Regular Calumet City Council Meeting

Calumet City Council Room

Tuesday January 17, 2023

2:00 P.M.

Mayor Pro-Tem Zaren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Zaren called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Zaren, Councilmembers Tim Zaren, Dan Strand, John Vaudrin and Amanda Hernesman. Mayor John Tuorila by telephone. Also present: Clerk Serich

Motion by Vaudrin to approve the agenda with the addition of approve transfer of $10,000 to water from General ARP money, seconded by Hernesman, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Discussion with Steve Howard and Patty from Paul Bunyan about having their services in town. They are looking at putting service in this summer and be up and running next year. They will send an agreement for the council to approve. Steve also wanted Clerk Serich to send the tower leases to him.

Engineer Alan Johnson gave an update on the county project for 2024. Ryan Sutherland said we need to decide where to put an electric control box on Gary St. Council decided on the corner of 2nd and Mesabi by the bench. #3. Mayor Tuorila talked to Ryan and told him to put the control box at Gary St. & Mesabi Ave. as the first choice, 2nd Ave & Gary St. as the second choice and Take a Five Park as the third choice.

Motion by Strand to approve the December Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts $304,438.08, Disbursements $54,091.47, Investments $9,428.56 and total checking balance $495,265.44, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried. The MCWWTP reports were discussed.

Motion by Hernesman to approve and adopt Resolution #23-01-17 a resolution to set the depositories for 2023 as Park State Bank and First National Bank of Coleraine, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, M/C.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports**:

Greenway Recreation Bd. Strand reported that they are trying to get money for the compressor project and roof. Squirt tournament this weekend and PeeWee B in Feb.

Cemetery Bd: No report.

MCWWTP: No report.

WMMPB: Zaren read the mission statement. Mining Minnesota Julie Lucas advocate for copper nickel and Polymet discussed mining. They elected new officers. Cal Saari is the Chair, John Tuorila is the Vice Chair and John Dimich is the Secretary/Treasurer. They will meet once a month.

Greenway Joint Fire Board: No report.

**Comments and Requests from the Floor:** Julie Warmuth asked why she has to pay a $40 a month fee when she can’t live in her trailer and it’s going to be torn down. After that she is building a new house.

Motion by Strand to waive the $40 a month vacant fee on the trailer and the burnt house 754 7th Ave. until they are livable again, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

**Department Reports**:

Public Works: Bob and Bill were plowing snow.

Police Services Report: December 10hrs. 13.5 hrs. over.

Utility Shut offs: 16 shut off letters were sent out.

Blight/Nuisance Notices: Clerk Serich will send blight notices to 632 6th Ave and 733 7th ave for non-operable vehicles and trailers. Have police check for parking violations also.

Motion by Tuorila to designate the east side of the city hall to be reserved for hall parking and others will be towed at the owner’s expense, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried. Clerk Serich will order a sign to be posted on the fire escape steps.

**New Business:**

Motion by Zaren to approve the 2023 RAMS dues $450, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve 2023 LMC Property/Casualty Ins, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, M/C.

Discussed the possibility that the house at 337 3rd Ave will not be sold at auction. The county wants to know if the city would want it for blight. The county would help with paying for demolition. The council does not want it for blight.

**2023 Board and Committee Appointments:**

Official Newspaper: Scenic Range News Forum

Legal Council: Brian Bengtson, John Licke, John Dimich and Itasca County Attorney’s Office

City Engineer: Benchmark Engineering, Alan Johnson

City Depositories: Park State Bank and First National Bank of Coleraine

Insurance Agency: Itasca Reliable and LMC

Mayor Pro-Tem: Tim Zaren

Greenway Joint Powers Fire Board: 1. Mayor John Tuorila 2. Tim Zaren Alt. John Vaudrin

Library Board: Amanda Hernesman Also appointed: April Bouchie 1 yr.

Cemetery Board: Dan Strand

WMMPB: Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board: 1. Mayor John Tuorila 2. Tim Zaren Alt. John Vaudrin

WMMB Hwy Committee: Mayor John Tuorila

Weed Inspector: Mayor John Tuorila Assistant Weed Inspector: Bob Hoshal

Greenway Recreation Board: Dan Strand Alt. Amanda Hernesman

Blight Committee: 1. Mayor John Tuorila 2. Tim Zaren

Civil Service Director: John Vaudrin Alt. Mayor John Tuorila

Building Inspector: Andrew Sharpe

Motion by Zaren to approve the 2023 Board and Committee Appointments, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed Sprint on tower. They are leaving and wanted to know if the city wanted them to leave some equipment on the tower. The council said to have them take all their equipment down.

The council set up a Special Meeting to discuss the tower leases and the Blandin grant projects for Thurs. February 23 @ 10 a.m. in the council room. Clerk Serich will send out a reminder.

Motion by Strand to approve the estimate from Russ McWilliams $2,238.00 for installing baby changing station, patch holes, paint entire bathroom, install 24” vanity with new plumbing and faucet in old men’s bathroom. Also patch holes, paint entire clerk’s office and supply room and carpet entire floors, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

According to the union contract, Melanie can have dependent dental coverage at the pro-rated amount.

Clerk Serich will check on new council training for Amanda Hernesman.

Mayor Pro-Tem Zaren adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m. Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk Tim Zaren, Mayor Pro-Tem