Regular Calumet City Council Meeting

Calumet City Council Room

Tuesday May 16, 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 Zaren to approve the agenda with the additions discuss Ordinance #114 Fee schedule, discuss sale of tower, Amanda off the Rec. bd. and Cemetery bd., and discuss camera estimate seconded by Hernesman, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to approve the minutes of the April regular meeting and two special meetings, seconded by Hernesman, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve the April Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts $19,790.14, Disbursements $43,877.39, Investments $7,653.91 and total checking balance $327,080.70, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

**Ordinances:** Attorney Brian Bengtson sent a letter stating that we need to have a Public Hearing on Ord. #117 an ordinance permitting the use of recreational camping vehicles in the city under certain circumstances and publish a notice 10 days before the meeting. Council set the Public Hearing to discuss and approve Ord. #117 for June 6th,2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and adopt Resolution #23-05-16 a resolution approving the Community Charities of Minnesota to operate lawful gambling activities at the Calumet Saloon, LLC, seconded by Strand, upon vote taken, For: Tuorila, Strand, Vaudrin and Hernesman, Against: none. Abstain: Zaren. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports**:

Greenway Recreation Bd. Strand reported that they are in the process of repairing things and now they need a new water heater. FP girls=85 and BB boys=140.

Cemetery Bd: No meeting this month. Amanda Hernesman wants off the board and John Vaudrin will take her place. The meeting is the 3rd Wednesday @ 4:00 p.m.

Housing meeting Tuorila reported that there is a shortage of housing everywhere. We should try to get someone to come in and build. Alan Johnson, Engineer for Benchmark stated that there is housing being built in Chisholm now that he is helping with.

Hwy #169 Meeting Tuorila reported that the 1st phase is almost done, and they are trying to get funding for the 2nd phase.

WMMPB: Tuorila reported that Jordan from the Hill Annex/DNR discussed what’s going on at the park. The hours are the same as last year, Memorial Day to Labor Day Fridays and Saturdays. The museum will be open but no tours. The has been a lot of damage done to the mine buildings. Also, Larry Sutherland was at the meeting representing Mesabi Metallics and was asking for a resolution from the board in support of Mesabi Metallics. Ben Denucci is also with Mesabi Metallics.

RAMS: Tuorila reported that there is a new director.

**Comments and Requests from the Floor:**

**Department Reports**:

Public Works: Not in attendance. Water tower is being drained.

Police Services Report: April 20 hrs. 2.5 hrs. over. Tuorila reported that his neighbors’ dogs broke a window trying to get out of the house. The dogs were barking and barking. The owner said the dogs have never bitten before. They are moving in June to Pengilly.

Benchmark Engineer: Alan Johnson gave an update on the Gary St. project. Still waiting on an answer from the IRRR. In June or July he has a meeting with the county and he will check with them. Discussed eliminating lead pipes and the funding available. The city can send a letter to every house asking them to check for lead pipes and the city can help. We need to look at maps and check houses with lead joints, most likely prior to 1990’s. Lead service lines would be heavy pipe that looks like galvanized. Lead scratches easy. We need to get on the Project Priority Funding list to get money to replace the lead pipes on the cityside and into the houses.

Clerk Serich reported that Bollig Engineering stopped in the clerk's office and said they can do the work for the city and get a grant to cover the costs.

**Unfinished Business:**

Utility Shut offs: 15 shut off letters were mailed.

Blight/Nuisance Notices: 733 7th Ave. still has debris, snowmobiles, vehicles and garbage on the property. A ticket will be issued. Dan Mellen is not working community service hours now. 754 7th Ave. Amberley Schneider still has unlicensed vehicles, etc. on the property. A ticket will be issued.

**New Business:**

Dewayne Wollack from IRN discussed the camera estimates for 2 cameras at the Take a Five Park & 2 cameras for the City Garage and internet from the city hall. He also discussed possibly using the Radio Tower cameras (if the tower sells) for the pumphouse and lift stations in the future. Clerk Serich will look into the MN Dept. of Health grant for installing cameras at the pumphouse. There is a possibility that we could offer WiFi at the Take a Five Park also.

Discussed the possible sale of the tower. Letters were sent out to update tenants and people interested in the tower. Clerk Serich has not heard anything back yet.

Amanda Hernesman reported that she did some research on the playground rubber. There is a poured rubber playground base for $8 to $15 sq. ft. as an alternative.

The council wants Clerk Serich to ask Sarah Carling to come to a meeting to help us with the projects and what to do next. An email was sent, and a phone message was left.

The council stated that the community service workers did a good job cleaning up the garbage.

Discussed Ord. #114 amendment. #21- $24, #22-$56 and 52-$350. Tabled until the attorney answers questions about needing a new ordinance number when we amend the fee schedule.

Discussed pro-rated medical insurance for the city clerk. Single coverage is $910.43 per month and Family coverage is $1,888.20 per month. No action taken. The council will discuss again at a special meeting on May 23 at 11:00 a.m. as well as discuss the projects with Sarah Carling.

Clerk Serich updated the council on the flood issues after a phone meeting with HSEM and FEMA for State and Federal funding. We talked about 4 culverts that need to be repaired. Estimated cost of $20,000. They will contact the clerk in a couple months on what is next.

Class 5 was ordered for the Depot parking lot and the burn pile road.

KLM and MN Rural Water as well as Nick Matanich (who said he does not want to be paid) helped Bob and Bill with the water tower being drained and cleaned. They did have some water pressure issues that were resolved shortly after it happened.

The council stated that they want the Public Works crew to burn what can be burned at the burn pile and remove what is left and bring across the bike trail.

Clean up Days Thursday 7-7, John Vaudrin will work 3:30-7, Friday 7-7, Dan Strand will work 3:30-7, Saturday we need someone for 8-12.

Mayor Tuorila adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk John Tuorila, Mayor