

Village of Laurium  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 15, 2022

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

**Guests:** Antonia Burich, Kurt Erkkila, Erik Lee, Diana Lewitzke, Kim Robbins (online), Kimberly Robbins (online), George Thurner and 3 other online guests.

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

A public hearing on **Ordinance #112-Planning Commission** was held. This is an updated version of the ordinance passed in 1965. The number of people on the commission will be seven instead of nine and an outside village resident can be added. A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Hrebec to approve this ordinance. Carried 6-0. The ordinance will be published in the Daily Mining Gazette and in effect by the end of the month.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Carlson to approve the **agenda** with the addition of the vacant council seat in Unfinished Business and executive session to discuss personal issue in New Business. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Hrebec to approve the **minutes** of the February 15, 2022, regular council meeting and the February 25, 2022, budget hearing/special meeting. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to approve the prepaid bills in the amount of \$55,388.11 and approve payment of the merchandise accounts in the amount of \$126,239.26 less half of the Hannula Insurance bill (\$42,894.00) that will be paid in 6 months. Carried 6-0.

### **Communications to the Council**

An **Easter egg hunt** is being planned for Saturday, April 16, 2022, at 3:00PM in the ballroom of the village hall. A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Carlson to approve \$125-150 for this event. Carried 6-0.

With Djerf's resignation from the council and **planning commission**, a new council member is needed on the planning commission. All council members are asked to consider taking on this role.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Schneiderhan to increase Charles Miller, the **village attorney**, hourly rate from \$125.00 to \$150.00. Carried 6-0.

The current **par plan policy** from the Hannula Agency needs to be reviewed. Council members are asked to go through the policy and see what changes, increases, or decreases in coverage can be made. Discussion will take place at the April meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** No report.

**Recreation/Parks/Community Relations:** Schneiderhan is putting a list together for playground equipment for the master plan so we can get grants to purchase new. In the meantime, we will need to paint the existing equipment. The George Gipp Arena is closed for the season. The softball tournament is scheduled for the end of June. If possible, the DPW will start cleaning off the lines of the field.

**Public Safety – Police/Fire:** The police department has not heard back on the grant they submitted last month. At the April meeting, increasing the part time pay rate will be considered. Since spring is just around the corner, yard maintenance and junk car ordinances will be coming into play & may need revisions. Fire Chief Zubiena scheduled the village mechanic to inspect the fire trucks.

**Street/Equipment/Sanitation:** The new dump truck is in service and working well. Auctions are being checked to find reasonably priced graders going up for sale this spring.

**Property/Building/Ordinance:** The rental ordinance will be sent to the council for review in the next couple of weeks.

**Beautification:** A meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16 at 6:00PM at the Americinn for people interested in working on the mural that will be at 41 Lumber.

### **Unfinished Business**

The only letter of interest for the **vacant council seat** is from Glenn Johnson. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Carlson to approve him for the open trustee position providing he is qualified to take that seat. Carried 6-0.

### **New Business**

**George Thurner** was present to discuss the radio interference he experiences and the relation between that and marijuana growing. The problem he had last year was resolved when the home causing the interference became vacant. The problem has since reoccurred, and he would like to work with the village to find a solution for the ham/amateur radio operators in the area as they provide an important safety function for village residents.

A resume and application were received from a candidate for the **accounting position**. Erickson, Schneiderhan, and President Sullivan will conduct an interview later this week.

Kim and Kimberly Robbins indicated they would like to file a **complaint** with the village. The matter will be handled at a meeting.

At 7:11PM, a motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Erickson to enter **executive session** to discuss a personal matter. Carried 6-0.

The meeting resumed regular session at 8:19PM.

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

**Absent:** Erickson (left 7:38PM).

The meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk