

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 16, 2021

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

Absent: Djerf.

Guests: Kurt Erkkila, Jeff Kalcich, Jon Koskiniemi, Robert Kyllonen, Michael Lehman, Diana Lewitzke, and Alicia Roundtree (via GoToMeeting).

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

A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Carlson to approve the **agenda** with the addition of the Laurium Planning Commission. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to approve the **minutes** from the October 19, 2021, regular council meeting and the October 28, 2021, special meeting. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Hrebec to approve the **prepaid bills** for October/November 2021 in the amount of \$94,178.29 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$36,218.42. Carried 6-0.

Communications to the Council

Kara Clairmont was not present to discuss the rabbit sanctuary. The village attorney said that our current ordinances do not prohibit this type of business.

Committee Reports

Finance: Munibilling, who does the water & sewer company billings, will be able to do a demo regarding online payments once the new manager is in place. The council would like to arrange to have either our current or previous auditor give a presentation on the flow of village funding in January.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: Interviews are being done/set up for publicity on village activities and changes.

Public Safety – Police/Fire: Dave's Auto donated lock out tools to the police department. Carlson will send a thank you. Fire Chief Zubiena and 1st Asst Sean Jacques will meet with the new mechanic regarding the department's needs.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: If they have time before winter sets in, the boards on the tower at the hall will be repaired and/or replaced to keep the birds out.

Property/Building Ordinance: The rental property ordinance needs to include both long term and short-term rental properties and their responsibilities to the village. The committee will have a draft at the December meeting.

Beautification: No report.

Unfinished Business

Diana Lewitzke accepted the offer for the village manager position and was introduced at the meeting.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to approve John Gherna as the new **Heavy Equipment Operator** at the DPW garage.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve hiring Edward Vertin as the **attendant at the George Gipp Arena**. Carried 6-0.

Decorating at the corner of Hecla and Lake Linden Avenue this weekend. **Skate with Santa** will be held at the George Gipp Arena from 4:00pm-6:00pm on December 11th. The **holiday parade** will be on December 18th in conjunction with Main Street Calumet. Santa will either be at the corner of Hecla & Lake Linden Avenue or at the village hall, weather depending. Prizes will be given for the best three floats. The deadline to register for the **holiday home decorating contest** is December 17th with judging to be on December 19th for Laurium residents only. Cash prizes or a skating party will be given to the winners.

The **Planning Commission ordinance** will need to be updated soon.

New Business

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Hrebec to go up to a bid of \$10,000 on the 1991 International Tandem axle **dump truck** on the auction that ends tomorrow. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Erickson to increase the monthly fee for the **village parking lot** from \$10.00/month to \$15.00/month. Carried 6-0.

A discussion was held regarding an increase in **garbage fees** since the tipping fees at the transfer station went up in January. The matter was tabled until the December meeting.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Hrebec to change the **monthly meeting time** from 5:30PM to 6:00PM. Carried 6-0.

At 6:20PM, a motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Hrebec to enter **executive session** to discuss police union negotiations. Carried 6-0.

The meeting returned to regular session at 6:38PM.

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

The carpeting and chairs in the council chambers and office will be cleaned. Volunteers are needed to paint these rooms.

The meeting adjourned at 6:44PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk