

**Town of LaCrosse  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2012**

*Minutes which are public record, are notes taken to provide a summary memorandum of meetings or hearings and contain all official actions taken. Minutes are not intended to be a word for word or verbatim transcription of the meeting.*

**Present:** Vice Mayor Tom Ewing; Councilman Barbara Thomas, Mitchel Harrell, John Prescott and Laura Donovan; Attorney John Maines; Town Clerk Dianne Dubberly

Vice Mayor Tom Ewing called the regular meeting to order. Time 7:30 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of minutes February 13, 2012 Regular Meeting:**

Vice Mayor Ewing called for approval of the minutes. Councilman Harrell made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Donovan and which carried unanimously.

**Budget Report - Charlene Thomas:**

none

**New Business:**

**1. Dayna Miller - WastePro**

Dayna Miller was asked to address the council concerning garbage billing options. The town is currently billed \$14.17 per customer per month for twice per week pickup. Frank Kramer, Regional Mgr, stated they took a look at once per week pickup, and if the town chose this it would save \$2 per household per month. He stated WastePro is already losing money on the contract with the town and there were not enough households with pickup service to warrant WastePro taking over the billing. He recommended the town change to a mandatory pickup system and consider attaching the cost to the tax bill. After some further discussion Councilman Prescott made a motion to table consideration until the April meeting, and to instruct the clerk to calculate the number of households in the town and to find out how an assessment would affect the town's revenue. The attorney requested the clerk try to find an ordinance the town could use as a model.

**2. Walt Boyer - Candidate for County Commission**

Mr. Boyer addressed the council concerning his candidacy for the county commission seat being vacated by Paula Delaney. He is running in the primary against Jean Calderwood. He said he considers himself a common sense blue collar working man who wants to get back to an emphasis on core responsibilities and reducing taxes. If elected he is committed to getting out into the communities and municipalities and bringing back small town ideas.

**3. Jackie Benefield - Reserve Town Hall**

Ms. Benefield requested to reserve the town hall on Saturday, April 14th to hold a candidate event for John Martin who is running for the county commission. After discussion the council agreed to allow Ms. Benefield to use the pavilions at the LaCrosse Town Park on April 14th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Attorney Maines recommended the council make a motion allowing other candidates the same access to use the LaCrosse Town Park facilities for candidate events. Councilman Harrell concurring made the motion, seconded by Councilman Donovan and which carried unanimously. Attorney Maines next recommended giving the clerk or mayor the authority to schedule political events at the town park. Councilman Thomas concurring made the motion, seconded by Councilman Donovan and which carried unanimously.

#### **4. Great American Cleanup**

The clerk advised the council she was contacted for date selection for the this year's Great American Cleanup. After consideration of available dates, Councilman Thomas made a motion to select Saturday, April 21st, which was seconded by Councilman Donovan and carried unanimously

#### **Old Business:**

##### **1. Fireproof File Cabinet**

The clerk stated she advised the council at the last meeting about the purchase of a fireproof file cabinet to keep town documents. However because the purchase price is \$1119.99, council approval is required. Councilman Harrell made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Councilman Donovan and which carried unanimously.

#### **Reports:**

##### **1. Attorney Report - John Maines**

Councilman Harrell advised the council he received an email from Tricia Kyzar, Public Works, pertaining to the proposed 1% road tax, advising him that the county has plans to turn over NW 49 Ter (old SR121A) to the town, and NW 40 Ter. Councilman Harrell stated he believes most of old SR121A is actually in the county and not the town. After some additional discussion, the council decided to wait for more information about the outcome of the road tax before pursuing further the issue of the road transfer with the county.

The clerk reported that she contacted Alan Henderson, Scarborough Insurance, and if the town decides to hire someone as-needed for general maintenance work they would be covered under the town's worker compensation coverage. Attorney Maines stated if the town hires an employee there should be a job description, and the position should be advertised stating a deadline and that the town is an equal opportunity employer.

Hiring someone to mow the recreation park was also discussed.

Attorney Maines announced he would be running for union county judge. He is one of five candidates. He wanted the town to know and not hear about it as a rumor.

##### **2. Fire Department - Chief Danny Hines/Councilman Tom Ewing**

Vice Mayor Ewing asked Chief Hines if he had gotten the dollar value on the items to be added to the property list. He said he had someone working on it.

He submitted the call report: EMS - 23; Fire -11; MVA - 4; Other - 0; City - 0. There were 253 volunteer hours for an equivalent of \$1940.

He brought the personnel files over, but stated he would bring them back after the fire proof file cabinet was installed.

Councilman Thomas asked about recognition of volunteer firefighters. Chief Hines stated the fire department holds the Christmas dinner each year and plaques of recognition are awarded. Having the town also contribute to the awards, or how to line item the awards using county contract funds was discussed.

##### **3. LMS & Parks/Recreation - Councilman Barbara Thomas**

Councilman Thomas expressed interest in continuing the discussion about hiring an employee to work as-needed. After discussion the council agreed that each committee head would hire someone by-the-

job as long as the work to be performed is under \$500. There was also some discussion about hiring a part time person to mow the recreation area rather than keeping this as part of the mowing contract, however it was agreed to table discussion until later.

Councilman Thomas made a motion for Mitchel and John to work together to get someone to put up the bulletin board at the post office for a cost not exceeding \$500. The motion was seconded by Councilman Donovan and carried unanimously.

#### **4. Streets/Street Light - Councilman Mitchel Harrell**

There were no street light problems to report.

Councilman Harrell stated he received a bid for \$250 to remove the pecan snag at the fire station and grind the stumps. When the job is complete the clerk will submit the invoice for payment.

He also had one bid submitted to remove the dead oak tree on NW 207th Place. The clerk stated the advertisement for bids for the tree removal on NW 207th Place will run in the Alachua County Today on March 22nd. She stated she will hold the bid already submitted for the bid opening at the April 9th council meeting.

#### **5. Buildings & Grounds - Councilman John Prescott**

Nothing to report.

Chief Hines asked for recognition to request approval for renewal of the fire department website for a cost of \$60. He was so recognized. Councilman Prescott made a motion to approve renewal for a cost of \$60, seconded by Councilman Donovan and which carried unanimously.

#### **Approval of bills:**

Councilman Prescott made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Councilman Donovan and which carried unanimously.

Councilman Thomas asked for recognition to discuss the WSPP project for the recreation park. Several projects were discussed at the workshop held before this evening's regular meeting. It was decided to come up with project cost estimates and report back at the next regular meeting.

#### **Motion to adjourn:**

Councilman Thomas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Donovan and which carried unanimously.

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C. Dianne Dubberly, Mayor

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Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk

