

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of West Lafayette Village Council Emergency Meeting

West Lafayette Village Council met in emergency session on June 19, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. in the municipal building with Mayor Stephen R. Bordenkircher presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer

Roll Call: Craig Bordenkircher, Christie Maurer, Rich Wheeler, Tim Cheney, Ron Lusk and Bo Fortune were present.

Other Business:

Mayor Stephen Bordenkircher provided an update to the recent flooding of the village. Mayor Bordenkircher reported that at approximately 11:30 PM on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, there was a torrential downpour of over 7" of rain in a couple of hours. Rescues and evacuations of the Mills began around midnight lasting until around 4:30AM. An emergency shelter was set up at the Baptist church in conjunction with Red Cross. Many local emergency personnel responded to assist. Over 30 families were evacuated from the Mills. Most areas on 5th, 6th and 7th streets were under water as well as the middle and high schools, the high school lift station and the new lift station on Wall St as well as homes on the Johnson and Wall street areas. Most damage done on the southeast and southwest areas of the village. Many areas in the surrounding townships were also affected, out SR 93 south and 751/CR 9. After meeting with the EMA (Emergency Management Agency) around 2am on Wednesday, June 19, 2019, it was decided to declare a State of Emergency. The County Commissioners also declared the state of emergency. Meetings were held that included the EMA (Emergency Management Agency) to determine the current status of the village and the following was noted: Shelters at the church are empty now, but will stay open until 9pm, June 19th unless someone comes. Crews are available to pump basements. The total effect is still unknown, going from Millers Dip up to CR 9. The village Police Department is working double 12 hour shifts to have overlap overnight to prevent looting. If the expected storm comes through the evening of June 19th, Coshocton will be called upon to have their Street department assist. For the Fire Department, Company 4 from Canal Lewisville is covering from 4pm – 8pm, then Warsaw Company 7 will cover from 8pm until midnight then West Lafayette will take over. A main concern is keeping people out of the water due to the danger of the power of the water as well as it not being sanitary due to the sewer backups. Dumpsters will be available within the village for residents to get things out of their home. The EMA director and the Mayor will be the sole source of any press releases or discussions. 125 places without power and 7 buildings have been declared unsafe, though not all are within the village. The West Lafayette Fire Department is the staging area.

Mayor Bordenkircher also reported a large sink hole on N. Kirk that appears to be an old cistern but does not appear to be a result of the flooding.

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The next status update meeting will be at 8am on Thursday, June 20, 2019 in council chambers. Any residents needing assistance to call the Red Cross, or needing basements pumped should contact Jon Hardesty, the Village Administrator or the Fire Department. Basements should not be pumped out until the water has receded from the home, so the basements don't collapse. Calls should be directed to Red Cross at 740-622-0228 or the EMA office at 740-622-1984. The EMA will have assessment teams canvassing the village and townships door to door beginning on Friday, June 21st to assess damages in each home.

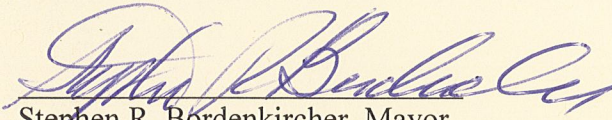
A motion was made by Ron Lusk and seconded by Bo Fortune to pay the cost of 2 dumpsters to start. Roll call 6 yes.

Councilman Ron Lusk thanked the Fire Department for their work and response to the emergency. Mayor Bordenkircher also commended the police department, mentioning Eckelberry entering rushing waters to check an abandoned car as well as assisting a resident with rescuing pets and other residents on 751.

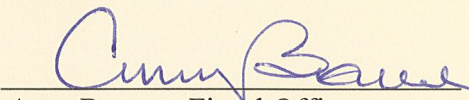
Currently, donations should be made to the Red Cross. Many people and organizations have offered to help. The EMA recommended that the volunteers be controlled and disbursed where needed.

A motion was made by Bo Fortune and seconded by Ron Lusk to adjourn until the next regular meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call 6 yes.

A full recording of this evening's minutes can be heard by visiting www.westlafayettevillage.com and clicking on the council tab then selecting recorded minutes.


Stephen R. Bordenkircher, Mayor

Attest:


Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer