Regular Calumet City Council Meeting

Calumet City Council Room

Tuesday September 20, 2022

2:00 P.M.

Mayor Tuorila led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Tuorila called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor John Tuorila, Councilmembers Tim Zaren & Dan Strand. Absent: John Vaudrin. Also present: Clerk Serich, Public Works Supervisor Bob Hoshal, Street Maintenance worker Bill Berger and Librarian Melanie Lefebvre.

Motion by Zaren to approve the agenda with the additions, Resolution #22-09-20-5 a resolution approving to apply to and accept any funds from the IRRRB for the Gary St. project, the clerk’s contract agreement, approve Bob & Bill to attend Mn Rural Water Training Oct. 19th in Mt. Iron, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Zaren to approve the minutes of the August regular meeting, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Zaren to approve the minutes of the Special Labor Negotiation meeting 8-23-22 and the Special Budget meeting 8-30-22, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried. The council will discuss and approve the Labor contract at the next meeting October 18th after they have time to read it.

Motion by Strand to approve the August Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts $22,452.82, Disbursements $47,771.79, Investments $8,951.26 and total checking balance $277,805.47, seconded by Tuorila, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to change the percentage of the $80 monthly water and sewer fees to 30% for water and 70% for Sewer now, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and adopt Resolution #22-09-20 a resolution approving to apply to and accept funds up to $150,000 from the Blandin Foundation, seconded by Strand. Roll Call vote as follows: For: Mayor Tuorila, Councilmembers Strand and Zaren. Against: none. Absent: Councilmember Vaudrin. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and adopt Resolution #22-09-20-2 a resolution approving the Calumet Community Presbyterian Church to conduct an off-site gambling activity at the Greenway Snowmobile Club on Wednesday October 26, 2022, seconded by Strand. Roll call vote as follows: For: Mayor Tuorila, Councilmembers Strand and Zaren. Against: none. Absent: Councilmember Vaudrin. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by Zaren to approve and adopt Resolution #22-09-20-3 a resolution approving the 2023 Proposed Property Tax Levy at $225,000 and 2023 Budget at $636,299, seconded by Strand. Roll call vote as follows: For: Mayor Tuorila, Councilmembers Strand and Zaren. Against: none. Absent: Councilmember Vaudrin. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and adopt Resolution #22-09-20-4 a resolution approving the State of Minnesota BCA joint powers agreements, seconded by Zaren. Roll call vote as follows: For: Mayor Tuorila, Councilmembers Strand and Zaren. Against: none. Absent: Councilmember Vaudrin. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and adopt Resolution #22-09-20-5 a resolution to apply to and accept any funds from the IRRRB for the Gary Street Project, seconded by Zaren. Roll call vote as follows: For: Mayor Tuorila, Councilmembers Strand and Zaren. Against: none. Absent: Councilmember Vaudrin. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports**:

Greenway Recreation Bd: Strand reported that they are working on getting funding for the roof, compressor, condenser project. 40 singed up for flag football. Ice will go in Oct. 17th. A new water bottle filling station was installed downstairs.

Cemetery Bd: Block Hansen is retiring in Feb. 2023.

MCWWTP: No report.

WMMPB: Zaren reported that there are no changes with the Canisteo and Hill Annex Pit water rising. Senator Tina Smith’s aide talked about money for the Highway #169 upgrades. We need to get a coalition to help get it on the radar. Safety is most important. The #169 meeting in Marble had discussions about the study and planning phase that they got $500,000 for. They were in attendance with a tent set up at the Calumet Kids and Cars in the Park event. They figured there was about 300 attendees. They talked to many people and got a lot of input for the study. Safety concerns, unsafe crosswalks, Samaritan Transport entrance unsafe because of speed and Ninth Ave entrance to #169 unsafe because of speed.

Greenway Fire Bd: The loan for $270,000 from each city for the new fire truck loan was accepted. 3rd Qtr. Calumet had 7 calls, Marble 20 calls & Greenway Township 13 calls.

Mayor Tuorila talked to Ryan Sutherland Itasca County Hwy Engineer about the Gary St. project in 2023.

