

Village of Laurium
Regular Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Present for Roll Call: Carlson, Erickson, Galbraith, Jenich-Laplander, Ninko and Pietila.

Absent: Sullivan.

Guests: Kurt Erkkila and Ian Lewis.

The meeting was called to order in the village council chambers by President Pro-Tem Erickson at 6:00PM.

A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Galbraith to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Ninko to approve the **minutes** of the March 19, 2024 regular council meeting and the April 8, 2024 Statutory meeting. Carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Pietila to approve the **prepaid bills** in the amount of \$70,074.08 and approve the payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$31,218.22. Carried 6-0.

Committee Reports

Finance: A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Pietila to donate 1.5 hours of ice time at the George Gipp Arena next season to the Calumet All-Sport Booster Club Blue & Gray fundraiser. Carried 6-0.

Recreation/Parks/Beautification: Erickson was in contact with Bassett Mechanical regarding the George Gipp Arena. The glycol will be removed from the lines into barrels so a pressure test can be done. Baseball will be able to have their field clean up day earlier this year so the season can be a couple weeks longer. The DPW will hopefully try to till the fields. Work will continue on the softball field dugouts. The league is willing to donate \$500-\$1000/year toward the upgrades & the village will provide the labor and material. Some of the new playground equipment has been vandalized. Security cameras are being investigated. The fundraising campaign for the hanging flower baskets has begun. The committee is looking to expand the baskets to Third & Osceola and Lake Linden Ave. Flags will be purchased to retire some of the worn ones. Additional flags will be added along First St.

Public Safety – Police/Fire: The DPW will be consulted on what can be made for the new police department entrance lobby. With the grant for a new fire department equipment vehicle being approved, the old vehicle will be sold for parts the DPW doesn't use for a utility truck. A portable cascade system to fill the oxygen tanks in the new equipment vehicle will be researched.

Streets/Equipment/Sanitation: The roll-off truck has been purchased. The possibility of buying a mini excavator to be used for the upcoming water project and also for sidewalk replacement was discussed. Manager Lewis will see if the grant budget can be amended for this purchase.

An option to have the property owner replace their water line during the village survey is being discussed. More information will be available at the May meeting. The parking ban restriction is being lifted as of tomorrow morning. During the first two weeks in May, parking will be adjusted for street sweeping.

Property/Building/Ordinance: Some of the windows for the town hall are on site and will be installed at the beginning of May. Notice will need to be given when the hall front door is being replaced.

Community Relations: The Daily Mining Gazette will be doing a feature story on all of the grants that the village has recently received.

Manager Report

The village received the FDCVT grant for a new fire equipment vehicle. **Grants** are in the works for playground equipment and improvements for the Arena. **Treasury** has determined that the village is no longer financially distressed and no further communication is required with them in this regard. USDA is underfunded this year. The village needs to keep its application moving forward so if we do purchase a new police vehicle, reimbursement could be available. Having a zero-based budget would improve our chances. The following **budget amendments** are necessary: A general liability insurance increase from \$50,000 to \$58,000; Fire department aerial truck wiring issues increase the repair budget from \$55,700 to \$62,500; DPW sidewalk machine pump repairs increase parts by \$3600; and government & town hall expenses increase from \$158,300 to \$168,800 due to clerk and treasurer salary changes and the BS&A implementation. In the sanitation fund, additional garbage carts are needed and will increase the budgeted amount by \$9000. A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Ninko to approve the budget amendments. Carried 6-0.

Unfinished Business

Incredible Bank provided a form for the clerk to sign authorizing the manager to make either online or in person wire transfers and make inquiries as to village bank accounts and transactions.

New Business

A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Ninko to adopt the **resolution** accepting the FDCVT grant for the \$250,000 Laurium Fire Department Vehicle update. Carried 6-0. **Calumet Housing** approached the village to see if they could utilize our garbage service. The cost would be \$4500/quarter which would include 12 garbage carts, wages and fringes and wear and tear on the truck. A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Ninko to approve this arrangement. Carried 6-0. A motion was made by Ninko and seconded by Pietila to approve the purchase of 3 new 15 yd **roll off dumpsters**. These could be used for snow removal, storage, home demolition projects or cleanouts, etc. These dumpsters would be emptied at the transfer station and users billed accordingly. Funding would come from the Equipment Bond Fund. Carried 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk