

Town of LaGrange Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

10 November 2025, 7:00pm at Town Hall

Attending: Brendan Smith, Loren Schleusener, Wendy Von Haden, Mandy Wagner, Cody Schaub, Tom Butzler, Paul Marten, Joe Draeger, Jasmine Draeger, Brock Bailey, Bruce Meiners, Steve Abbott

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

Previous Month's Minutes four (4) sets of minutes: October monthly meeting, November Agenda meeting, Backhoe warranty review, Final decision on Acquisition of backhoe. Loren made a motion to accept amendments that were made. Brock second. No further discussion, all in favor, no oppose.

Treasurer's Report – see attached

Citizen's Concerns - Joe Draeger handed out some things regarding the concerns with their neighbor. He explained to the board all the frustrations they have been having. He has contacted the County but has gotten nowhere. Mr. Abbott expressed his concerns about this same neighbor. There was discussion about what the town can do and what the county can do. Brendan will engage with Allison at the County. He also suggested that everyone attend the county zoning meetings and get on the agenda. Brendan will also contact our building inspector regarding the camper on the site. He also mentioned that the board needs to have an ordinance regarding campers as standalone dwellings.

Planning Commission/Zoning/Land Use Issues – nothing new here – there was a discussion about different types of zoning.

Election Prep/Execution: starting to gear up for 2026 elections

17 Feb 26—Spring Primary; 7 Apr 26—Spring General Election, 11 August 26—
Primary; 3 November 26—General Election

Personnel Update: Discuss Patrolman manning options – Brendan gave some information about patrolman/mowing hours. There was some discussion about the number of hours being the equivalent of a half-time person. There was a short discussion about possibly updating the cemetery ordinance.

Road Projects Update -

Putters Ridge Drainage Analysis Update no change

Ellsworth Bridge: 2027 Construction, Overage Issue - some of the engineering information is starting to come back.

Formica/Estate/Essex ARIP Project—2025 Design, 2026 Build – Brendan talked about the right-of way acquisitions that are being taken care of. He has received information from Jay Carmichael. Public Outreach is Thursday, November 13th. Brendan explained that there is a cost of purchasing some wetland units per the DNR.

2025 Road Projects Updates (Hall Parking Lot, England Shouldering, Ellsworth Drainage by Shop) Town hall parking lots were cracked sealed waiting for the painting. No update on England. Shop drainage should be done this week.

2026 TRIP D/S Submission Update—Forest Ave – This has been submitted.

Patrolman Issues/Concerns (Staffing, Recycle Center, Equipment, Facilities) - Cody and Brendan are having a workday tomorrow to get some electrical updated at the shop.

Backhoe Procurement, Rental, and Sale Update – the backhoe has been purchased, and the rental has been received. The auction on the old backhoe ends on Wednesday.

Discuss Trash Collection and Large Dumpster Policy. Due to budget constraints, the Town is looking for ways to save money and trash collection is our 3rd largest expense at ~\$100k/year behind roads and salaries. Looking for ideas to reduce this cost. - There was a discussion about the dumpster charges for 2025 so far. Brendan presented some comparisons to other townships.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Budget Hearing: 12 November, 6pm @ Town Hall
- Formica/Estate/Essex ARIP Public Outreach: 13 Nov, 6-8pm
- Towns Association Meeting: 20 November

Loren asked about some storage units on Embassy Road, Brendan will talk to the landowner. Mandy presented her final draft for her tax letter this year. She will send this to Brendan to post on the website and also Loren for Facebook.

Pay Bills – Loren made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Brock second. Loren asked about an uncashed check for \$.19. All in favor no oppose.

Adjourn at 8:33 pm

Wendy Von Haden, Clerk