

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Present for Roll Call: Bausano, Fish, Harju, Junot, Lanctot, Miller and Ninko.

Guests: Paul Baroni, Jeff Cole, Barbara Flanigan, Edward Sever, Edward Vertin and Daniel Zubiena.

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

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ninko to approve the **agenda** with the addition of HB5303 under New Business. Carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ninko and seconded by Harju to approve the **minutes** of the January 17, 2012 regular council meeting. Yes – Bausano, Fish, Harju, Miller and Ninko. Abstain – Junot and Lanctot. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Lanctot to approve the **prepaid bills** for January-February in the amount of \$144,125.64 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$23,518.33. Carried 7-0.

Communications to the Council

Michigan-American Water Company has increased their rates by 9.9%. Village Administrator Vertin will attend a meeting with Eric Waara at UP Engineers & Architects to determine how this increase will affect the road projects scheduled for next year. The grant to study the feasibility of combining the three area fire departments was awarded. A **resolution** accepting this grant and to move forward with this study will be acted upon at the special meeting next week.

Committee Reports

Finance: No report.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: The annual mite tournament will take place at the George Gipp Arena February 24-26.

Public Safety – Police: No report.

Public Safety – Fire: No report.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: No report.

Property/Building/Ordinance: No report.

New Business

HB 5303 regarding transportation funding is in committee at this time. This bill would phase out Act 51. Currently, MDOT gets 39%, road commissions 39% and locals receive the balance. The new bill proposes 55% to MDOT and 45% to be split between road commissions and local units of government based upon vehicle miles traveled and road classification. These changes would be devastating to local governments. Harju would like a letter drafted to the governor opposing HB 5303 and a letter to the MML encouraging them to take a stance against this bill as well.

A motion was made by Ninko and seconded by Junot to hold the **budget hearing** on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 5:00PM. A **special meeting** will be held at 5:15PM to amend the 2011-12 budgets and approve the 2012-13 budgets. Carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:49PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk
Village of Laurium