Librarian Melanie Lefebvre reported that she is starting a Play and Read event for ages 0-5, upstairs every Wednesday throughout the school year, in coordination with Community Education and Greenway schools. The Calumet Library is hosting a Halloween party indoors upstairs on Friday October 28th 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. They will be accepting donations. The Kid’s & Cars in the Park event was a huge success. The pie social made $450 and we had 125 adults and 122 kids register for prizes, but there were many people that did not even register. We will be making some changes for next year, like moving some things up in the mine park area.

**Department Reports**:

Public Works: Bob reported that the gas, slab and electric are all done at the pump house. He called the generator guy to line up delivery. They will need to lift it off the trailer by chains using the trackhoe. The fire extinguishers are all done. The floor drain tank in the shop is filled with oil, water, etc. and needs pumping out. Approximate cost is $2,000. Motion by Strand to hire OSI Environmental to pump out the floor drain for $2,000, seconded by Tuorila, all in favor, motion carried. They have been patch tarring the alleys. Discussed the road from the fire hall to 9th Ave. by the Mn Energy gas station. The road keeps washing out. Discussed that maybe Calumet, Marble and Greenway Township could agree to take care of the road by splitting the cost or checking with the gas company about splitting the cost of paving the back driveway to the fire hall by there station. The empty lots were cleaned up. They welded the plow mount on the truck. Old sewer pipe was scrapped. Rodney Garner will take. Flushing hydrants the week of the 26th. Bob has to appear in court for the city over the brush pile incident with the guy from Pengilly putting building demolition by the burn pile area. They will be moving the burn pile across the bike trail (they will lay plywood down to protect it) by the road alongside the railroad tracks. Discussed cameras at the city shop. Bob stated that IRN estimated $300 for a camera and he can use the equipment from the Depot. Water training Oct. 19th in Mt. Iron to discuss tower maintenance, freeze ups and wellhead protection plan. They will also earn free credits.

Engineer: Alan Johnson gave an estimate for the Gary St. project $193,719.30. Ryan and Alan talked and the project might be pushed back. May 2023 would be the latest to start. The project will be in the county bidding process. Calumet would be responsible for the underground work. The county is replacing curb, gutter, sidewalks, streets, lights and poles. Alan will give us an estimate on one block of water main from 2nd to 3rd where bad joints are offset, there is blockage in clay tile pipes, and cracking at services. Alan will apply for a grant or help the clerk apply next week.

Comments/Requests from the floor:

Police Services Report: August 35 hrs. 14.5 hrs. over.

Utility Shut offs: 14 shut off notices sent out.

Blight/Nuisance Notices: Discussed the Rentals and the ordinance. 522 5th Ave did not pass inspection. 364 3rd Ave did not pass inspection and is currently not occupied. The 842 Morgan St. Duplex is no longer a rental and the occupant is moving out Oct. 15. 733 7th Ave. rental has junk, garbage and unlicensed vehicles. 326 3rd Ave. rental has several unlicensed dogs and a lot of people in the house for a single family rental. Rodney Garner has scrap in yard, Hill’s have an unlicensed dodge on 2nd Ave. Clerk Serich will send out notices.

**New Business:**

Motion by Tuorila to approve the $11 per hour to $12 per hour increase for the library subs that was approved by the library board in their 2023 budget. Starting January 1, 2023, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion passed.

Motion by Tuorila to approve up to $500 on Christmas candy for bags to be picked up at city hall, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried. Clerk Serich will order it.

Motion by Strand to approve the Minnesota Mayor’s Assn. dues $30, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve the LMC dues $528, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Tabled the cameras for the city shop and garage at the Take a Five Park.

Motion by Tuorila to approve sending the city guys to the water training on Oct. 19th in Mt. Iron, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Zaren to approve the clerk’s contract agreement of $1.00 per hr. increase each year of the contract starting January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025, and increase .62 per hour to be incompliance with the Pay Equity starting with the current payroll, seconded by Tuorila, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Tuorila adjourned the meeting at 4:04 p.m. Tuesday, September 20, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk John Tuorila, Mayor