

Laurium Village Planning Commission

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Laurium Village Hall & GoToMeeting

Present for Roll Call: Kalen Carlson, Michael Lehman, Diana Lewitzke, Kim Robbins, John Sullivan, Daniel Woiron

Absent: Michael Carlson

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order in-person and virtually by Chairwoman Carlson at 6:30 PM.

A motion to approve the **Agenda** was made by Mr. Robbins and seconded by Mr. Sullivan.

A motion to approve the **Minutes** of the January meeting was made by Chairwoman Carlson and seconded by Mr. Sullivan.

Unfinished Business:

- **Planning Commission Ordinance and Bylaws:** Chairwoman Carlson updated the commission on the status of the restated planning ordinance; the ordinance is with the attorney, it will be brought to the Village council for approval in March and then there will be a 14-day period for public comment. The ordinance will not be finalized/in place until late March. The draft Planning Commission bylaws are currently with the attorney for review.
- **Public Participation Plan:** Chairwoman Carlson discussed preliminary actions regarding the Public Participation Plan. A decision was made to postpone drafting in order to work on the document with the future planning consultants. The planning consultants will have input on best practices.
- **Laurium Website-** Diana L. and Daniel W. will partner on this project along with Jenn J. from the council. A discussion was held on if there are leftover ARPA funds. The Village received grant money related to COVID. The money was/is to be used on improving virtual platforms to communicate with residents. Diana L. will look into how much of these funds are leftover.
- **Selection of Consultant for Master Plan & Zoning-**An update on the selection of consultants for the master plan and zoning work was discussed. Diana L., John S. and Chairwoman Carlson have been performing due diligence as it relates to the decision-making process. A decision is expected to be made in the next week.

Other Business:

- **Update on Capital Improvement Plan-** Chairwoman Carlson updated the commission on work happening to identify capital projects for the Village in the next year (and to be included in the annual budget) and long-term. This work will service multiple purposes- to complete annual budget work, to complete the required capital improvement plan and to be prepared to pursue grants and other funding.
- **Planning Commission Member Update-** there are currently 2 open positions on the commission. One open seat will be filled by Sam Stonelake, a resident of Lake Linden and an employee of KEDA. Sam will be voted in once the updated ordinance is approved (likely in late March) that allows for one member of the commission to live outside of Laurium. The other seat is open as a result of Jaikob Djerf's resignation from the council/Planning Commission- it is not yet determined who from the council will fill this open seat. The Planning Commission is to have 3 ex-officio members (Village manager, council member, Village president).

- **April Meeting Date for Planning Commission-** was set for April 12th as the Village council has a statutory meeting on the normally scheduled meeting date for the PC of April 11th.

Training/Orientation Update:

- Several planning commission and council members participated in a 2-hour training related to master planning on February 17th. This training was paid for by funding requested from the MEDC. Michigan Association of Planning facilitated the training. Another 2-hour training is to be held on February 24th, with a focus on zoning.
- Orientation for new planning commission members will be held on February 14th, prior to the regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM by Chairwoman Carlson

Respectfully submitted,

Kalen Carlson, Chairwoman