

Regular Calumet City Council Meeting
Calumet City Council Room
Tuesday October 19, 2021
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, Larry Pitts, John Vaudrin and Dan Strand. Also present: Clerk April Serich

Motion by Tuorila to approve the agenda with the additions of Joseph Pelawa from Bolton & Menk giving an update on the Wastewater treatment plant and Mike Lijegren DNR update on the Pit water situation, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Zaren to approve the minutes of the September regular meeting with the correction of the water levels flowing out of Calumet into the pit and the time of adjournment as 4:27 p.m., seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve the September Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts \$72,796.26, Disbursements \$54,632.65, Investments \$15,996.95 and total checking balance \$371,295.52, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Zaren to approve and adopt Resolution #21-10-19 a resolution requesting conveyance of tax-forfeited trust parcel #87-410-0330 (Lots 22-27 Block 3) for an authorized public use of creating affordable housing for \$250 with a Memorandum of Understanding with Habitat for Humanity to purchase the parcel from the City of Calumet for approximately \$500 (the total cost to the city), seconded by Tuorila. Upon vote taken, the following voted: For: Mayor Tuorila, Councilmembers Zaren, Strand, Pitts and Vaudrin, Against: none. Resolution #21-10-19 was declared duly passed and adopted.

Meeting Attendance and Reports:

Greenway Recreation Bd: Strand reported that the lobby got new tile donated. Hockey started with 143 boys and figure skating started with 75 girls. An electrician donated LED lights for the downstairs locker room and hallway and the upstairs meeting room and will help install them. NESC went to Medica Ins.

Cemetery Bd: No report.

MCWWTP: No report.

WMMPB: Zaren reported that the Hill Annex Mine Park is coming off the priority list. The DNR wants it to close. The #1 priority is the rising pit water. #2 is finishing Hwy #169 Cross Range Expressway and #3 is Mining-looking for funding to finalize projects. Prairie River Minerals in closed down now so they won't be touring it. Mike Liljegren from the DNR wants to come to talk to us a meeting either at the WMMPB meeting Nov. 11 @ 6p.m. in Marble or at a Calumet meeting.

Police Services Report: No report. Discussed paying the balance of hours at the end of the year instead of having less police hours to make up the difference. Council stated to pay the balance of extra hours used at the end of the year.

Department Reports:

Public Works: Bob Hoshal reported that the DNR is not coming this year to put in the last monitoring well. No sidewalk project this year either. The county signs will be picked up soon. The dump truck has

been serviced and the plow is on. They put signs up at the burn pile-Calumet residents only. They are going to try to burn this Friday. The storm drains were cleaned. The streets have been swept. The city hall roof was checked again and there is a small crack. They will patch it again. The roof door was wide open again. They will get two latches to put on it. The loader was winterized and needs tires. Discussed that the Street Dept. needs a pick-up and an ASV. The money from the sale of the old fire hall will be used to purchase them. The maps are ready and Bob will get ahold of TKDA to update them.

Discussed the vandalism in town. Garage doors were broken into on Gary St. A vacant house on 2nd Ave had doors broken in.

Discussed the bid from Bougalis, Inc. for demolition and clean up at 241 2nd Ave. The council approved Bob & Bill to haul anything metal to the landfill to help with the cost of dumpsters. Mayor Tuorila will contact Bougalis, Inc. to clarify the process and the cost.

Library: Trunk or Treat event at the Calumet Mine Park parking lot Friday Oct. 29th 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Comments and Requests from the Floor:

Amber Fuentes brought to the council's attention that people are speeding and not stopping at the stop signs on 3rd Ave and Morgan St. Amber and her Child were almost hit crossing the street walking the dog. She asked if anything can be done to slow down the vehicles. She suggested speed bumps or signs that say slow children with a flag or solar powered flashing lights. The council approved purchasing 4 signs and will check into speed bumps.

Joe Pelawa from Bolten and Menk gave an update on the waste water treatment plant improvement. Nothing has been fully decided on which way to go. The next step is to talk to the USDA about funding and the best way to proceed. The MPCA will have input. Mechanical plant rehab or pond option. The next step would be a preliminary engineering report funded by the county. There is a potential site for the ponds on Glacier Park Iron Ore Properties south of Marble. Chris Ismil from IRRRB said both cities could apply for grants for the waste water plant for a 2023 project.

Unfinished Business:

Utility Update: 17 residents are behind. Shut off letters were sent out.

Update on Hazardous Buildings: Bougalis, Inc. can't do the demolition until later. We are still waiting on the eviction process before we can proceed on the other two houses at 211 2nd and 739 7th Ave. The council wants the attorney to get in touch with the county about the physical evictions.

Blight Update: There is a green dodge pick-up parked in the alley behind the old Calumet Chev building in the way. 3rd Ave has a blazer with a tow strap still attached parked on the street. There are also six cars some not licensed at 364 3rd Ave. Jamsa rental 740 7th Ave. has garbage in the yard, cars unlicensed and need to check on dog license.

New Business:

Motion by Strand to approve a zoning permit for Retta Zufall at 734 7th Ave for a 16x20 garage and 22x22 cement apron, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Pitts to approve a zoning permit for Duane & Rose Boorman at 1014 Gary St. for a 6ft. high wood privacy fence 120 ft. on the south side and 24 ft. on the west side Co #12 Gary St., seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to approve the MMUA dues \$62, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve a new LED street light at 3rd Ave and Corey St. for \$2,306.54, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed the estimate from TMI Coatings, Inc. for coating the concrete steps of city hall for \$23,800. The council said no we can't afford that price. Bob & Bill will repair the corner and railings and put a coat on the steps next year.

Discussed the possibility of having a Calumet resident work off some probation hours in the city. 20 hours a week until there is no more work. Weed whipping, painting the arch and curbs, rake the ball field, cut trees, brushing streets and bike trail, basement clean-up.

Motion by Pitts to approve Saiger's Steam Clean to come and clean the council room and hallway for \$315.10 and the library for \$271.40, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed the bid from Cone Construction for the Take A Five Rest Area cement. Council wants to see if we can get the cement donated and if he would still put it in for us.

Discussed increasing the water and sewer rates for 2022. The funds are doing okay so we don't need to raise the rates. Clerk Serich will order the new booklets to be sent out in December.

Bob thanked the City of Grand Rapids for letting him borrow a bladder ball for a week.

Discussed the Casper bill that is delinquent. Mayor Tuorila will call and ask questions about the bill. The council said not to pay it.

Discussed the tarring of Morgan St., 9th Ave. and 2nd Ave bike trail. The council questioned if we could use the ARP money. We could get a free estimate with Benchmark.

Discussed the highway #169 project. It is finished.

Mayor Tuorila adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m. Tuesday, October 19, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk

John Tuorila, Mayor