

# Village of Laurium

Budget Hearing  
February 28, 2024

## MINUTES

**Present for Roll Call:** Erickson, Galbraith, Hrebec, Pietila and Sullivan.

**Absent:** Jenich-Laplander and Carlson.

**Guests:** Kurt Erkkila and Ian Lewis

The hearing/special meeting was called to order in the village council chambers by President Sullivan at 6:26PM

**Public Comment:** None

### **Discussion of FY 23-24 amended budget and FY 24-25 proposed budget**

Manager Lewis discussed the amendments to all of the current fiscal year budgets and the next fiscal year's proposed budget. All councilmembers were provided their budget packets in advance. Manager Lewis explained that budget packets are available to the general public and will be posted on the Village's website once the website is updated.

- a) Manager Lewis explained that the General Fund is expected to see revenue growth for the second year in a row due to the Village successfully passing a Headlee Override and it being awarded numerous grants to help fund projects that would typically be General Fund expenditures. Manager Lewis also explained that it is expected that the General Fund may do better than projected due to many of the General Fund's departments likely coming well below their allocated budgets for the current fiscal year.
- b) Manager Lewis explained in great detail how the street funds operate and how money is transferred between the funds. The Local and Major Street Funds did not produce the amount of equipment rentals this year due to a lack of snow. The Council asked how this impacted the General Fund to which Manager Lewis explained. Manager Lewis shared no concerns for this current fiscal year; however, it could be an issue moving forward due to how much the Village has relied on equipment rental revenue for its General Fund.
- c) Manager Lewis went over the Water Fund. He explained that there is an expected water project that he is hoping to receive a grant award on. It is expected to hear back on the grant award cycle in March or April. The water project will cover inventorying the pipes throughout the community for possible lead.
- d) Manager Lewis covered the Sanitation Fund. He explained why it was necessary to increase the garbage rates due to the consistent loss of revenue in the fund and due to increase expenses.
- e) All other budgets were covered and explained in great detail. Manager Lewis explained all of the various funds and all of the net surpluses or deficits that are expected.
- f) Manager Lewis explained that the proposed budgets are based upon standard yearly inflation rates and expected increases due to the various projects that the Village looks to tackle. Each fund was explained into great detail. Some of the known projects that the Village looks to possibly take on involve updates to the baseball fields, the Gipp Recreation Area, the ice rink, and other items if time allows. Manager Lewis explained that some of these projects are going to be dependent on whether grants are awarded.

A motion was made by Hrebec and Galbraith to approve all of the budget amendments to this fiscal year's budgets. Carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Pietila to approve the upcoming fiscal year's proposed budgets with the exception of increasing the General Fund transfer to the PIF from \$20,000 to \$24,000. (FY25). Carried 5-0.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02PM  
Meeting Minutes Taken by: Jeff Erickson