

Village of Laurium  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, August 17, 2021

**Present for Roll Call:** Carlson, Djerf, Erickson, Hrebec, Jenich-Laplander, Schneiderhan and Sullivan.

**Guests:** Josh Harju, Robert Kyllonen, Kathy Massoglia, Fay Mattson, Donna VanTassel, and Edward Vertin. There were also 6 unidentified callers on the GoToMeeting website.

The meeting was called to order in the village council chambers and the GoToMeeting website by President Sullivan at 5:30PM.

A **public hearing** was held regarding the proposed garbage container purchase and usage. The main reason the council is contemplating this is to keep the village streets cleaner and for the ease of pickup. None in attendance wanted there to be a mandate on having to purchase a container. The hope is that recycling will be able to come back to Laurium at some point. Carts are available for purchase at this time, and more are being ordered. There needs to be more information publicized regarding this matter. The public hearing closed at 6:00PM.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Djerf to approve the **minutes** of the July 20, 2021, regular council meeting and the August 5, 2021, special meeting. Yes – Carlson, Djerf, Hrebec, Jenich-Laplander, Schneiderhan and Sullivan. Abstain – Erickson. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Erickson to approve the **prepaid bills** for July/August 2021 in the amount of \$215,245.75 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$56,245.90. Carried 7-0.

### **Communications to the Council**

Calumet Township sent a letter that there is a possibility that **Michigan American Water Company** may be purchased by North Houghton County Water & Sewer Authority. Village Administrator Vertin indicated that if this does go through, it may impact village water and/or hydrant projects in the future.

Josh Harju was present from **UP Engineers & Architects** to give an update on the First Street and Old Colony Road projects. The barricades should be removed. Two sections of asphalt wedging will need to be done within the next couple of weeks due to drainage issues. Overall, the project came in underbudget. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Schneiderhan to amend the engineering contract for an additional \$8400. Carried 7-0.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** The committee will meet regarding online payments. Erickson set up a demo with Munibilling who currently does payments for NHCW&SA & MAWC.

**Recreation/Parks/Community Relations:** The next roller skating will be on Sunday, August 22, 2021. After Labor Day, roller skating will move to Saturdays. UPEA was thanked for their donation to roller skating. The committee would like to have a “Fall Festival” in October with possibly a pageant, movie night, etc. The fire department would need to get a liquor license.

**Public Safety – Police/Fire:** The police car was sold for \$14,000.00. Aaron Hainault is the new full-time officer. There are also two applicants for part time positions. George Turner sent information on the radio interference possibly from grow lights. The matter will be referred to the village attorney.

**Streets/Equipment/Sanitation:** The committee is waiting on the priority list of equipment. There are 5 applicants for the mechanic position so interviewing will be done soon. For the time being, residents should break down boxes and put them into one box for pickup.

**Property/Building/Ordinance:** The committee is still working on the rental property ordinance and properties in violation of ordinances in the village. A meeting will be held for stakeholders in the village. Djerf will get a list put together.

**Beautification:** An art walk is being planned for next July during the All-School Reunion. Schneiderhan would like to have Laurium included. There is also a possibility that a mural or backdrop could be done with the “Power of Word”.

### **Unfinished Business**

Erickson did not have any new information about **Laser tag** at the George Gipp Arena.

No action was taken on the **garbage container ordinance**.

Two interviews were held for the **Administrator/manager position**. More information will be available later this week.

### **New Business**

For now, **Hrebec** will be on the Property/Building/Ordinance, Beautification and Recreation/Parks/Community Relations committees. She would also like to be on the planning commission to write the master plan.

The meeting adjourned at 6:49PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

Village of Laurium