

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Present for Roll Call: Bausano, Erickson, Lanctot, Salani, Schneiderhan and Sullivan.

Absent: Carlson.

Guests: Jeff Kalcich, Robert Kyllonen, Charles Miller, and Edward Vertin.

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

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Sullivan to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Sullivan to approve the **minutes** of the **September 15, 2020 regular** council meeting. Carried 6-0. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Salani to approve the minutes of the **October 9, 2020 Public Hearing/Special Meeting**. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Sullivan and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve the **prepaid bills** for September/October 2020 in the amount of \$311,009.60 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$30,989.76. Carried 6-0.

Communications to the Council

A motion was made by Lanctot and seconded by Erickson to invite Scott MacInnes from the **Michigan Municipal League** to the November meeting to inform the council what services are available from the MML to assist in the replacement of the Village Administrator. Carried 6-0.

Charles Miller provided information to the council regarding **microbusiness licensing for medical and recreational marijuana**. He feels this would be an opportunity for the village to increase its tax base and bring businesses into town. The matter will be reviewed by the council.

Committee Reports

Finance: Village Administrator Vertin is looking for ideas projects to utilize the COVID 19 Grant from the State. The deadline to expend the \$25,000 is December 30, 2020. Whatever is not used must be returned.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: As of now, the George Gipp Arena is scheduled to open for the season the weekend after Thanksgiving. LiveBarn is working but training needs to be scheduled.

Public Safety – Police: No report.

Public Safety – Fire: No report.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: Repairs for the Caterpillar grader have been scheduled. The Houghton County Transfer Station has increased fees \$5.00/ton effective January 1, 2021. The committee will determine if garbage rates should increase. The garbage truck is at the point where the extended warranty is expiring, and it might be a good time to replace and trade it in for a new truck. The committee will review options. Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital will be

requesting bids this year for the snow contract. They will be contacting the village soon for pricing.

Property/Building/Ordinance: The committee is looking to draft a rental property ordinance. They are also considering the cost effectiveness of hiring an ordinance enforcement officer.

Beautification: In lieu of a village Christmas party, the committee is looking to have a village decorating contest. More information will be available at the November meeting.

Unfinished Business

Over the last month, the police department did a traffic study on Isle Royale and Fourth Streets. Based on their findings, Lanctot reported that the results indicated that a stop sign is not needed on this corner.

New Business

New rates were proposed for the snow contracts and sidewalk plowing for the 2020-21 season. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Lanctot to increase the snow contract rate from \$.50/sq ft for hauling to \$.52/sq ft and \$.32/sq ft for plowing to \$.33/sq ft. Yes – Erickson and Lanctot. No – Bausano, Salani, Schneiderhan and Sullivan. The motion failed. A motion was made by Sullivan and seconded by Erickson that the **snow contract and sidewalk plowing rates** remain the same as last year. Yes – Bausano, Erickson, Salani, Schneiderhan and Sullivan. No – Lanctot. Carried 5-1. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Sullivan to keep the **ice rental rates** at the George Gipp Arena the same as last year. Carried 6-0.

A **work session** was scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 5:30PM to review the ordinances and determine if any changes need to be made.

Trick or Treat hours will be from 5:00-8:00PM on Saturday, October 31st. Bags will be handed out at the village hall rather than at the arena this year.

President Bausano is not seeking reelection, so this is his last meeting. Lanctot thanked him for his many years of service on the council.

At 6:37PM, a motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Sullivan to go into **executive session** to discuss police union negotiations. Carried 6-0.

The meeting returned to regular session at 6:55PM and adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

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