Regular Calumet City Council Meeting

Calumet City Council Room

Tuesday March 21, 2023

2:00 P.M.

Mayor John 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, John Vaudrin and Amanda Hernesman. Also present: Clerk Serich

Motion by Vaudrin to approve the agenda with the additions discuss the Itasca County Land Dept. special assessments & Kristi Serich wants to change the zoning for her property to commercial, Dan Strand wants off the cemetery board, discuss a recreational vehicle ordinance, and Bob & Bill attending water school in April, seconded by Hernesman, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed the speed limit by the fire hall. MNDOT should be contacted about doing a speed study.

Motion by Zaren to approve the minutes of the February regular meeting and the special meetings on Feb. 23 & 28, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve the February Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts $58,205.05, Disbursements $102,366.19, Investments $7,789.78 and total checking balance $387,959.31, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried. Disbursements include generator hookup, SE Project loan payment, 2 wastewater payments & transfers.

Discussed an ordinance for seasonal campers. Attorney Brian Bengtson sent a draft ordinance to Mayor Tuorila and he read it to all. If they own the property, they need to hook up to city water & sewer and pay snowbird rates when they are gone for the winter, also have electricity hooked-up. The attorney will look at ordinance #113 and get back to us for the next meeting to adopt one ordinance instead of two.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports**:

Greenway Recreation Bd. Strand reported that they are getting help to get money for the compressor project and roof from Sarah Carling & Lisa. The skating show had 105 girls. The family of Jim Gibeau will have a recognition board in the lobby and then letters will be sent out or donations.

Cemetery Bd: Strand reported they will be hiring a new employee April 12 @ 4:00 p.m. Amanda Hernesman will take over the cemetery board position and John Vaudrin will be the alternate.

WMMPB: Tuorila reported that they are still pumping the Canisteo pit. Plant 4 Magnetation went back to Larry Lehtinen. Motion by Strand to approve the WMMPB 2023 dues of $450, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Greenway Joint Fire Board: They hired a new person. The new truck will be delivered in August of 2024. The Fire Dept. decided that they will deliver candy for Christmas at no charge, Sat. Dec. 16th in Marble and Sun. Dec. 17th in Calumet. The contract with Lone Pine Township was signed. Discussed purchasing workout equipment for the fire hall and asked the City of Calumet to support them with $500.

Motion by Tuorila to approve $500 to support the firemen with work out equipment for the fire hall, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried. Strand suggested that they also ask the Taconite Legion.

MCWWTP : They discussed the map showing options for a pond system that will require 40 acres. One is south of Marble and Mud Lake owned by Glacier Park Iron Ore Properties. Another one is east of Calumet owned by Magnetation. They will talk more to Glacier about purchasing property from them.

**Comments and Requests from the Floor:**

**Department Reports**:

Public Works: Bob Hoshal reported that they need a new lawn mower. The zero turn is worn out. The dump truck plow needs to be welded again. He will take it to King’s Welding to redo it at the end of the season. Bob stated that the city shop needs internet. They have a laptop computer but no internet. Clerk Serich will check with T-Mobile for $55 a month for 5G network box. The council approved of Bob getting prices for lawn mowers and see what they will give for a trade in on the old ones. Fire Chief Ladd Finke met with Bob about flushing hydrants, meter and measure pressure and then mark the tops with different color spray paint per size of line.

Police Services Report: February 20 hrs. 2.5 hrs. over. Nashwauk Police Chief Kurt Metzig introduced himself and gave his phone numbers. He discussed blight issues and parking tickets. Clerk Serich will check with Treasures Bay Printing about printing tickets similar to Nashwauk’s. If there are any parking issues Bob can call or email Kurt directly and a ticket can be issued or the vehicle towed.

Engineer: Alan Johnson from Benchmark discussed the tower inspection and the 80x45 area by the tower. They will inspect the tower for the city. He reported that he sent in the grant requests to Klobuchar, Stauber and Smith and that there is nothing new with the Gary St. Project.

Motion by Strand to approve and adopt Resolution #23-3-21 a resolution to apply to and receive funds from the IRRR, seconded by Vaudrin, upon vote taken, For: Tuorila, Zaren, Strand, Vaudrin and Hernesman, Against: none. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Utility Shut offs: 12 shut off letters were mailed.

Blight/Nuisance Notices: Discussed parking on 7th Ave. blocking people from driving through. 733 7th Ave has debris, snowmobiles and vehicles on the property. Bob will work with the cop to get them removed.

Discussed Amberley Schneider’s property that burned down. The council would like a paper from the mortgage coming about cleaning up and rebuilding. We need the sizes too.

**New Business:**

Motion by Tuorila to approve Bob & Bill to attend MN AWWA water school in Grand Rapids April 18-20, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Kristi Serich requested to change the zoning for her property to commercial so she can put a storage unit on it in the future. The council stated that our city attorney will need to let us know what we need to do to proceed on this and if we would need to change our zoning map.

Jaime Mjolsness from Habitat for Humanity thanked the council for selling the lots to be used for modular homes for families. Discussed the Orazem property going tax forfeit and possible purchase.

The council approved the attendance of Tuorila, Serich, Garner, Hernesman, Vaudrin, Hoshal and Berger for the LMC Safety & Loss Control worship in Virginia on April 11th $20 each plus mileage.

Motion by Tuorila to approve the purchase of a printer for the clerk’s office for $1,000 or less, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed the Itasca County 2023 land classification of new forfeitures in Calumet. Terry Rutherford Etal, Don & Lori Hoshal, and Keith and Jane Orazem. No special assessments will be going back on the properties. Discussed who owns the property that goes tax forfeit and can the city sell it.

Motion by Tuorila to approve the 2023 Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Assn dues $50, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

A person asked about any available property for large storage units. He would need 2.5 to 5 acres. The council said to tell him about the lots by 9th Ave and the old junkyard property as a brownfield site.

Motion by Tuorila to approve the LMC Liability Coverage waiver form as does not waive monetary limits, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed ordinance about someone living in a camper. The attorney is working on an ordinance for us.

Discussed the Sprint/T-Mobile 12x16 shelter by the tower. Tell them to go ahead and leave it.

Mayor Tuorila adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m. Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk John Tuorila, Mayor