

Village of Laurium  
Special Council Meeting  
February 27, 2023

A. **Present for Roll Call:** Hrebec, Galbraith, Pietila, and Sullivan. Carlson arrived at 7:00 PM.

**Absent:** Erickson, Jenich-Laplander

**Guests:** Kurt Erkkila, Ian Lewis

The meeting was called to order by President Sullivan at 6:35 PM in the village council chambers.

B. **Public Comments:** None

C. **Discussion of FY 22-23 amended budget and FY 23-24 proposed budget:**

Lewis discussed amendments to budget and proposed budget:

- a. Keeping cable franchise fees in the general fund instead of moving to the multi-rec fund
- b. Keeping DPW on better track with expenditures
- c. Factored in inflation, wage increases, and police increases
- d. Identified that there will be a small surplus for FY 22-23, which was not what was originally expected
- e. Explained how clerical hours are calculated within the budget
- f. Identified that there was money found that was not accounted for from the time of the previous manager
- g. Snow removal numbers were reviewed with Village auditor to ensure budgeted numbers for FY 23-24 are more accurate
- h. Would like to possibly move AARPA money to different account or somehow separate it, will ask Village auditor for guidance
- i. Will have a state revenue sharing discussion with Village auditor, was waiting on a check from the state
- j. Identified that the sanitization fund is not a money maker and should be
- k. Posed whether Laurium could tie in the Village of Calumet and offer garbage service to boost numbers
- l. Identified that we need to increase garbage costs for businesses
- m. Identified that we need to address costs for publishing ordinances as they are very expensive
- n. Discussed the possibility of considering a police millage if the Headley Override does not pass
- o. Approximate cash value in water fund is \$208,000
- p. Did not see any issues with the Major or Local Streets funds, he increased the Major Streets fund a little bit to supplement projects needed
- q. Will explore growing the DPW Bond Debt Fund in the future
- r. Will update Multi-Rec fund name to Parks and Rec sometime in March
- s. Discussed revising rink attendant OT hours for next season

Sullivan identified possibly using a grant opportunity to get rid of the Village's debt retirement for Fire/Police

A motion was made by Hrebec to approve the FY 22/23 amended budget and FY 23/24 proposed budget and seconded by Galbraith. Carried 5-0.

**D. Discussion on the Village of Laurium Website and the website bids:**

Sullivan provided an overview of options for website bids received. Lewis identified that he budgeted 9K for planning commission expenses so we would be able to categorize website development within that budget. Keweenaw Solutions provided the lowest cost bid, a 3K solution plus annual maintenance fees with a 60-day turnaround time.

A motion was made by Pietila to approve Keweenaw Solutions for creating the Village's updated website contingent upon meeting criteria required, which was seconded by Galbraith. Carried 5-0.

**E. Update on Laurium PD:**

Erkkila asked if we should put in a request for extension on the grant awarded, committee was planning to meet the following day to discuss potential options for candidates.

A motion was made by Pietila to proceed with requesting an extension for the grant opportunity and seconded by Carlson. Carried 5-0.

Discussion on Olson's resignation with two-week notice provided, making his last day March 10. Ian recognized and wanted to thank Olson for his service. Ian supports the option of Olson supporting the Village during summer months to continue as a firearms instructor.

A motion was made by Galbraith to accept Olson's resignation and his willingness to come back as needed part-time during summer months as a firearms instructor, which was seconded by Carlson. Carried 5-0.

**F. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Meeting Notes Taken by: Jessica Hrebec