CITY OF LA HARPE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 12, 2025

REGULAR MEETING 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT OTHERS PRESENT

Angela Barker Mayor, Ella Mae Crowell

Sharlyn Thompson City Clerk, Michelle Altis

Cynthia Carr

Ron Knavel

**Call to order**

Mayor Crowell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance with 4 members present.

**Approval of Agenda**

Cynthia Carr made the motion to approve the agenda. Sharlyn Thompson seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**Approval of Minutes**

Ron Knavel made the motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on February 12, 2025 as presented. Cynthia Carr seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**CITIZENS CALL FOR BUSINESS**

1. Marcia Davis, Thrive, shared with the council the Lowe’s grant for the gym floor was awarded on March 7th but I haven’t heard anything so I assuming it wasn’t successful for La Harpe. The TOWNS grant for city hall to be ADA compliant will be announced in mid-May. Mayor Crowell asked if there is another grant that the city could look into. Marcia stated she could look into a grant with CDBG for improvements to community buildings, it is a 20% match. Marcia invited the council to attend the community conversation on March 25th at 6:00pm.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Lift Stations – Mayor Crowell shared one lift station was about a foot below intake with all the rain and still have two stations running on one pump. Larry suggested looking into a few tanks that can be placed on the trailer and use the 2” trash pump to pump the excess water when needed into the tanks and transfer to the lagoons. The council agreed to see what Larry could come up with.
2. Sewer Rates – Tabled until the council can meet with Bruce Boettcher about the city sewer project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Pumper Tank for Lift Stations – Discussed earlier under lift stations.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

1. Fred Works, City Attorney – Absent from meeting.
2. Roy Caler, Water Representative – Absent from meeting.
3. Penny Miller, Code/Animal Control –monthly report submitted to mayor.
4. Marc Waggoner, Fire Chief- Absent from meeting but shared the fire department minutes: The LaHarpe Volunteer Fire Department met for the monthly meeting. Present: Josh Sparks, Marc Waggoner Sr., Kiefer Endicott, Matthew Waggoner, Dennis Sidebottom, Bill Gay and Meghan Sparks. Absent were Trevor Stover, Pamela Waggoner, Ronald Splector and Justin Pritchard. Started meeting, took trucks down to the park, tried out new power hose washer, did training on pumpers and how they hook up to each other for mutual aid on trucks. Then ended meeting.
5. Maintenance Department - The workorders were shared.
6. Michelle Altis, City Clerk – Had nothing to report

**DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS –**

Mayor Crowell stated she forgot to mention this topic; the gym wall had some damage from a person that threw a basketball full court, she has spoke with the parent and they will cover the costs. Chuck Swartz gave the city a bid of $380.00 to fix the hole but then noticed 4 other spots behind the backboard that need fixed so all together his total bid is $1,140.00 and we can take the difference of $760.00 out of the fitness center fund. Sharlyn Thompson made the motion to accept the bid from Chuck Swartz in the amount of $1,140.00 and take it from the fitness center. Ron Knavel seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**TREASURER’S REPORT –** File for audit

Ron Knavel asked about the fire department expenditure of $2,875.00. Michelle reminded him of the yearly $2400.00 for insurance and utilities. Sharlyn Thompson expressed concerns of the rural fire department using city water and not paying for it. Ron Knavel asked why pay insurance on fire vehicles that don’t move and haven’t been pressure tested. Sharlyn Thompson suggested the city go to a count only fire barn but no one showed any interest. Work orders were requested for ditch/whistle work at the park, Michelle stated he would get them on the board.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Sharlyn Thompson made a motion to approve bills as presented. Angela Barker seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Angela Barker made the motion to adjourn. Ron Knavel seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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City ClerkMayor