

Regular Calumet City Council Meeting  
Calumet City Council Room  
Tuesday August 19, 2025  
5:00 P.M.

Mayor Mike Troop led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Mike Troop called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mike Troop, Councilmembers Dan Strand, Barbara Banks, Steve Serich and Nick Porter. Also present: Clerk April Serich, Treasurer Mary Garner, Librarian Melanie Lefebvre, and Street Maintenance Worker Ray "Rusty" Richards.

Motion by Troop to approve the agenda, seconded by Porter, all in favor, MC.

Motion by Porter to approve the July reg. meeting minutes, seconded by Serich, all in favor, MC.

Motion by Strand to approve the July Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts \$163,412.12, Disbursements \$68,341.94, Investments \$1,413,299.16 and total checking balance \$535,204.76, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Troop to approve a lease agreement with The Hematite-Mari Jo & Greg Anderson for a portion of the former Park State Bank building with the percentage of utilities to be paid figured out at a later date, they plan to start as soon as the building is ready when construction is done, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

Comments and Requests from the floor: Dave & Wendy Chupurdia had complaints about dogs barking on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. and Shana Perry had complaints about dogs barking on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports:**

Police Report: NPD Lee Longoria was not in attendance. He had called to see if anyone had responded to the Notice of Code Violations that had been sent out.

Engineer Report: Korey Johnson from Bolten & Menk reported that the lead and copper water lines will be checked this fall. They will be sending out information in the mail to residents, putting information on our website and they will continue to go to houses that were not inspected and take pictures in homes. They will have a table at the Calumet Reclamation picnic on Thursday Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> 3-7 p.m.

Motion by Strand to approve the contract with ESRI for \$1,211.00 for the lead and copper grant through the MN Dept. of Health, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried. Clerk Serich will send the code to Korey to keep track of the records. A copy will go to the Public Works and City of Calumet.

Greenway Recreation Board: Strand stated that Baseball is completed. Flag football registration starts. They received \$50,000 from Blandin, \$10,000 from IRRR and \$10,000 from BER grants. They have a lease for \$57,500 from the school district for the arena and ballfield. They will be hiring a new director.

Cemetery Bd: no report.

WMMPB: Serich reported that the regular meeting was cancelled and will be held on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Public Works Report: Rusty reported that they are doing a lot of mowing. Strand stated that on Wednesday and Thursday the city employees need to help get the items out of the Hill Annex as well as help with events and buildings. Clerk Serich stated that they do have volunteers lined up for garbage clean up on Saturday for the Kids and Cars in the Park event.

Library: Librarian Melanie Lefebvre reported that the library has been dealing with the construction noise and dust. The library will have raffle tickets, T-shirts and cookbooks for sale on Thursday at the picnic and on Saturday for the Kids and Cars in the Park event. A new computer has been installed.

Motion by Porter to approve and adopt Resolution#25-8-20 a resolution to allow off-site gambling at 902 Gary St. instead of 890 Gary St. due to the address not being on the GIS map per the MN Gambling BD, seconded by Strand, upon vote taken, for: Troop, Strand, Serich, Banks and Porter. Opposed: none. Resolution was duly passed and adopted.

**Unfinished Business:**

Utility Shut Offs: Late notice statements were not sent out.

Update on Blight: Discussed demo of 754 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. and code violations

Update on the city hall/library project: Motion by Troop to approve \$1,500 for structural investigation agreement with Meyer Group for the cracking in the back room, seconded by Banks, all in favor, M/C. During a construction meeting it was decided to make the entry into the back room 16 inches to the right, eliminate one power box and combine into one 200-amp box, the furnace will go in the back room not in the toilet room and we agreed on the brick colors for the doorway and window by the lift area.

Update on the Bank Building: Clerk Serich and Greg and Mari Jo Anderson met with Erik Bennett from AEOA who does the BER & DBR grants for the IRRR. We were approved for both grants up to \$25,000 and \$50,000 and can continue with progress.

Update on Community Garden & Market: Motion by Troop to approve the estimate on removal of 4 trees and stumps for \$950 by Bratton Tree Care at 902 Gary St. seconded by Porter, all in favor, M/C. Motion by Troop to approve getting a quote for digging up the water line for the garden, seconded by Banks, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion to approve a quote from Iron Oakes Fencing for \$6,752 for the Community Garden Fencing, seconded by Troop, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve a zoning permit for the Community Garden, seconded by Troop, all in favor, motion carried.

**New Business:**

Motion by Troop to approve payment to Pioneer for sewer products for \$1,652.88, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussion on the fire hall road that keeps washing out. We need to have a partnership for this road that is in the City of Marble limits. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave needs repairs and rocks removed. Strand stated to Rusty that they need to straighten the stop sign and remove the hedges on Buckmaster Rd.

Motion by Serich to approve up to 3 loads of class 5, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried. Julie Warmuth asked about the right of way by her property. It is 25 feet from center and 3 feet from the property line. She is hoping to have the trailer moved out before winter.

Motion by Porter to approve the purchase of two flammable cabinets for the city shop for \$2,230, seconded by Banks, all in favor, motion carried.

The council approved Dave Chupurdia to cut down trees by his driveway that are on city property.

The council set up a Special meeting to discuss the 2026 Proposed Budget and Levy with Bonnie Kolden for Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the Snowmobile Club.

The council set up a Special meeting for a union bargaining agreement for August 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at the snowmobile club if that works for the other people, we will set up another meeting if needed also, and to approve the bids from North Country and Iron Range Electric for the bank building project.

The council approved getting a small dumpster for the events on Thursday and Saturday.

Notice was given that the City of Calumet is being sued by Judith McDonald because she fell on the sidewalk Dec. 2024. Clerk Serich is sending information on the lawsuit to the LMC Attorney.

Motion by Troop to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Tuesday, July 15, 2025, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk

Mike Troop, Mayor