

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 16, 2022

Present for Roll Call: Carlson, Erickson, Hrebec (6:08PM), Jenich-Laplander, Schneiderhan and Sullivan.

Guests: Paige Blain, Kurt Erkkila, Thomas Fournier, John Jaehnig, Ian Raymond, GG Sanford and Susan Sanford.

The meeting was called to order in the village council chambers and the GoToMeeting website by President Sullivan at 6:00PM.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Erickson to approve the **agenda** with the addition of security cameras grant under New Business and police part time pay in Old Business. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Laplander to approve the **minutes** of the July 19, 2022 regular council meeting. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Carlson to approve the **prepaid bills** in the amount of \$65,401.15 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** for \$40,943.17.

Communications to the Council

Roger Reiter from the Matador Restaurant was not able to attend the meeting.

Paige Blain was introduced as the new office clerk.

The **DNR** owns a 25' by 94' strip of land on Fulton Street and would like to gift it to the village. Until the village attorney reviews the matter, no action will be taken.

Village Auditor Susan Sanford was present to discuss her progress with the village audit. Once the general fund work papers are completed, she will be able to finish. Work should be completed next week.

Committee Reports

Finance: A discussion was held on how to use the ARPA funds the village has received. The dump truck purchased in February for \$30,000.00 and the \$100,000.00 due to the water fund from the general fund could be applied. President Sullivan suggested each committee come up with a list of needs for the September meeting.

Recreation/Parks: There is interest in having pickleball courts at the recreation area. One tennis court could be removed to make room for two pickleball courts. A fundraiser will be discussed to make these changes and repave all the courts. Bassett will be inspecting the ice plant at the George Gipp Arena later this month for maintenance and other repairs that need to be addressed. Roller skating will not be held in July and August but will resume in September. Concrete pads for the picnic tables at the recreation area will be poured tomorrow. The ADA swing has arrived and will be installed soon. The picnic table will not be here until next month.

Public Safety – Police: There has been little information from the state on the recruiting grant we received. Since the expenses for the grant are reimbursed and there is a deadline, ammunition and taser cartridges will be purchased. Yard maintenance violations are being addressed. The police are giving residents in violation of the junk car ordinance contact information for local towing companies.

Public Safety – Fire: Laurium’s Fire department took 1st place in the dress parade and 4th place in the mystery race at the UP Firefighters Tournament hosted by Calumet Township last month. No word on the FEMA grants for turnout gear replacement. A date close to the fire millage renewal will be chosen for the “Touch-A-Truck” event. The department would like to have a recruitment table as well. Erickson will coordinate with the UPPCo incentives for changing the lights at the fire hall and possibly the village hall as well.

Property/Building/Ordinance: The rental ordinance has been reviewed by the attorney. A review of the garbage ordinance is in progress.

Beautification: Perennials will be ordered for Lake Linden Ave.

Community Relations: The committee has been doing press releases and updates on social media.

Unfinished Business: The cost of the two **website** proposals received is more than the council would like to spend. Paige Blain has website experience and will come up with an estimate of what it would cost for her to do the work. Even if another company is chosen, she could do a logo or photography as a cost saving measure. The matter was tabled until September. The deadline for planning commission purposes is to have the website live no later than January, 2023. A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Erickson to increase the **part time police hourly rate** from \$18.98 to \$20.00. Carried 6-0. A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Hrebec to have the \$20.00/hr. rate retroactive to May, 2022. Carried 6-0.

New Business

Tie Michigan Teal is a **cancer awareness** group willing to put up and take down ribbons on the light poles in Laurium next month. Heather Heinz would like to have her **food truck**, “Munchie Machine”, park in the village. She does have a food license from the health department and would only park where she has permission. A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Laplander to have UP Engineers & Architects do an **inspection** of the village hall. Yes – Hrebec, Laplander, Schneiderhan and Sullivan. No – Carlson and Erickson. Carried 4-2. A **grant for security cameras** for \$1500.00 was awarded to the village from the Michigan Township Par Plan. There will be a camera in the lobby of the George Gipp Arena, one covering the baseball fields and another the recreation area. The cameras must be implemented within six months. More details will be available at the September meeting.

There are 3 four-year trustee seats and one two-year trustee seat that will be on the November ballot.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M Golus, Clerk