

Town of LaGrange Monthly Board Meeting Minutes 9 February 2026, 7:00pm at Town Hall

Attending: Brendan Smith, Loren Schleusener, Cody Schaub, Wendy Von Haden, Jim Falkner, Mandy Wagner, Tom Butzler, Joe Draeger, Brock Bailey, Jack Dittmar, Vicki Ruegg, Bruce Meiners, Kristen Schueler, Steve Abbott, Debbie Abbott

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm

Previous Month's Minutes – 3 sets of minutes (January 12 Monthly Meeting, January 21 Special Meeting/Camper Ordinance, February 4 Agenda Meeting) Loren made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Brock 2nd. There was further discussion on the wage for Mitch and Jessica Dreier, this was clarified to be \$20 per hour. All in favor no opposed

Treasurer's Report – see attached.

Budget Review (April/July/October/January [**tabled to February**]) - Brendan went through the budget review. There was a discussion about tracking and keeping the budget.

Citizen's Concerns - Jim Falkner gave the clerk updated information for the cemetery books. Jim has been in contact with the historical society to get things updated with them. Jim has some concerns about cremations that are still pending burial. He also talked about the number of stones on a lot; people want to put two or more stones. It has always been assumed that each lot gets one except in the case of a veteran. This may need to be addressed. Brendan talked about possibly updating the ordinance. Brendan will look at the current ordinance.

Discuss Bridge Inspection Contract – Jack Dittmar was here to present his contract for bridge inspections for the next two years. Loren made a motion to hire BCD Services for the bridge inspection for the next two years. Brock second. No further discussion. All in favor, no oppose.

Planning Commission/Zoning/Land Use Issues – nothing new

Election Prep/Execution:

- o ~~17 Feb 26—Spring Primary~~ (not required in Monroe County); 7 Apr 26—Spring General Election, 11 August 26—Primary; 3 November 26—General Election - nothing new

Personnel Update:

Discuss/Decide Patrolman and mowing manning options – there was a discussion if they want to figure out a way to hire a 2nd patrolman or if we need to look for lawn mowers. Brock asked if we wanted to put feelers out for a part time patrolman and lawn mowers. Loren had the same thoughts. There was discussion on how many hours would be required for a part time position. Brendan will work on a post.

Road Projects Update

Ellsworth Bridge: 2027 Construction – nothing new

Formica/Estate/Essex ARIP Project—2025 Design, 2026 Build – next week is the bid opening. The right of way easements are ready to be signed.

2026 Road Projects Updates (Putters Ridge Drainage, England Shouldering, Forest Ave TRIP D/S)

Putter's Ridge Culverts – There was a discussion about the bid from Gerke's to replace a culvert at Elkhorn and Emperor Ave. Brock made a motion to approve the \$11,750 bid from Gerke's to have the culvert replaced. Loren, second. No further discussion. All in favor no oppose

England Shouldering – a citizen asked about the rock on the road. It was discussed that the rock will settle over time. Brendan and Cody will talk about finishing the shouldering this summer.

TRIP D/S - should know by March if we will receive this grant. There was a discussion about what can be done if we don't get the grant.

Cody brought up Emerson if cracking where it was sealed coated 2 years ago. This will be looked at during the road tour.

Patrolman Issues/Concerns (Staffing, Recycle Center, Equipment, Facilities) the sander and the Western Star truck are on the auction site.

Discuss/Decide Trash Collection and Large Dumpster Policy. Review SOW for services. There was discussion about the SOW for the trash/dumpster contractor. This will be discussed on February 25th at a special meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Discuss/Decide Junk/Public Nuisance Ordinance – there was discussion about the junk ordinance. Brendan mentioned that he would like to get through the camper ordinance before acting on a junk ordinance. There was discussion about the camper ordinance issue that is currently happening in the township.

New Business

Review/Approve Resolution for Acquisition of Right of Way Easements for ARIP Project – will have this next month

Review Short Span Bridge Assessment for 2 x LaGrange Structures – a short discussion about these structures.

Discuss Town Shop Maintenance/Upgrades - Brendan is working on a list of items that need some repairs/maintenance and coming up with a plan for these projects.

Discuss DRAFT Town of LaGrange Mission Statement: a short discussion about a mission statement for the town.

The Town of LaGrange is dedicated to protecting our rural character, ensuring public safety and well-being, and delivering efficient, high-quality services. Through responsible fiscal stewardship and Forward thinking, planning, and execution, we strive to preserve our heritage while embracing sustainable growth and innovation.

Loren made a motion to adopt this as a mission statement. Brock second no further discussion all in favor no opposed.

Upcoming Meetings

- o 12 Feb Fire Oakdale Association
- o 19 Feb Towns Association
- o 25 Feb ARIP Bid Special Meeting—Joint LaGrange/Byron
- o 21 Apr Annual Meeting

Treasurer/Clerk/Supervisor Inputs

Brock asked about the storage container issue on Ellsworth, Brock will call Allison about this. Loren asked about the dead end on Embassy about the storage containers on the road; Brendan will follow up on this.

Pay Bills – Loren made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Brock second. no further discussion all in favor no opposed.

Adjourn at 9:08 pm

Wendy Von Haden, Clerk