

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 19, 2022

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

Absent: Erickson.

Guests: Kurt Erkkila, Thomas Fournier and two unidentified online viewers.

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

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Carlson to approve the **agenda** with the addition to New Business of Laurium Planning Commission resignations and open village council seat. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to approve the **minutes** of the June 21, 2022 regular meeting and the June 30, 2022 public hearing/special meeting. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Carlson to approve the **prepaid bills** in the amount of \$196,009.12 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$36,110.67. Carried 5-0.

Communications to the Council

A letter from Calumet Township was received looking for funding for Calumet Dam winter grooming. A grant has been obtained for two phases of the project but funding is needed for the other two phases. A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Carlson to donate \$250.00 to Calumet Township for **Calumet Dam Winter Grooming**. Carried 5-0.

Jameson Risser was not present to receive his recognition certificate so Schneiderhan will give it to him.

Gregg Kingstrom, our appointed Dangerous Building Ordinance # 135 **hearing officer**, has left his position at UP Engineers & Architects. Steve Wright will be taking his place.

Committee Reports

Finance: The audit will be starting next month so hopefully we can get a better idea of where we stand.

Recreation/Parks: Roller skating is Sunday, July 24, 2022 from 1:00pm-4:00pm. The committee will meet with the DPW to decide where to put the new ADA swing and picnic table at the Gipp Recreation Area. Calumet Council #1245 of the Knights of Columbus will contribute \$945.00 toward the concrete slab/sidewalk for the swing and picnic table. An individual would like to hold an open mic concert at Daniell Park on Sunday, August 14, 2022 from 1:00-3:00PM.

Public Safety – Police: There has been no direction on the details of the police recruitment grant. Chief Erkkila and President Sullivan met with the magistrate last week to discuss ordinance enforcement. Notices are being given to property owners for violations now. Some changes may need to be made to ordinances so the village attorney will be consulted.

Public Safety – Fire: Some outside lights need to be either changed or replaced by LED lights at the fire hall. Some new hose is needed. The PHF grant requires a \$2000.00. An additional \$200.00 is needed since the cost of the fan came in higher than expected.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: There is an extra Zamboni engine at the garage that is not being used which could possibly be sold for \$2500-3000. A new roller is needed to fill potholes.

Property/Building/Ordinance: The rental ordinance has been sent to the village attorney for review. A comment was made that the ordinances on social media are not searchable. Hrebec will investigate and address as needed.

Beautification: More donations have been collected. Schneiderhan would like to use this for more flowers in the parks or for perennials at the corners along Lake Linden Ave. The murals have been put on the fence at 41 Lumber and are very nice. Schneiderhan would like to thank all of those who have been tending the park gardens and Gregg Saxton for watering the planters and hanging baskets.

Community Relations: Press releases will be done for the swing and picnic table when they are installed at the Gipp Recreation Area, fire truck grant and a police award from the Intermediate School District for COVID assistance and active shooter training. There may be a cost associated with posting reminders on Facebook. Schneiderhan and Jenich-Laplander will work out details for a Touch-A-Truck event this fall.

Unfinished Business

Since the village doesn't have matching funds, it is hard finding funding for a **skate park**.

Two **website** proposals were received. Certain requirements are necessary for websites for the master plan and our current website does not meet them. The matter will be tabled until the August meeting after everyone has had a chance to look over the proposals.

New Business

The wording for the **fire debt millage** that will be on the November ballot was reviewed. A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve the ballot wording. Carried 5-0.

Four candidates were interviewed for the **office clerk position**. A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Schneiderhan to appoint Paige Blain to the office clerk position at \$15.00/hour for 20 hours/week. She will begin on Monday, July 25, 2022. Benefits include holiday pay: New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Vacation pay after 1 year 1 week, after 2 years 2 weeks, after 7 years 3 weeks and after 12 years 4 weeks. Sick pay: ½ day earned each completed month of employment. Personal days: 2 not chargeable to sick time. Carried 5-0.

The **Garbage Ordinance #132** needs to be reviewed as there are issues that need to be discussed.

Michael Carlson and Kim Robbins have resigned from the **Laurium Planning Commission** and need to be replaced. A council representative to the commission also needs to be filled. The vacancy on the council has not been filled.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

Village of Laurium