

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 15, 2021

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

Absent: Salani.

Guests: Kalen Carlson, Marc Johnson, Marsha Johnson, Jeff Kalcich, Robert Kyllonen, Erik Lee, Sandy Rauvala, George Thurner and Edward Vertin.

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

Public Comment

As radio operators, George Thurner and Erik Lee were present to discuss radio frequency interference from a marijuana grow house. They feel this is a public safety issue as they are involved with emergency notifications. They came to the village as all other avenues they have tried to correct this problem have not changed the situation.

Neighbors of an aggressive dog that has been a problem in their neighborhood addressed the council about how the village is handling the situation and what can be done. The neighbors are afraid to be in their yards since the dog runs loose. The owner has been ticketed several times for violating the dog ordinance and other ordinances. The police are trying to work with the court system. A discussion about changing our ordinance took place. President Sullivan will contact the village attorney for direction.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Erickson to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 5-0. (Djerf had left the meeting prior to this vote)

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to approve the **minutes** of the **May 20, 2021** regular council meeting and the **June 1, 2021** special council meeting. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Erickson to approve the **prepaid bills** for May/June 2021 in the amount of \$166,844.10 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$132,709.31.

Communications to the Council

Renee Salani submitted a letter of **resignation** effective immediately. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to accept the resignation with regret and advertise through social media, the website, contact previous applicants and place an ad in the paper to seek a qualified elector as a replacement. Carried 5-0. The deadline to apply is July 1 as the new trustee will be selected at the July regular council meeting.

Committee Reports

Finance: The audit will begin the third week in July.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: Roller skating will be held every other Saturday at the George Gipp Arena. A discussion was held regarding volunteers at these events.

Public Safety – Police: The police will be applying for a 50/50 grant which can be used to pay for the cameras that were purchased. There is an offer on the police car, but Village Administrator Vertin will contact Houghton County and another party to see if they will come closer to the asking price of \$16,000.00.

Public Safety – Fire: No report.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: Payment for the dump truck that was sold is expected by the end of the week. In order to take advantage of current pricing and a February or March 2022 delivery, the new garbage truck needs to be ordered by the end of June. Vertin will have the bond attorney review the paperwork. The old truck will be sold after the new one is delivered. The opening for a mechanic should be posted with a filing deadline of July 7, 2021. The committee would still like to change the garbage ordinance to mandate village carts by January 1, 2022 so public hearings will be held prior to that time.

Property/Building/Ordinance: A list of properties in violation of the ordinance is still being compiled. The committee is still working on a rental ordinance.

Beautification: Schneiderhan obtained some potted roses which she put on the picnic tables at Daniell Park. There are still 3 more pieces of art that need to be framed and put on display. Schneiderhan thanked all those who have donated to the flowers and would like to see a budget line for beautification items in the future.

Unfinished Business

Janich-Laplander explained some of the ideas/details for the **Touch A Truck fundraiser**. Community partner and sponsors are need for this interactive event for families. Proceeds could go toward new playground equipment. This fundraiser will be held prior to the August 3rd millage renewal election. An update of details will be given at the July meeting.

The next **roller skating** will be on June 19th from 5:00-8:00PM and held every other Saturday (except for the July 4th weekend) starting July 10th. The roller derby girls will be renting the arena on a weekly basis.

A copy of the current **village rental lease agreement** was given to the council. The rates need to be reviewed and the insurance carrier contacted about having alcohol at rentals and what is required to do so.

A **Copper Country Community Arts Council mini grant** is available. Schneiderhan was interested in pursuing a story regarding the DPW garage when it was an airport hangar with these funds.

The village attorney was not able to review the contract with Hamer Enterprises yet for **credit card payments**. The finance committee will continue to research options for credit card payments.

DPW Group Leader is going to oversee the **sidewalk replacement** list. Replacement cost to property owners will be available at the July meeting.

New Business

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to hold a public hearing for the Headlee resolution on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 5:00PM. A special meeting will follow at 5:10PM for approval of the resolution. Carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

Village of Laurium