

Town of LaGrange Monthly Board Meeting Agenda

11 November 2024, 7:00pm at Town Hall

Attending: Brendan Smith, Loren Schleusener, Kyle Gibbens, Cody, Schaub, Wendy Von Haden, Bill Divyak, Brock Bailey, Denise Prise, Craige Scott, Steven Gerke, Deb Vrana, John Guthrie, Linda Ecker, Gerald Ecker, William Fleming, Paul Marten, Eric Daly, Bruce Meiners, Jack Dittmar, Kevin Gregar, Cindy Clay, BenVan Auken

Call to Order at 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance – Brendan thanked all veterans. Brendan also thanked all the election workers for a well-run election.

Previous Month's Minutes October 14th monthly meeting, October 23rd Putter's Ridge Water Issue Special Meeting, November 6th Agenda Meeting. Kyle made a motion to approve all three sets of minutes. Loren second no discussion all in favor no oppose

Treasurer's Report – Wendy gave Mandy's report as she was not at the meeting.

Fire Call Bills – all paid in full to Oakdale Area Fire Association at this time.

Citizen's Concerns Deb Vrana asked about the 4 way stop on Ellsworth. She feels there is not a need for the 4 way stop. Other citizens also expressed their dislike of the stop signs. Brendan explained that there was a lot of thought process put into the 4 way stop and that at this time the board is not interested in changing anything at this time. He recommended coming back in a few months and discussing this again after everyone has some time to adjust to it. The placement of the crosswalk was also brought up, they felt it may be a safety concern.

Putters Ridge Water Issues – Brendan explained we hired an engineer for this issue. The recommendation is a buried pipe on the east side of the Elkhorn Road from Elkland to the deeded water way. This side has no driveways or utilities. This plan would get the water to the deeded water right of way. The rough estimate of cost was \$35,000 – \$45,000. Brendan asked for comments from the audience. One citizen asked if the landowner where the water way is if they had been notified. Brendan explained he had a conversation with them yesterday. Brendan also explained the town can only do work in the road right of way. Anything further is up to the homeowner. Brendan explained this is not something the town wants to have to deal with. The board is trying to figure out the best way to fix this issue. A citizen brought up the fact that the culvert at the end of the waterway is 2 inches too high, so he is concerned with the water backing up into his yard again after spending 3 ½ years taking care of the water problem in his yard. It was brought up that there are some irrigation lines in the scope of the project. The town will let the citizens know before any work is done. Another citizen commented on why someone can change the topography of a property. Brendan explained that he talked to the WTA attorney regarding this issue. The board had a discussion as to how they would like to proceed. Brendan made a recommendation to put this project out for bid and then decide how to move forward after getting the bids.

Planning Commission/Zoning/Land Use Issues

Honor Roll Plaques – Brock sent the information to Leane and will follow up with her.

Hwy 21 Property – no discussion

LaGrange/Boynton Cemetery Signs – these signs are complete and ready for installation. Zingler will drop them off or Cody will pick them up. Cody and Brendan will get them installed.

Waldner Conditional Use Permit Request Vote – Brendan explained that this was denied by the county. He also mentioned that Mr. Waldner is fighting this decision.

Elan Rd and Ermine Ave Rezone – This was approved by the County and is completed.

Election Prep/Execution (5 Nov) - 1252 voters. 388 absentees (in person and mail). 108 new registrations on election day. The election went very well.

Personnel Update

Appointed vs. Elected Clerk – this was passed on the referendum. The Clerk will now be an appointed position starting next term.

Grass Mowers Update - we may have the same mowers for next year. We will discuss this again in January/February.

Road Projects Update

Ellsworth Road Project: 2024 Construction – held a ribbon cutting today for the road with Ho Chunk, Gerke, Mathy and all involved. John Guthrie thanked all involved in this project and commented on a job well done. Paul Martin mentioned the center seam may need to be looked at. Brendan will ask the engineer about this. This project is very near completion. Stripping and hydro seeding is all that needs to be completed.

Ellsworth Bridge: 2027 Construction, Overage Issue – had a good discussion with the engineer last Wednesday. This is 100% funded by the Federal government grant.

Embay/England LRIP: 2024 Construction - this is complete. The board discussed shouldering. Cody mentioned that this may have to wait until Spring. Kyle also mentioned to Cody about getting the gravel off English.

Formica/Estate/Essex ARIP Project—2025? - still waiting for the SMA. Will proceed when we receive that. Ho Chunk may be interested in helping with this project also.

Ensign Chipseal- this is complete

Patrolman Issues/Concerns (Staffing, Recycle Center, Equipment, Facilities) - Cody has some bids for the roof issue on the shed. Brendan will take care of this.

New Plow Truck – hoping to have the new truck in May or June.

Election Contingency Equipment: Generator, Lights, Extension Cords, Power Strips – this is all purchased and set aside for future elections.

Support of Towns Association Mtg, 21 Nov - RSVPs are in. Wendy will contact Taphouse Twenty with the final number.

Contingency Plans – will start working on this again now that the road is complete, and the election is done.

Noxious Weeds on Town Right-of-Ways - Loren has a few questions about the types of spray. Cody gave Loren some information regarding the spray. Loren asked about mowing versus spraying. Also need to know if we are going to spray all areas or just spot spray. Brendan asked to see the prices for mowing versus spraying. Loren will get the information for the next meeting.

Bridge Inspections – Jack Dittmar was here to present the results of the bridge inspections. Jack will get Cody the recommended products for sealers. He also pointed out the placement of the markers. He also mentioned that the county may try to bill for reviewing Jack's work. He did say the WTA is very aware of this practice and it may not be legal.

Potter Driveway Permit – Kyle and Loren feel it is too close to the intersection and should not be approved. Loren made a motion to deny Kyle second no discussion all in favor no oppose.

Fire Station Rent Renewal – there was a discussion on what the rent should be for the next 4-year term. Brendan made a motion to raise it from \$4500 to \$5500 and include internet in the rate for the next 4 years ending in 12-31-29 Kyle second no discussion. Amended motion to state that \$5000 per year will be put into a separate building fund. Loren second. all in favor no oppose

Treasurer/Clerk/Supervisor Inputs – Kyle had nothing. Loren mentioned a problem on Dogwood. Some fence broke when the tree cutting was done. The landowner would like this repaired, he has all the materials, just needs someone to come and do it. Cody will take care of this.

Pay Bills – Brendan made a motion to pay bills as printed. Kyle second. No discussion all in favor no oppose.

Adjourn – 9:06 pm