

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
May 20, 2008

Present for Roll Call: Erickson, Harju, Junot, Koskiniemi, Lanctot and Zei.

Absent: Bausano.

Guests: Paul Baroni, Kurt Hauglie, Edward Sever and Edward Vertin.

The meeting was called to order in the Village Council Chambers by Pro Tem Lanctot at 5:30PM.

A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Koskiniemi to approve the **agenda** with the addition of approval of the minutes from the April 14, 2008 statutory meeting and leave of absence for Tom Monette in the Streets/Equipment/Sanitation committee report. Carried 6-0.

Minutes

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Junot to approve the minutes of the **April 14, 2008** statutory meeting. Yes – Erickson, Junot, Lanctot and Zei. Abstain – Harju and Koskiniemi. Carried 4-0. A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Zei to approve the minutes of the **April 15, 2008** regular council meeting. Yes – Erickson, Junot, Koskiniemi, Lanctot and Zei. Abstain – Harju. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Junot and seconded by Koskiniemi to approve the **prepaid bills** in the amount of \$42,238.29 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$35,902.68. Carried 6-0.

Communications to the Council

There will be an open house at the Michigan State Police post in Calumet on Friday, May 23rd.

Committee Reports

Finance: Village Administrator Vertin reported that state shared revenues are down \$7000 from last year.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: A discussion was held about the safety of spectators at the ball fields during games. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Zei to lock the gate when the Street Department leaves for the day so there is no vehicle access to the ball fields after working hours. Field maintenance will need to be done before the gate is locked. Carried 6-0.

Public Safety – Police: 62 contacts have been made to property owners in violation of the yard maintenance ordinance. 30 have already addressed the problems.

Public Safety – Fire: Radios with a new VHS system are being used. They have county-wide range.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: The spring clean up of leaves and branches will be held the next two weeks. A furniture pickup will be held the first week of June. A motion was made by Harju and seconded by Zei to approve the leave of absence for Tom Monette per union contract. Carried 6-0.

Property/Buildings/Ordinance: Tim Lyons building at 242 Hecla Street has been torn down. Action has been taken because of the lack of progress in removing the debris from the site. Diane Karku from MSHDA met with Koskiniemi, Vertin, Paul Lehto of Calumet Township and Matt Vertin from KMMC regarding the Blueprints for Michigan Downtowns grant. It was a good meeting. The fact that we don't have a DDA won't hurt us but it is something that should be put in place for other purposes. The grant will be selected in June. A consultant will be hired and a meeting will take place in Lansing. Over the course of the winter, information will be gathered and next summer, the seminars, etc. will be held.

Unfinished Business

According to Village Attorney Mechlin, the village has three options when it comes to a **grass ordinance**; occupied residential properties, village wide including business, parks, alleys, snow dumps, etc., or adopt no ordinance at all. A motion was made by Koskiniemi and seconded by Zei to move forward with drafting a grass ordinance for occupied residential properties only at this time. Carried 6-0. Mechlin can have this ready for the next meeting.

At 5:55PM the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk
Village of Laurium