

Village of Laurium  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, December 15, 2020

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

**Guests:** Jaikob Djerf, Jessica Hrebec, Robert Kyllonen and Edward Vertin.

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

President Sullivan indicated that all the ordinances have been retyped, will be reposted on the website and will be enforced.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Salani to approve the **agenda** as presented with the addition of a letter from Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital. Carried 5-0\*.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Erickson to approve the **minutes** of the November 17, 2020 regular council meeting and the December 8, 2020 work session. Carried 5-0\*.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to approve the **prepaid bills** for November/December 2020 in the amount of \$157,916.86 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$43,612.00. Carried 5-0\*.

#### **Communications to the Council**

An email was received on November 19, 2020 that Steve Lanctot resigned from the council effective immediately. A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Salani to accept his **resignation**. Carried 5-0\*.

**Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital** sent a letter to the village asking that they support measures during the Holidays to keep the COVID 19 cases from increasing. Visiting virtually, social distancing and mask wearing should be encouraged.

Jaikob Djerf and Jessica Hrebec were present to address the council and answer questions why he/she wanted to be appointed to the council to fill the seat vacated by Lanctot. Connie Mikkola withdrew due to work conflicts. A motion was made by Salani and seconded by Erickson to appoint Jaikob Djerf to the **vacant council seat**. Carried 6-0. The clerk swore in Djerf.

**Jeff McMahon** was not present to discuss a marihuana business but will attend the January meeting.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** There may be cuts coming from the State due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

**Recreation/Parks/Community Relations:** As soon as the State says it is ok to open the George Gipp Arena, it will be ready to go.

**Public Safety – Police:** The new police car is here and equipped to be put into service. The department will handle selling the old car and is looking to get \$16,500.00 for it.

**Public Safety – Fire:** No report.

**Streets/Equipment/Sanitation:** The committee will be looking at options for a new garbage truck and making a list to prioritize what vehicles need to be replaced. The contract for snow removal at the hospital has been signed.

**Property/Building/Ordinance:** No report.

**Beautification:** The committee will be looking at prices from local greenhouses for plants/flowers for the Gipp Memorial, Daniell Park and the corner of Hecla and Lake Linden Avenue. The corner of Hecla and Lake Linden Avenue was decorated by the committee for Christmas.

### **Unfinished Business**

The County Building inspector needs verify the condition of John Blau's property at **142 Seneca Street**. If found in noncompliance, a municipal civil infraction will be written.

### **New Business**

The winner of the **Christmas decorating contest** was Ed & Karen LaBonte at 128 South Florida Street. They will get a skating party at the George Gipp Arena, if not this year then next year. The runners up were Jessica Mattson & Nick Sladek and Jeff & Wendy Pluta. The Christmas parade will be held on Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 4:00PM. Lineup is at 3:00PM. So far there are 17 definite participants. A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve the **parade route**, closing the state highway in Laurium from Kearsarge Street on Lake Linden Avenue to Hecla Street, left onto Third Street and out of the village on Depot Street. Carried 5-0\*.

### **Announcements**

The following are the new committees:

Finance: Carlson, Jenich-Laplander and Djerf.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: Schneiderhan, Jenich-Laplander and Salani.

Public Safety – Police/Fire: Carlson and Erickson.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: Erickson, Schneiderhan and Djerf.

Property/Building/Ordinance: Erickson, Salani and Djerf.

Beautification: Schneiderhan, Jenich-Laplander and Salani.

At 6:22PM, a motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Schneiderhan to enter **executive session** to discuss police union negotiations. Carried 5-0\*.

The meeting returned to regular session at 6:50PM.

**Present for Roll Call:** Djerf, Jenich-Laplander, Salani, Schneiderhan and Sullivan.

**Absent:** Carlson and Erickson.

President Sullivan indicated that work would begin again on the RRC with assistance from KEDA. Binders with contracts, the village charter, Open Meetings Act, committee responsibilities etc. are being prepared for each member of the council and will be distributed soon.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

Village of Laurium

\*Due to poor connections and work responsibilities, Carlson and Erickson were not always able to hear what was taking place at the meeting and could not be reached for voting.