

# Town of LaGrange Monthly Meeting Minutes

**13 May 2024, 7:00pm at Town Hall**

Attending: Brendan Smith, Loren Schleusener, Kyle Gibbens, Wendy Von Haden, Cody Schaub, Bruce Meiners, Laura Smith, Steve Abbott, Brenda Bell, Dave Bell, Brock Bailey, Melissa Abben

- Call to Order at 7:00 pm
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Previous Month's Minutes motion to approve by Kyle Gibbens, second by Loren Schleusener.
- Treasurer's Report
  - Fire Call Bills – Brendan mentioned no concerns from the fire meeting. Anything over \$500 we can ask for forgiveness from OFD. Mandy does still want to pursue the State TRIP program. Board decided to let her proceed with that.
- Citizen's Concerns - no concerns
- Planning Commission/Zoning/Land Use Issues – have not meet since last meeting
  - Honor Roll Concept – nothing new
  - Brock showed the sign idea of the directory for the cemetery. Jim Falkner has been putting a lot of time into this project. 4'x8' sign Cost is \$550 for the sign and \$368 for the designing fees. Kyle Gibbens made a motion to approve the sign for La Grange with Jim's approval. Loren Schleusener second. Brendan would like a plan for updating in writing. This will come out of cemetery fund. Motion carried, no one opposed.
  - Hwy 21 Property – nothing new
  - Junk Ordinance – nothing new
  - LaGrange/Boynton Cemetery Signage – talked to Zingler, there is a coating on the sign to clean off damage to sign.
  - Brendan has gotten two requests for garages. Need to tell citizens to start with Allison at the county for permits and set back requirements.
- Election Prep/Execution (13 Aug, 5 Nov) - pretty quiet right now, Melissa is looking at some training for the fall elections.
- Old Business
  - Personnel Update
    - Deputy Clerk Position – motion made by Kyle Gibbens to hire Melissa Abben at \$20 per hour second by Loren Schleusener. Motion passed, no opposed.
    - Appointed vs. Elected Clerk/Treasurer - had a discussion on elected vs appointed Clerk and Treasurer. Brendan Smith made a motion to proceed with an ordinance for the Town to go with an appointed Clerk for the referendum question for the November election. Kyle Gibbens second. Motion passed, no one opposed.
  - Road Projects Update
    - Ellsworth Road Project: 2024 Construction – we don't have a start date yet. Dirt work should start in July/August. There will be two phases. \$1.4 million project. There will be a public meeting before work begins for citizens to attend and meet all the project managers. The Town will be posting information on the Facebook page as it is available from the project managers.
    - Ellsworth Bridge: 2027 Construction – working on this, the contract is signed. Brendan looking to see if can get \$12,000 back from the state.
    - Embay/England LRIP: 2024 Construction - bids are out. Bid meeting 5:00 pm 5/22/24

- Formica/Estate/Essex ARIP Project—2025? - there has not been any communication about this. Cty ET from Hwy 12 to Cty N in will be under construction in 2025.
    - Bridge Inspections – Brendan discussed the bridge inspection pricing. Decided to wait until after the WTA meeting before making a decision on if we should go with the county or with BCD Services.
    - Cody asked if the guard rail on Ellsworth Rd is the responsibility of Town or the County. The rail needs to be repaired/replaced. Brendan asked Cody to review the highway book to see if a guard rail is required. Brendan will also call WTA to check with them.
  - Patrolman Issues/Concerns (Staffing, Recycle Center, Equipment, Facilities)
    - New Plow Truck – nothing new
    - Right of Way Clearing/Boom Mowing- Brendan and Cody need to work on this.
    - 3 Point Broom - Cody hasn't gotten any pricing yet
  - Boynton Cemetery Additional Property & Fencing – have not heard from surveyor
  - The Range Legal Fee Reimbursement – Wendy will work on this
- New Business
  - Painting Town Hall- have a quote to paint the interior of the Town Hall for \$2,225.00 from Laurie Engel. Kyle Gibbens made a motion, Loren Schleusener second. Motion carried, no one opposed.
  - Contracted Right of Way Clearing
  - July 3<sup>rd</sup> Agenda Mtg and August 12<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting - July 3<sup>rd</sup> Agenda meeting moved to June 26<sup>th</sup>. August 12<sup>th</sup> we will use the Fire Station meeting room for the regular monthly meeting.
  - Insurance Claim – Boom mowing damage. \$883 bid to from Hesgard Collision to repair the truck. Brendan Smith made a motion to pay the \$883 to Paul Witscheber and Hesgard Collision Center. Loren Schleusener second.
  - Driveway Permit – Kristen Schueler on English Avenue – motion made by Loren Schleusener to approve driving permit as presented, Kyle Gibbens second. Motion carried, no one opposed.
  - Fire Association Feedback – not a lot to report. Biggest issue determining the interstate bounding markers. The Fire Association is going to review this at their next meeting.
  - Shared Revenue MoE – looking for a letter from the Fire Chief. Brendan will login for this meeting at his office on May 21<sup>st</sup> at noon.
- Treasurer/Clerk/Supervisor Inputs – Loren brought up lack of Planning Commission meeting participants. May need to find some new members.
- Pay Bills Loren Schleusener made a motion to approve bills as presented. Kyle Gibbens second. Motion carried, no one opposed.
- Adjourned at 8:02 pm

Wendy Von Haden, Clerk