

Village of Laurium

Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Present for Roll Call: Bausano, Carlson, Lanctot (5:32PM), Miller, Schneiderhan and Sullivan.

Absent: Erickson.

Guests: Kerry Beaghan, Kevin Beaghan, Dale Damsteegt, Jim Guzek, Robert Kyllonen, Chuck Miller, Jeff Ratcliffe, Cheryl Remali, Edward Vertin and Jim Welborn.

The meeting was called to order in the village council chambers by President Bausano at 5:30PM.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Sullivan to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 5-0.

Minutes

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Sullivan to approve the minutes of the **March 19, 2019 regular** council meeting. Carried 6-0. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Sullivan to approve the minutes of the **April 8, 2019 Statutory** meeting. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Lanctot to approve the **prepaid bills** for March-April 2019 in the amount of \$75,101.69 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$30,348.03. Carried 6-0.

Communications to the Council

Kevin Beaghan gave the council an update on his Eagle Scout project at Daniell Park. He has raised \$900 more since he was here in December, 2018. Work will begin in June, providing all of the snow is gone. The asphalt paths will be dug up and replaced with brick pavers. The flagpole will be taken down and repaired. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Schneiderhan to table Kevin's request for the remaining funding needed for the project until next month when he has all of his donations. Carried 6-0.

Jeff Ratcliffe from KEDA was present to discuss funding options for the redevelopment of the old bank building (Yard Sale) on the corner of Hecla and Third Streets. The developers are interested in putting 15-20 apartments on the 2nd & 3rd floors and a gym, laundromat and thrift store on the first floor. The primary source would be the Community Revitalization Program under the Michigan Strategic Fund Act and administered by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. In order to apply for these funds, the village would have to achieve an "engaged" status with the MEDC's Redevelopment Ready Community program. This would also allow the village to become eligible for Community Development Block Grant funding. A member of the council would need to undertake training on the six best practices online at no cost to the village. A self-evaluation (checklist) would need to be done and WUPPDR could

assist with this step. The village would need to pass a resolution of intent to participate in the MEDC redevelopment ready community program. The process will begin as more information will be available at the May meeting.

Cheryl Remali, **Accounts Clerk**, was present to discuss her hourly wage. She felt that due to her education, experience and public relations skills, she should earn \$13.00/hour instead of \$12.68 which she is the rate she was raised to at last week's Statutory meeting. The council felt that this matter should have been discussed prior to the Statutory meeting. Next March an evaluation and a comparison of other local positions will be done will be done prior to the Statutory meeting.

A motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Miller to take out a full page, \$100 ad in the **Calumet Township Firefighters UP tournament** book. Carried 6-0.

Committee Reports

Finance: No report.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: Miller reported on the DEQ meeting that she attended. It does not look like there are any other profitable options to have village recycling besides what we were doing. There is a grant which Miller would like to apply for that would possible help us to purchase a cardboard bailer. Village Administrator Vertin will check with Houghton County on what the status is with their cardboard recycling and if we can drop off cardboard there.

Public Safety – Fire/Police: Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital and the AKH Foundation recently donated equipment to the police department. The clerk will send a thank you. A speed study was done on Isle Royale street between Third and Fifth streets since the last meeting. It was determined that there is not a speeding problem in this area.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: No report.

Property/Building/Ordinance: Schneiderhan and Sullivan are hoping that if the funding for the bank building gets good results, it will be a motivation for other building owners to follow suit and pursue improvements/redevelopment as well.

Beautification: Range Bank has given permission for the village to make some improvements on the lot where the "Laurium Business District" sign is placed. Liability forms will need to be signed by all those helping. Donations have been received for this and other projects.

Unfinished Business

The Houghton County jail task force will be meeting monthly for the next year to review options for a new jail. A motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Sullivan to appoint Guy St. Germain and President Bausano to be the village representatives for this task force. Carried 6-0.

New Business

Grader bids were opened for the Galion grader that was advertised for sale. Four bids were received. A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Lanctot to award the bid to Neill Wascher for \$13,131.13. Carried 6-0. A motion made by Miller to award the bid to the Keweenaw ATV Club for \$10,500.00 died due to lack of support.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

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