

TOWN COUNCIL OF LEO-CEDARVILLE
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 16, 2009

ATTENDANCE:

Paul Steffens – Council President
John Clendenen – Vice President
John Eastes
Gordon Liechty, Jr.
Mike Young
Pamela Spannuth – Clerk-Treasurer

7:00 – Mr. Steffens called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA – The agenda was accepted with flexibility.

LEO-CEDARVILLE REGIONAL SEWER DISTRICT – Dave Jones, Basil Wisler, Amy Shuler and Jim Lauer, representatives from the LCRSD, were present to meet with the town council to discuss the current state of affairs involving the regional sewer district and how it affects the town. Mr. Dave Jones discussed issues that the district has to face such as the ageing infrastructure as well capacity issues. They are exploring several options on ways to increase overall system capacity; in particular, the establishment of a second connection point with Fort Wayne's regional system. The expense that is necessary to increase capacity and address infrastructure rehabilitation is substantial. The LCRSD would like to facilitate new development as well as septic relief efforts but are concerned with current system limitations. Users will see a significant rate increase as the district prepares to undergo major infrastructure improvements as well as rising treatment and operating costs. At a minimum, a 25% to 30% increase is due to take effect in January 2010. With a potential ten million dollar price tag, capital improvement needs could easily double rates in the very near term. The district discussed some of the problems plaguing the aging system as well as the steps that have been taken to try to alleviate these problems. Mr. Lauer discussed the options that Fort Wayne Utilities has given the district to increase capacity and the risks and costs related to these options. Mr. Young asked about the possibility of several communities getting together to establish their own sewage treatment facility. Mr. Lauer stated that the expense would have to be shared by multiple communities and several communities have recently completed upgrades to their systems by increasing their capacity to Fort Wayne. Mr. Lauer addressed a question by Mr. Eastes about an estimate on a treatment facility that could handle a smaller quantity. At this point, establishing a new treatment system would be cost prohibitive. He further discussed the incremental annual increases that Fort Wayne will be charging over the next five years. Mr. Wisler added that although the LCRSD has done extensive research on identifying and correcting infiltration problems, locating the thousands of small leaks all throughout the aging system is nearly impossible. He mentioned the numerous programs that the district has implemented to assist in locating

problem areas such as smoke testing, building inspections, sanitary sewer evaluation program (televising the lines), asset management program, manhole programs, etc. The current rates and charges cannot support the improvements needed to the system. Mr. Wisler summarized the history of the system from its inception to present day. Issues such as unrestrained growth, the attempt to alleviate the capacity by the diversion of Grabill and Maysville, and rehabilitating a now 30-year old system were discussed in detail. Mr. Wisler asked for input from the council regarding where the council foresees or desires growth within the town. Mr. Young stated that due to the new hospitals and the good schools, the residential areas would likely continue to grow. Mr. Liechty expressed his appreciation to the LCRSD board for looking into long-term solutions. Mr. Lauer encouraged the council to preserve the character of Leo-Cedarville, which is currently small commercial and residential. He cautioned the council to avoid encouraging industrial growth due to the strict wastewater regulations. Mr. Jones suggested that the boards meet on a regular basis.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Ms. Spannuth provided a copy of the current fund and appropriation report.

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE – Mr. Liechty suggested that a capital projects committee should be formed to discuss and plan current and future capital projects. Mr. Liechty, Mr. Young, Ms. Spannuth, & representatives from the Stormwater Board and the Park Board will meet to discuss the town's capital projects. The town engineer will also be consulted during this process.

STREET PROJECT DISCUSSION – Mr. Young stated that the two main street projects for 2009 should be resurfacing Amstutz Road and improving Manning Street. Mr. Lauer discussed the town's income available for capital improvements and urged the council to stay within the town's annual revenue. Mr. Clendenen stated that Amstutz Road from Dollar General to Hosler Road is in poor condition and requires extensive maintenance. He stated that the Manning Street project can be divided into two projects as the stormwater improvements and the road improvement and be divided into two budget years. Mr. Lauer agreed that the stormwater work on Manning Street should be addressed and Amstutz Road be milled and resurfaced. Mr. Lauer recommended that extensive research on the flow of traffic should be done prior to any major improvements to Amstutz Road. Alternate routes for vehicles to enter and leave the High School should be studied and discussed with school board officials. Mr. Clendenen moved to authorize Schnelker Engineering to seek bids for the resurfacing of Amstutz Road from Hosler Road to Dollar General for an estimated total project cost of \$186,000.00. Mr. Liechty seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Lauer stated that a wage scale must be established for the year. Mr. Clendenen will contact the department of labor to begin this process.

FLOOD HAZARD ORDINANCE – ORDINANCE 2009-05 – Mr. Steffens discussed the proposed flood hazard ordinance prepared by the Department of

Natural Resources and reviewed by the town attorney. The ordinance replaces article 11 in the current manual. Mr. Liechty moved to adopt Ordinance 2009-05. Mr. Eastes seconded the motion to adopt; the ordinance passed by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION 2009-02 – Mr. Eastes moved to approve resolution 2009-02 regarding no-parking along certain streets during the 4th of July event. Mr. Clendenen seconded. Resolution 2009-02 was approved by unanimous vote.

LICENSE TO ENTER LAND 4th OF JULY – Mr. Clendenen discussed the annual agreement with the Chamber of Commerce regarding the license to use the town's land on Schwarz Road for the 4th of July festivities. Mr. Eastes moved to approve the license to enter and use town owned land. Mr. Liechty seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

GARBAGE ORDINANCE – Discussion ensued regarding the proposed garbage rate ordinance. Discussion ensued regarding proposed changes. The ordinance will be amended and placed on the next agenda for introduction.

FIREWORKS DONATION – Mr. Steffens discussed the request from the Chamber of Commerce for an annual fireworks donation. The town has budgeted \$4,500.00 towards this event to go towards the fireworks and 4th of July events. Mr. Liechty moved to contribute appropriated \$4,500.00 towards the fireworks and related events. Mr. Eastes seconded the motion. Mr. Liechty commended Mr. Clendenen on his work on the fireworks. The motion passed by a majority with Mr. Clendenen abstaining.

ADJORNED – The meeting was adjourned until July 7, 2009.

VOUCHERS – The June 16, 2009 line item voucher form was approved.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Paul Steffens
Council President

Pamela Spanuth
Clerk-Treasurer