for \$41,956.98. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Emmons-aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Update: Dove reported to the council that she sent out 16 prelien letters on 4/26/22. Of those 8 responded with payment. She will be filing liens on the remaining 8 properties for the total of \$1384.62. Dove asked the council to approve Resolution 02-2022, giving permission to spend the ARPA Funds. Ecker made the motion to pass resolution 02-2022. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Emmons-aye. Motion carried 3-0. The clerk asked permission to attend the ILMCT conference on May 13<sup>th</sup> - May 16<sup>th</sup>. Dove also gave an update on Mediacom's program for internet for low income patrons. She put flyers out at the bank, post office, Facebook and town hall. Ecker asked if the clerk would post payroll checks for the council on the regular pay date verses having to receive at the meeting night. It had been changed when a former council member was not attending the meetings. Ecker made a motion to have the council members receive their pay checks at the same time as all monthly employees. Young second the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Emmons-aye. Motion carried 3-0.


Adjournment: President Ecker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Young seconded the motion. Roll call: Ecker-aye, Young-aye, Emmons-aye. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

  
Roger Ecker, Council President

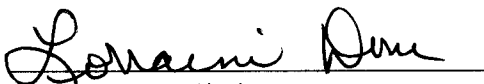
6-9-2022  
date

  
Ryan Young, Council Member

6/9/2022  
date

  
Donella Emmons, Council Member

6/9/2022  
date

  
Lorraine Dove, Clerk – Treasurer

6-9-2022  
date