

Village of Laurium

Work Session

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

**Present:** Carlson, Erickson (5:25PM), Jenich-Laplander, Salani, Schneiderhan, and Sullivan.

**Guests:** Robert Kyllonen, Scott MacInnes, and Edward Vertin.

The work session was called to order by President Sullivan at 5:15PM.

There were no public comments.

Scott MacInnes, the UP Consultant for the Michigan Municipal League, was present at this work session. His role is to assist municipalities with planning, training, resources, etc. MacInnes provided information about the state of the village regarding funding sources (tax basis and state funding) and the current downward trend. Something needs to be done to change the course we are on now so there needs to be a village master plan. Important factors to consider are the 2020 census and what kind of an impact will that have on village funding. What do the residents of the village want – send out a survey(s). What can be done to attract people to live in the village – blight ordinance enforcement, activities, services, etc. How can we make some of the things we want to do happen – grant opportunities. MacInnes left the work session at 6:20PM.

Village Administrator Vertin is looking into retiring by the end of September 2021.

All the council members agreed that a master plan needs to be developed. Blight enforcement, parks and recreation, activities for families, increased visibility and publicity, are needed to attract people to the village. The council members were encouraged to go to other municipal websites and review their master plans to get ideas how to proceed with something specific for Laurium.

The work session ended at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

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