

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Present for Roll Call: Carlson, Djerf, Jenich-Laplander, Schneiderhan, Sullivan.

Absent: Erickson.

Guests: Jeremy Huttala, Robert Kyllonen, Jeremy Lundy, Justin Marzke, Chris Stancher, John Sullivan, Sharon Turovaara, Edward Vertin, and Cheryl Yeo.

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

A public hearing on the proposed garbage container purchase and usage changes in Ordinance #132 for garbage service took place. The council is contemplating making village purchased garbage containers mandatory for village residents. The reasons for the changes are for worker safety and keeping garbage from littering the streets. The containers would come in 3 sizes: 96-gallon, 65 gallon and 35 gallon all at a cost of about \$55.00. Questions were raised as to enforcing container purchase, what kind of assistance or payment plans would be offered, and who would pay to replace a container should it break. The public needs to be aware of what is stated in the ordinance so they can better follow the rules. The public hearing concluded at 5:58PM.

A motion was made by Djerf and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve the **agenda** with the addition of Village Administrator job posting under New Business. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Carlson to approve the **minutes** of the June 15, 2021, regular council meeting and the June 28, 2021, Millage Hearing/Special meeting. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Djerf to approve the **prepaid bills** for June/July 2021 in the amount of \$90,537.12 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$161,643.45. Carried 5-0.

Communications to the Council

Three letters of interest were received for the **open council seat**. Because not all were present, a special meeting will be held on Thursday, August 5, 2021, at 5:30PM to give all the opportunity to speak and pay any outstanding debt. President Sullivan will contact them and the others that applied last time there was a vacancy of the special meeting.

John Sullivan spoke on behalf of **Shining Light Church** on the corner of Third and Tamarack Streets regarding asphalt paving they are planning to do. Their plan is to pave the parking lot and alley up to the neighbor's fence. They would correct some of the drainage problems that currently exist. The utility companies would be contacted since there is an easement in the alley. A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Carlson to approve this paving project. Carried 5-0.

Committee Reports

Finance: The new auditor will be starting within the next week or two. She will be getting the work papers from the previous auditor. The quarterly financial statements were handed out and

will be reviewed at the special meeting on August 5th. The village attorney saw no issues with the contract with Hamar Enterprises for credit card payments. Carlson will have more information on the options for online bill payment at the August 5th special meeting.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: The last roller skating had a 70s theme and was a good time. The next open date is Sunday, July 25, 2021, from 4:00PM-7:00PM and it will be 80s night.

Public Safety – Police: Advertising has begun for a full-time police officer opening. Chief Kyllonen would like to see Ordinance #139 - Junk Vehicles reviewed so that enforcement is easier. Questions were also raised about the number of vehicles that can be in a yard and how they are parked on the street.

Public Safety – Fire: No report.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: No report.

Property/Building/Ordinance: All the lists of properties in violation of ordinances will be compiled and possibly a meeting with some of the bigger offenders will be held in late August or early September.

Beautification: No report.

Unfinished Business

Touch a Truck will be held on Saturday, July 31, 2021, from 10:00AM-1:00PM at the Gipp recreation area. Fire trucks, DPW equipment and police cars will be on hand for viewing. There will also be a Bounce House, Smoke House, face painting and hot dogs available.

Risk Management requested adopting **police department policy recommendations** and the officers are reviewing them. A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve these recommendations. Carried 5-0.

There were no applicants for the **DPW Mechanic position** so advertising will continue.

New Business

Village Administrator Vertin has given notice that he will **retire** on October 31, 2021. A decision needs to be made as to whether advertising should be for another administrator or a village manager. President Sullivan will get clarification on the process needed should the council opt to advertise for a village manager.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

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