

Village of Laurium  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, June 21, 2011

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

**Guests:** Paul Baroni, Jeff Cole, Susan Dana, Barbara Flanigan, Daniel Mukavetz, Edward Sever, Edward Vertin, Eric Waara 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 Junot and seconded by Ninko to approve the **agenda**, adding under minutes, the May 20, 2011 special meeting. Carried 7-0.

### **Minutes**

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Fish to approve the minutes of the **May 17, 2011** regular council meeting. Yes – Bausano, Fish, Junot, Lanctot, Miller and Ninko. Abstain – Harju. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ninko to approve the minutes of the **May 20, 2011** special council meeting. Yes – Bausano, Fish, Lanctot, Miller and Ninko. Abstain – Harju and Junot. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Lanctot to approve the **prepaid bills** for May-June 2011 in the amount of \$72,533.38 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$25,066.67. Carried 7-0.

### **Communications to the Council**

Susan Dana, Calumet Village's comptroller addressed the council regarding **Calumet's garbage service**. Laurium and Lake Linden were asked if they would be interested in handling the garbage service in Calumet if their current service with Waste Management was discontinued. This matter is in Calumet Village's sanitation committee for review. Any changes would have to be approved by the Calumet Village council. No action has been taken at this time.

The Calumet High School-Sacred Heart High School **All School Reunion** will be held July 21-23, 2011. The committee will be putting together a reunion booklet. A motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Harju to approve placing a ¼ page ad for \$40 in the All School Reunion booklet. Carried 7-0.

A letter was received from the **Laurium Housing Commission** that the term of Alicia Turino had expired in May 2011. A motion was made by Miller and

seconded by Lanctot to reappoint Alicia Turino to a five year term on the Laurium Housing Commission. Carried 7-0.

Eric Waara explained to the council the **WUPPDR grant** for the Shared Services Initiative. Since the state is mandating municipalities to share services in order to receive funding, feasibility studies will need to be done by municipalities to determine what services they can provide and at what cost. WUPPDR will gather this information and produce an outline so a determination can be made on how services can be combined. A motion was made by Ninko and seconded by Junot to authorize Village Administrator Vertin to provide WUPPDR with the information for the applications. There is no cost to the village. Carried 7-0.

MDOT's **M-26/Osceola Street project** has been scheduled for 2013. This project would include road resurfacing, and sidewalk, curb, ramp & approach improvements on Third & Hecla Streets and Lake Linden Avenue along M-26. In order to include "period" lighting, sidewalk & road surfaces, additional funding could be obtained through Small Urban funds or MDOT Enhancement Grants. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Junot for the village to apply with MDOT for an Enhancement grant to include Osceola Street and upgrade to "period" lighting, sidewalks & surfacing for a total village match of approximately \$50,000. Carried 7-0. Laurium is scheduled to receive Small Urban funding in 2012. In case the Enhancement grants fall through, a motion was made by Ninko and seconded by Junot to authorize Vertin to extend the village's Small Urban funding from 2012 to 2013 so that Small Urban money could be used if necessary toward the 2013 Osceola Street paving project. Yes – Bausano, Fish, Junot, Lanctot, Miller and Ninko. Abstain – Harju. Carried 6-0. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Ninko to authorize UP Engineers & Architects to file the joint application for the Enhancement grant for MDOT and the Village of Laurium. The cost for the application preparation would be about \$3500. Carried 7-0.

## **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** The audit will begin on July 18, 2011. Miller is putting together a brochure to promote Laurium businesses. Ads are being solicited to cover the printing costs. Any money remaining after the expenses will be used to enhance the ballroom at the village hall. A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Fish to authorize Miller to proceed with this plan. Yes – Bausano, Fish, Harju, Junot, Lanctot and Ninko. Abstain – Miller. Carried 6-0. Miller is also planning a softball tournament, 3 on 3 basketball & horseshoe tournaments, music and beer tent at the George Gipp Recreation area for August 20<sup>th</sup>. Participating teams will be charged an entrance fee. Prizes will be given out. Again, any profit after expenses will be used for ballroom enhancement.

**Recreation/Parks/Community Relations:** The Laurium Business District sign and Gipp Memorial sign will be improved with materials from the county at cost.

A meeting will be scheduled with Little League baseball representatives, the Recreation committee and village president.

**Public Safety – Police:** All property owners in violation of the yard maintenance ordinance should be in compliance shortly.

**Public Safety – Fire:** No report.

**Streets/Equipment/Sanitation:** A motion was made by Fish and seconded by Miller to invite a speaker to the next meeting to talk about invasive plants and proper disposal of them. Carried 7-0.

**Property/Building/Ordinance:** No report.

### **Unfinished Business**

The **Laurium Senior Citizen building** is now listed with Jan Banfield of Statewide Real Estate. Pictures of the building will be posted on the websites for both the village and Statewide. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Fish to decrease the asking price from \$120,000 to \$100,000. Carried 7-0.

**Interest rates** were not obtained from local banks due to Vertin's misinterpretation of the rate comparison request at a previous meeting. For the next meeting, President Bausano would like to know what village account(s) can be moved to Torch Lake Federal Credit Union.

Last month, Vertin was asked to investigate the possibility of paying off the **fire truck debt** early thereby saving the village interest. The matter will be looked into when the auditor is present next month.

Since approval has been received from USDA Rural Development, a motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Ninko for the village to solicit **bids** for the new police vehicle. The deadline to submit bids will be July 13, 2011 at 4:00pm in order to have adequate time to review them before the July council meeting. Carried 7-0.

### **New Business**

Back in 2008, the council voted to limit access to the **baseball** fields. A discussion of the reasons for this decision was held. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Lanctot to continue the policy to keep the gate closed during baseball games. Carried 7-0.

The Laurium Village fire department will sponsor a **children's bike parade** on July 3, 2011 on Isle Royale Street from Sixth Street to the George Gipp recreation area.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Junot to hold the **public hearing** and **special meeting** for the proposed millage on Thursday, June 30, 2011. The public hearing will begin at 5:15PM with a special meeting to adopt the millage rate at 5:30PM. Carried 7-0. A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Ninko to adopt the **proposed millage** as read at the meeting. Carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk  
Village of Laurium