

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2011

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

Absent: Lanctot.

Guests: Jeff Cole, Kurt Erkkila, Barbara Flanigan, Edward Sever, David Taylor and Edward Vertin.

A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Miller to approve the **agenda** after changing the meeting date from June 21, 2011 to July 19, 2011 on the heading. Carried 6-0.

Minutes

A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Ninko to approve the minutes of the **June 21, 2011** regular council meeting. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ninko to approve the minutes of the **June 30, 2011** millage public hearing/special meeting. Yes – Bausano, Fish, Miller and Ninko. Abstain – Harju and Junot. Carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Miller to approve the **prepaid bills** for May-June 2011 in the amount of \$50,642.50 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$31,454.46. Carried 6-0.

Committee Reports

Finance: The audit is now in progress. The field work should be completed by July 29, 2011.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: The meeting with baseball will be held either this week or next, depending on when all parties will be in town. Miller reported that the profit from the Laurium Business directories was \$590 which will go to the ballroom restoration. Copies of the directories are available throughout the area. The “Lazy Days of Laurium” festivities will take place on Saturday, August 20, 2011.

Public Safety – Police: No report.

Public Safety – Fire: No report.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: According to MDOT, the urban council from Laurium will need to write a letter indicating Laurium would like to use their small urban funds in 2013 instead of 2012.

Property/Building/Ordinance: Miller put a link on the website for the listing of the Laurium Senior Citizens building.

Unfinished Business

Bids were received for the **new police vehicle**. The low bid was for \$29,795 from Gorno Ford in Woodhaven, Michigan for a 2012 Ford Expedition 4x4. A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Ninko to move the Fire Department savings account to **Torch Lake Federal Credit Union**. Carried 6-0. An opinion from Don Kiem, bond counsel for the village, was received regarding the **fire truck debt**. Ordinance #114 Fund is not considered a reserve fund so there should not be an issue with an unscheduled payment if this debt is paid off. However, Rural Development may view a payoff of this debt as evidence that the village has sufficient funds available to finance improvements without Rural Development grant or loan assistance. A decision on whether or not to prepay the fire truck debt will have to be made by December, when the next debt payment is scheduled.

New Business

A letter was received from **Houghton County** listing 3 properties in Laurium that will be tax foreclosed. The village has the option to purchase these properties. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Ninko to investigate the cost to obtain the property at 82 First Street to use as a snow dump. Yes – Bausano, Harju, Junot, Miller and Ninko. Abstain – Fish. Carried 5-0. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Harju to not exercise our right to purchase the other two properties listed for tax foreclosure. Yes – Bausano, Harju, Junot, Miller and Ninko. Abstain – Fish. Carried 5-0.

Announcement

Thanks go out to Amy Pierce and Barbara Flanigan for planting flowers and weeding the flower beds in Daniell Park.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk
Village of Laurium