

Village of Laurium  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, August 15, 2023

**Present for Roll Call:** Carlson, Erickson, Galbraith, Hrebec, Jenich-Laplander, Pietila, and Sullivan.

**Guests:** Andrew Erickson, Kurt Erkkila, Jon Koskiniemi, Ian Lewis, Riley Powers, and Darian Reed.

The meeting was called to order in the village council chambers by President Sullivan at 6:00PM.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Jenich-Laplander to approve the **agenda** as presented. Carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Hrebec and seconded by Erickson to approve the **minutes** of the July 18, 2023 regular council meeting. Carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Carlson and seconded by Pietila to approve the **prepaid bills** for July/August in the amount of \$60,518.65 and approve payment of the **merchandise accounts** in the amount of \$20,167.07. Carried 7-0.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance:** The auditor started her field work last week. The committee has met with Manager Lewis to review some of the grants for last year. The Recreation committee will meet with DPW to figure out placement of the sidewalk, parking area, pavilion and handicap items purchased through these grants. A new sprinkler system will be installed at Daniell Park in the spring. Funding was through a \$2500 grant.

**Recreation/Parks:** The DPW will work on trimming the hedge at the Gipp Memorial and see if they can repair the fountain. The old Zamboni in storage at the arena will either be sold for scrap or parts. The baseball fields will get soil, seed and manure this fall.

**Public Safety-Police/Fire:** The new police officer, Jena Dostaler, will graduate this Friday and start on working Monday August 21<sup>st</sup>. Chief Erkkila, Trustees Galbraith and Carlson will attend her graduation at NMU. It looks promising that the fire department will receive the FEMA grant for turnout gear. If not, Manager Lewis is applying for a grant from Treasury for gear as well. Fire Chief Zubiena and Lewis will be working on grants for hose.

**Streets/Equipment/Sanitation:** The committee reported that they are still looking for a loader and a dump truck. If possible, they would like to get a loader with attachments to be used as a grader. The land we have been using for a snow dump off Isle Royale Street has been sold. At this time, it is uncertain if we will be able to use this land or not.

**Property/Building/Ordinance:** Lewis is reviewing the garbage ordinance. Discussion was held regarding business garbage rates. The ordinance and rates were tabled until the September meeting. Lewis is working on repeal language for the marijuana ordinance.

**Beautification:** The flowers will be removed next month.

**Community Relations:** A press release will go out for the new police officer. A picnic was hosted by Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital for the fire department to thank them for their assistance with the helicopter landings. The new website needs to be edited. Information will be sent to access it.

### **Manager Report**

The process for starting the conversion to BS&A accounting software will begin after the tax season is over.

### **Unfinished Business**

The council **Rules of Procedure** from 2007 was reviewed for changes and updates. A motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Hrebec to approve the changes to the council Rules of Procedure. Carried 7-0. Policies and procedures for bid specs and awards will need to be implemented in the near future.

### **New Business**

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Galbraith to authorize Lewis and Patricia Golus, Clerk as the authorized signatories for the **MERS pension** plan. Carried 7-0.

The **committee** for the upcoming union negotiations will be Galbraith, Hrebec and Sullivan.

In order to have a faster response time should a loader become available, a motion was made by Jenich-Laplander and seconded by Erickson to **authorize spending** up to \$65,000. If the cost is \$3000 or more than that, council approval will be needed. Carried 7-0.

All of the following projects are made possible from the FDCVT grants. Costs are to be paid with reimbursement to follow.

Bids for the fire department **overhead door replacement** were reviewed. A motion was made by Pietila and seconded by Carlson to award the bid to Keweenaw Overhead Door for \$9763.00. Lewis will make sure tax is not included in this price. Yes – Carlson, Galbraith, Hrebec, Jenich-Laplander, Pietila and Sullivan. Abstain-Erickson. Carried 6-0.

Another contractor will be submitting a bid for replacing the **boiler** at the town hall Wednesday so the bid will be awarded in September. All of these bids should have the same specs. Unknown with this project are the existing pipes and what problems could occur during replacement.

The DPW and fire hall **roof replacement bids** were discussed. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Galbraith to select Copper Range Roofing for \$148,700 (which can be paid in 25% increments) pending a clarification of materials that Lewis & Pietila will discuss with them. Yes – Erickson, Galbraith, Jenich-Laplander, Pietila and Sullivan. Abstain – Carlson & Hrebec. Carried 5-0.

Jenich-Laplander left the meeting at 7:25PM.

Village Hall windows and doors will be replaced. Posey Construction's quote is what was used to get the grant. Since no other contractors would give us a free quote, no bidding is necessary.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Hrebec to award the bid to Posey Construction. Carried 6-0. The front window and door will be replaced this year and the rest of the windows and doors next year.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Golus, Clerk

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