

Village of Laurium
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 19, 2021

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

Absent: Carlson.

Guests: Kalen Carlson, Jeff Kalcich, Jon Koskiniemi, Robert Kyllonen, Edward Vertin and one unidentified called on the GoToMeeting website.

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 Erickson and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Hrebec to approve the **minutes** of the September 21, 2021, regular council meeting. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Schneiderhan to approve the **prepaid bills** in the amount of \$525,791.41 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$59,138.15. Carried 6-0.

Communications to the Council

A motion was made by Schneiderhan and seconded by Djerf to approve the **MDOT resolution** designating Village Administrator Vertin as the contract administrator and Jeffrey Kalcich as maintenance supervisor. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Erickson to reappoint Dan Zubiena and Dan Mukavetz to the **North Houghton County Water & Sewer Authority** for 4-year terms from August 2021 – August 2025. Carried 6-0.

Committee Reports

Finance: No report.

Recreation/Parks/Community Relations: A Halloween roller skating costume party will be held at the George Gipp Arena on Saturday, October 30th from 4:00pm-7:00pm. The CHS All School Reunion committee would like to have a Medallion Hunt which would involve designing a Copper King medallion that people would register to find. Schneiderhan said another meeting will be held in December & more information will be available on activities planned in Laurium. A subcommittee could be formed to be involved with carrying out these activities. Dates are yet to be determined on the Santa parade, visit with Santa & tree lighting ceremony.

Public Safety – Police/Fire: No report.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: A tree still needs to be removed from in front of 444 Iroquois Street. The snow removal contract with Aspirus Hospital was discussed.

Property/Building/Ordinance: Djerf has a stakeholder list prepared. Erickson reported that the differences between long term rentals and short-term rentals may merit two separate ordinances.

Beautification: The cleanup last month went well and will possibly become a monthly event next year. The ground planters have been put away and the hanging baskets will be going back to Sleeman Greenhouse soon. A volunteer cleaned up of the garden on the corner of Hecla and Lake Linden Ave and donated shrubs for a yet to be determined location. 41 Lumber will be donating materials so artwork can be put up along their fence next year.

Unfinished Business

Village Administrator Vertin will be retiring at the end of next week. His permanent replacement has yet to be found. Temporarily, village clerk Patricia Golus will be filling in with necessary duties. A wage will need to be determined.

New Business

Trick of Treat hours will be from 5:00PM – 8:00PM on Sunday, October 31st. Candy and bags have been donated for the council to hand out at the village hall. All are encouraged to help.

The **Christmas decorating contest** will again be held. Prizes to be given to the winner(s) will be decided at the November meeting.

A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Schneiderhan to extend Village Administrator Vertin's **cell phone** use at \$20.00/month reimbursement for the next few months during the transition. Carried 6-0.

Aerial photos were obtained for the **Laurium Planning Commission** master plan at the cost of \$150.00. A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Djerf to approve payment once a bill is submitted. Carried 6-0.

Incredible Bank owns the property at **417 Tamarack Street**. They need to clean up the yard, per the village yard maintenance ordinance, and are looking for suggestions on who can do it. They would also be willing to sell this property to the village for \$1. A discussion was held and the matter was tabled until the next meeting.

A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Erickson to increase the **rates at the George Gipp Arena** for the 2021-22 season. One hour of ice time would be \$130.00, 1.5 hours - \$175.00, Jr. hockey \$85.00/hour and figure skating \$100.00/hour. Carried 6-0.

Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital has signed a contract for snow removal with the village. The same rate as last year, \$68,000.00, will be billed equally over 5 months. The contract is from November 1, 2021, through April 1, 2022. Any time on either end of the contract will be billed according to Schedule C. The lots will not need to be sanded, just Osceola Street from Second to Third Street. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Hrebec to approve the contract. Carried 6-0. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Djerf to increase the village **snow contract rates** from .50/ sq ft for plowing to .53/sq ft and from .34/sq ft for hauling to .36/sq ft. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to increase the rates on the **Sidewalk Plowing Ordinance #135** from \$2.23/lineal ft to \$2.34/lineal ft. Carried 6-0.

At 6:55PM, a motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Erickson to enter executive session to discuss police union negotiations. Carried 6-0.

At 7:40PM the meeting returned to regular session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

Village of Laurium