

Village of Laurium

Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 20, 2019

**Present for Roll Call:** Bausano, Carlson, Erickson, Lanctot, Miller, Schneiderhan and Sullivan.

**Guests:** Andrew Bain, Brent Halonen, Jeff Kalcich, Greg Kingstrom, Robert Kyllonen, John Parisi, Nathan Sturos, Donna Trudell and Edward Vertin.

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 Sullivan to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Sullivan to approve the **minutes** of the July 16, 2019 regular council meeting. Carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Sullivan to approve the **prepaid bills** for July/August 2019 in the amount of \$161,285.08 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$34,189.53. Carried 7-0.

### **Communications to the Council**

**Kevin Beaghan** sent a thank you note to the council for supporting his Eagle Scout project which was the path replacement and flagpole painting at Daniell Park.

Andrew Bain of 308 Iroquois Street was present at the meeting to discuss **Ordinance #153** – prohibiting chickens, fowl, and livestock in the village. Mr. Bain was not aware of the ordinance until after he had moved to the village two months ago and set up his secured chicken coop. He received a Municipal Civil infraction for such and a \$100 fine. Mr. Bain claims that the State of Michigan's Right to Farm Act allows him to have his chickens. A motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Schneiderhan to refer the matter to the village attorney for his opinion. Carried 7-0. In order to get a stay on the fine, the police recommended talking to the court and informing them of the village attorney's review of the ordinance.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** The audit has been completed. Village Administrator will be providing quarterly financial statements to the council as recommended.

**Recreation/Parks/Community Relations:** The George Gipp Arena will be opening one week earlier this year due to scheduling. The arena will be rented to a roller derby team starting next month on Monday and Thursday nights. Village Administrator Vertin will make sure the proper insurance forms are on file and determine the hourly rental rate. Some old heaters have been removed from the Calumet Colosseum and would be donated if they can be used at the arena.

**Public Safety – Police:** No report.

**Public Safety – Fire:** The Laurium Fire Department came in 4<sup>th</sup> overall at the UP Firefighters Tournament held at the end of July. They also placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall in the Copper Country Firefighters tournament in June. At the end of June, the fire truck was at the CLK Elementary

School picnic to spray the kids with water, which they enjoyed. Carlson thanked the department for their service to our community.

**Streets/Equipment/Sanitation:** Sidewalk replacement has started and there are several on the list to complete. The charge to the property owner is \$5.00/sq. ft. Sullivan questioned the liability to the village if someone gets hurt on a sidewalk. Village Administrator Vertin felt that both the village and property owner would be responsible, as stated in the State Code. The committee will meet this week to discuss snow removal for small businesses and the hospital and also the feasibility of purchasing a drill press and band saw for the DPW garage. The Caterpillar grader is being repaired for about \$11,000.00. The village will pick up 3 furniture items per year per household for free providing previous arrangements have been made at the office. After that there is a charge. The village can provide a dump truck for bulk garbage and bill the user for the transfer station charges plus 25% for use of the truck and driver.

**Property/Building/Ordinance:** The committee has met over the last month to address the yard maintenance and unsafe building ordinances and enforcement of these ordinances.

**Beautification:** The committee would like to have hanging flower baskets from the power poles next year but needs to start planning for it now. UPPCo has to give permission in order to do this & they will be contacted again for a response. The training has been completed for the **MEDC Redevelopment Ready Communities Program**. A motion was made by Sullivan and seconded by Schneiderhan to pass the resolution to participate in this program and move forward in the next steps in the process. Carried 7-0.

### **Unfinished Business**

Greg Kingstrom from UP Engineers & Architects was present to review the engineering agreement for the Category B grant (50%) for the **Old Colony Road project**. A motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Erickson to authorize President Bausano to sign the engineering agreement. Carried 7-0.

### **New Business**

Milling and repaving of **First Street** from Isle Royale to Kearsarge Street has been evaluated and preliminary estimates made. This project could be done in conjunction with Old Colony Road next year. Bidding could take place next spring. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Lanctot to authorize Village Administrator Vertin to start the paperwork with USDA Rural Development for a loan for approximately \$400,000 for this project. Carried 7-0.

Due to the flooding last year, USDA RD 50% grants will be available. In order to stay on track with replacing a **police vehicle** every 5 years, a motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Erickson to authorize Village Administrator Vertin to begin the process to apply now so that the new vehicle can be obtained next summer. Carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

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