City of Calumet

Special Meeting to Discuss selling the Tower & Leases

and projects and funding with Sarah Carling

Thursday February 23, 2023 11:00 a.m.

In the Council Room and continued with a tour of the Park State Bank building

Meeting started at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Mayor John Tuorila, Council members Tim Zaren, Dan Strand, Amanda Hernesman and John Vaudrin. Also present: Clerk April Serich, Treaurer Mary Garner, Librarian Melanie Lefebvre, Public Works Supervisor Bob Hoshal and Public Works Maintenance worker Bill Berger.

Discussed the possibility of selling the radio tower and the leases. Mayor Tuorila had spoken with Attorney John Licke and he wants to see the contracts and the lease agreement with DNR for the access road to the tower. Clerk Serich will email them as soon as she receives his email address. He stated that we should let all the tenants know that the city is thinking about getting out of the business and entertaining offers to buy them. He also said to make sure that when we publish the bid in the paper that we put in there that the city has the right to refuse any or all offers. We will discuss more at the next regular meeting March 21, 2023.

Sarah Carling joined us at 11:35 a.m. by phone.

We discussed the possibility of the city receiving the old Park State Bank building as a donation and what could be done with it. A community center, coffee shop, lease space, a senior facility or a child care center would be some options. She said we should check with the LMC about taking a donated building.

Sarah explained that we need to look at the projects from the survey that was done last summer and prioritize each item and number them. She will then come up with team averages for each project. She will make up a final list and come back to discuss what projects are the top priorities.

The Blandin grant should be used as seed money for matching amounts. We need to seek other grants and funding. Some of the projects won’t comply with the Blandin grant criteria.

Sarah will talk with the Mesaba Bike Trail & Karen Grandia about the 2nd Ave bike trail route needing tar.

We will need to set up additional meetings. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 28th at 8:30 a.m.

We will go over the timelines and wish list of projects, then get good rough estimates for the projects and see what grants are available.

The group left the council room at 12:45 p.m. to go take a look at the Park State Bank building with Brian Haedrich and Mary Gillson. It was a very informative tour and a lot of potential for a community use building. Many questions were asked about the building & the use of it. We will be in contact with them.

Meeting ended at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, February 23, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk John Tuorila, Mayor