Regular Calumet City Council Meeting

Calumet City Council Room

Tuesday April 18, 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

Nashwauk Police Chief Kurt Metzig discussed the blight citations and plastic bags to put them in, parking tickets and administrative tickets. They will issue blight letters for us.

Mayor Tuorila discussed the tower survey that Benchmark Engineering did. Alan will redo the survey with the correct section of land.

Motion by Zaren to approve the agenda with the additions discuss the sale of the tower, Mileage reimbursements, dump truck alternative, flooding issues, approve Community Service workers, and trade in lawn mowers, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to approve the minutes of the March regular meeting, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve the March Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts $26,342.01, Disbursements $54,370.45, Investments $8,473.30 and total checking balance $359,926.98, seconded by Hernesman, all in favor, motion carried.

**Ordinances:** Motion by Zaren to approve and adopt Ordinance #117, an ordinance permitting the use of recreational camping vehicles in the city under certain circumstances, repealing any other prior ordinances that are inconsistent with Ordinance #117, seconded by Hernesman, upon vote taken, For: Tuorila, Zaren, Strand, Vaudrin and Hernesman, Against: none. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted. Discussed Ordinance #104 updates including the fee schedule. A special meeting is set up to discuss the sale of the tower with Bonnie Sterle and Attorney John Licke on April 25th @ 10:00 a.m. and one on April 27th @ 10:00 a.m. to go over any ordinance updates that are needed including the fee schedule, to discuss the sale of the tower and discuss the lawn mowers and plow for the dump truck.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports**:

Greenway Recreation Bd. Strand reported that they are getting $50,000 from Itasca Co. ARP funds, $30,000 from GAHA, $80,000 from IRRR and the Rec. Bd. will pay $80,000 for the compressor, cooling system and roof projects. The water softener went out and needed to be replaced for $5,450. Youth signups for BB & FP April 26 & 27, Grand Rapids is using the ice this summer.

Cemetery Bd: Vaudrin reported that the 3-person panel will interview 5 applicants out of 35. Block Hansen will be used as needed. The building was hit and an insurance claim was filed. They will pay the summer part-time helpers $12.00 an hour.

Library: The annual Tea Party Fundraiser will be April 15th @ 2:00 p.m. Bike Day is May 20th 10-1:00 p.m. at the Take a Five Park also there will be West Range community garage sales May 19-20, The library will be having a garage and bake sale on Saturday May 20 8-3:00 p.m. in the council room.

WMMPB: Tuorila reported that a presentation was given on the Hwy #169 study. A public open house about the project is scheduled to be held in Marble in May.

RAMS: Tuorila reported that there were 5 or 6 applicants for the new director position.

Tuorila reported that he talked to Kory Cease and he said the remediation of the old spur station cost one million dollars.

**Comments and Requests from the Floor:**

**Department Reports**:

Public Works: Bob Hoshal and Bill Berger were not present. Zaren brought up the estimate on the new lawn mowers @ $12,200 each. $3,800 trade in on the tractor and $3,400 trade in on the zero turn. Zaren brought up an alternative for the dump truck plow that is junk. We should try to find a V-plow with an approximate cost between $15,000 to $20,000. They can take the dump truck to J&M and get a price for a v-plow and don’t bring the old plow to get welded. This will be discussed at the special meeting on April 27th. The council approved applying for a MNOSHA Safety grant for a snowblower for the track loader and other safety equipment.

Police Services Report: March 20 hrs. 2.5 hrs. over.

**Unfinished Business:**

Utility Shut offs: 12 shut off letters were mailed.

Blight/Nuisance Notices: 733 7th Ave has debris, snowmobiles and vehicles on the property. Dan Strand brought up that he needs help cleaning up along the highway and county road 12. The community service workers could do the cleanup. Discussed the garbage over the berm on the Red Lake Rd. and if the county will clean it up this year. Greg Stoltz asked if the city wants to have dumpsters for clean up days again this year, at no cost to the city, up at the Depot parking lot June 8, 9 & 10. Council approved Clean up Days. Discussed the possibility of closing the Cat Tail Rd. from Hwy #169 to the Red Lake Rd. Greenway Township maintains it but it is in the city limits. The council would agree to closing the road to try to eliminate people driving down that way and throwing garbage out along the road.

**New Business:**

The council would like Bob Hoshal and Bill Berger to attend the Special Meeting to discuss the community service workers and how much work there is for them to do.

Motion by Strand to approve the transfer of the 2023 liquor license issued to John Tulibaski/Old Calumet Saloon to Heidi Gustafson/Calumet Saloon LLC., seconded by Tuorila, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed the proposed project at 440 Morgan St. if an amendment is needed to the zoning ordinance, and if a conditional use or a variance is needed. The council decided, with the advice from our city attorney, not to spend any more taxpayer money on attorney fees for this. The council needs more information on ownership of the property, plans for the proposed storage unit project, survey of the property and the owner needs to have their own attorney submit the information to the council and pay for the attorney fees. Mayor Tuorila will send a letter to Kristi Serich regarding this.

Motion by Zaren to approve $200 for GHS Day of Caring services, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to approve purchasing the updated 2023 MN Basic Code of Ordinance book for $400 for one hard copy and 1 Microsoft Word copy $35, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed the possible sale of the Tower, check on DNR lease, discussed the attorney fees and a letter to tenants on communication tower.

Motion by Zaren to approve the mileage reimbursement for John Tuorila $167.68, Mary Garner $56.33, April Serich $175.81 and Amanda Hernesman $62.88, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Itasca County Emergency Management is asking for estimates on flood damage within the city limits. There are a few culverts washed out and need to be dug out and replaced. The estimated cost $20,000.

Mayor Tuorila adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk John Tuorila, Mayor