

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 19, 2008

Present for Roll Call: Bausano, Harju, Koskiniemi, and Zei.

Absent: Erickson, Junot and Lanctot.

Guests: Paul Baroni, Barbara Flanigan, Renee Foley, Robert Foley, Ronald Gipp, Kurt Hauglie, Kenneth Lutz, Edward Sever, Edward Vertin and Susan Zei.

The meeting was called to order in the Village Council Chambers by President Bausano at 5:30PM.

A motion was made by Zei and seconded by Koskiniemi to approve the **agenda** with the addition of Robert Foley to Unfinished Business. Carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Zei and seconded by Koskiniemi to approve the **minutes** of the **June 26, 2008** budget hearing/special meeting. Carried 4-0. A motion was made by Zei and seconded by Harju to approve the minutes of the **July 15, 2008** regular council meeting. Carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Koskiniemi and seconded by Zei to approve the **prepaid bills** in the amount of \$67,697.28. Carried 4-0. A motion was made by Koskiniemi and seconded by Harju to approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$34,631.64. Carried 4-0.

Communications to the Council

A motion was made by Koskiniemi to approve the resignations of Phyllis Clevenger and John Rovano from the **Laurium Housing Commission**. Carried 4-0. After receiving their letters of intent, a motion was made by Koskiniemi and seconded by Harju to appoint Susan Zei and Sandra Goodell to the Laurium Housing Commission to fill the vacant terms of Phyllis Clevenger and John Rovano. Yes – Bausano, Harju and Koskiniemi. Abstain – Zei. Carried 3-0.

The **emerald ash borer** has been discovered on some elm trees in the village limits. We will be working with other municipalities and government agencies to control this problem.

Committee Reports

Finance: The council would like to have Jackie Aalto, the village auditor, present at the next meeting to go over the audit report and answer any questions regarding the audit. Village Administrator Vertin has all of the annual reports done and submitted. Act 51 funding has decreased 6%.

Parks/Recreation/Community Relations: No report.

Public Safety – Police: No report.

Public Safety – Fire: No report.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: No report.

Property/Building/Ordinance: No report.

Unfinished Business

Bob Foley addressed the council regarding the **grass ordinance**. Since last June, the council has been contemplating this ordinance. He circulated a petition to have the council pass and enforce a grass ordinance to minimize the blight in town. Due to cost restraints and manpower issues, a motion was made by Zei and seconded by Harju to put aside the passing of a grass ordinance until the village is in a better position to handle it. Carried 4-0.

New Business

USDA will be letting grant money in September or October. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Koskiniemi to obtain bids at that time for cars as well as SUVs for the new **police vehicle** as long as this falls into USDA guidelines. Carried 4-0.

The plan has been approved for the **salt shed** by MDOT. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Koskiniemi to advertise for bids for construction of this facility in two ways – a bid to complete building this fall and a bid to complete construction in the spring. Carried 4-0.

UPPCo has decided that due to liability issues, **Christmas decorations** will no longer be able to be strung from pole to pole across the street. Pole mounted decorations would need a metal mast and all weather receptacles.

The meeting adjourned at 6:14PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk
Village of Laurium