**Village of LaGrange Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**Record of Proceedings**

**August 8, 2024, 6:45 p.m.**

The Committee of the Whole meeting started at 6:45 p.m. The following council members were present: Flynn, Price, Gregory, Karpinski, and Smith. Councilman Honer arrived at 7:25 p.m.

1. **Donation of Sick Leave** – Council feels that our ordinance be general not specific (i.e., does not name an individual) if that meets legal requirements. The potential recipient of sick leave must exhaust their earned benefit, apply for Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), and subsequently be approved for FMLA. Council also would prefer that our ordinance is general and not specific (i.e., not name an individual) if that meets legal requirements. Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller will follow up with Solicitor Breunig about this.
2. **Swine** – Per Chief Laubenthal, we have not received any complaints recently. Council is still researching this matter and will follow up with Solicitor Breunig.
3. **Permits and Fines** – Solicitor Breunig and Administrator Gates have been working on this. Breunig will present something at this evening’s council meeting. Our $200 zoning board of appeals (ZBA) variance permit needs to be increased to cover increased costs (e.g., postage, certified mailings, legal notices, personnel, etc.). LaGrange Township’s ZBA variance permit is $400 while Grafton Township’s is $500. Additionally, penalties need to be established for failure to obtain a permit.
4. **Zoning Map** – Smith had a question on an area of the proposed zoning map update. The red area along the railroad tracks represents the car wash and/or Choo Choos. Because additional updates will be needed for the upcoming developments, council would like to wait to officially update the zoning map.
5. **Grants** – Grant writers cost $45,000 to $50,000 per year. Should we ask the public for assistance tracking down and applying for grants? Smith will speak with a former library employee who did grant writing for the library. She is now retired and might be interested in helping us. Laubenthal and/or Homer-Miller will locate the name of a grant-writing company used by Elyria.
6. **Opportunity Way** – Honer stated that it was difficult to locate online the LaGrange Community Improvement Corp. (LCIC) property, which is for sale. The zoning may need to be changed to locate a buyer(s).
7. **Banners** – Smith indicated that Janice King from the historical society has a list of veterans and that 2 residents are interested in helping.
8. **Signs** – A sign is needed, but we need to find a less expensive option. Smith will look for additional options.
9. **Police Department Parking / Landscaping** – Smith reported that the vocational school is open to assisting with this project. However, they would like to discuss it at the beginning of the school year.

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at approximately 7:31 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Curt Karpinski, Christie Homer-Miller, Fiscal Officer

 Council President Pro Tempore