**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**VILLAGE OF LAURENS**

**January 2, 2024**

**REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm

**Present:** Mayor Kelly Pinter, Trustee Jonathan Heelein, Trustee Frank Kovacs, Trustee Starr Liddle, Water Superintendent Dale Bullock, Clerk Erica LaBuz

Absent: Trustee Tom Halstead, Assistant Water Superintendent Jarrett Hotaling

Others: Marie Iannotti, Monica Kovacs, Steve Pinter

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Minutes**: Trustee Kovacs made a motion to approve the December minutes. Seconded by Trustee Heelein. Approved 4-0.

**Financial Reports**: The November financial report was reviewed. Six months into the fiscal year, all budget lines are on target. Trustee Heelein made a motion to approve the financial report. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. Approved 4-0. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve Abstract #8. Seconded by Trustee Heelein. Approved 4-0.

**Water Report –** Dale Bullock: Water usage for the month was 433,000 gallons which is very low. The average usage for the month was 13,900 gallons. The master reader may be failing. On 12/12 there was a power failure for 3 hours. The generator was running fine. Aqualogics was called to check soft starts after the generator was replaced. The starter to pump 2 needs to be replaced. We will be getting quotes. A lead line inventory must be completed by October 2024. Every home in the water system must be checked to see if the pipes are copper. The Village has documentation that the pipes are copper pipes. For customers in District 2 – outside the village – there is no documentation on copper pipes. Upgrades were done in 2007. Contractors were required to change to copper pipes. The requirement is to inventory the pipes. We will send notices with the spring water bills.

Trustee Kovacs made a motion to declare the Cummings generator surplus. Seconded by Trustee Liddle. Approved 4-0. Mayor Pinter will research 3 on-line auction sites and report back.

**Committee Reports**

**Parks, Property & Sidewalks –** **Trustees Liddle** **and Halstead**

**Community Engagement**

The Laurens Together village holiday event on December 16 was very successful. About 70 people attended. Santa in the Park was held for grades 1-3 on December 20th.

**Old Business**

**Elections –** Tom Halstead will not run for reelection. Jonathan Heelein is up for reelection. The January caucuses must be held between January 23rd and 30th.

**108 Main Street** – Mr. Drayton responded to the letter that was sent to him. He regrets that he will not be able to retain ownership of the property. County codes will do an assessment of this property and 36 Craft Street.

**Pool Fills -** Mayor Pinter handed out information on pool sizes. We will have an application, prior authorization and prepayment for future pool fills.

**Water Rates –** There was discussion about a reasonable increment to raise water rates. The village rate of $4.00 is low compared to other municipal rates. Trustee Kovacs made a motion to raise the rate from $4.00 to $4.50 per 1,000 gallons. Seconded by Trustee Heelein. Approved 4-0. A letter will be included with the spring water bills. Late penalties will be discussed at the next meeting. The clerk will check with the accounting software company to see how penalties will work within program.

**Public Comment**

**Adjournment:** Trustee Liddle made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Kovacs. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM

**Respectfully submitted,**

Erica LaBuz

Village Clerk