

Regular Calumet City Council Meeting
Calumet City Council Room
Tuesday January 18, 2022
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 Tim Zaren, Councilmembers Larry Pitts, John Vaudrin and Dan Strand. Mayor John Tuorila by Zoom. Also present: Clerk April Serich

Motion by Vaudrin to approve the agenda with the additions of Resolution 22-01-18-2 designating the depositories for 2022 as Park State Bank and First National Bank of Coleraine, discuss the percentages for water and sewer, discuss the payments from Samaritan Transport, discuss the offer of a purchase agreement for land along 9th Ave, MMUA dues \$174 and update from IRN on cameras, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Motion by Strand to approve the December Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts \$149,786.79, Disbursements \$192,064.19, Investments \$15,997.19 and total checking balance \$337,776.97, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Pitts to approve and adopt Resolution #22-01-18 a resolution approving the Calumet Presbyterian Church to conduct an off-site gambling activity at the Greenway Snowmobile Club on Feb. 10th, 2022, seconded by Vaudrin, upon vote taken, For: Zaren, Pitts, Strand, Vaudrin and Tuorila, Against: none. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by Zaren to approve and adopt Resolution #22-01-18-2 a resolution to set the depositories for 2022 as Park State Bank and First National Bank of Coleraine, seconded by Pitts, upon vote taken, For: Zaren, Pitts, Strand, Vaudrin and Tuorila, Against: none. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Meeting Attendance and Reports:

Greenway Recreation Bd: no meeting.

Cemetery Bd: no meeting.

MCWWTP: No report.

WMMPB: Zaren reported that Representatives Sandstede and Igo authored and will continue to carry the Hill Annex Mine State Park House bill that calls for forming an advisory council that must meet at least quarterly, states that mining is the state's long term objective for the park area, and requires DNR to operate the park at not less than the 2016 level until such time as active mining resumes. Zaren will talk to Doug Learmont about a member from Calumet on the advisory board. Attendee Gary Liubakka stated that important files have been removed from the former mine office building for safer storage offsite. The board re-elected the same officers to their current positions for 2022. Discussed the fiscal disparities and that the board wants iron to be a strategic material. Motion by Pitts to approve the 2022 WMMPB dues for \$450, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Ryan Sutherland from Itasca County would like to have a meeting with Calumet about the 5yr. plan. In 2023 the sidewalks, streets and light poles would be replaced for about \$400,000 project.

Police Services Report: November 19 hrs. used. Balance 54.5 hrs. over and December 6 hrs. used. Balance 30.5 hrs over. Mayor Tuorila talked to Joe Dasovich about paying off the amount owed. Joe said we didn't need to pay the extra. Tuorila will talk to Joe when he gets back.

Department Reports:

Public Works: Bob and Bill were plowing. Strand reported some complaints about snow plowing and leaving wind rows in the driveways by Sutherland/Brown and Serich residents. He told Bob to clean it out. He also said that Bob & Bill can clean out fire hydrants in their free time. Discussed the 2007 Chev repairs. A sensor was bad. They do still have the old plow that could be put back on. Motion by Pitts to approve the repairs on the 2007 Chev pick up for \$959.33 to Lauries automotive, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Comments and Requests from the Floor:

Unfinished Business:

Utility Update: 7 shut off notices were given out. Information about a water assistance program through Kootasca that pays delinquent water & sewer bills was given out also. All accounts were paid.

Update on Hazardous Buildings: Darland has been evicted by the Itasca County Sheriff's Dept. and the house locked up. The attorney will send another notice to Darland about contacting the police for an escort into his house to get his things out. He will figure out how long he has to get his items before demolition can take place.

Blight Update: Darland's trailer has been parked on 2nd Ave in the way of plowing. A notice was posted and it was moved.

New Business:

Discussed the Itasca County tax-forfeited property at 546 5th Ave (Serich property) as non-conservation.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and pay the Mn Rural Water dues of \$320 for 2022, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Pitts to approve the new attorney rates as \$175 an hour for Lano, O'Toole and Bengtson, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Public Works Supervisor Bob Hoshal and Public Works Maintenance worker Bill Berger arrived at 3:00 p.m. Bob reported that Matt from the DNR will be here on Monday January 24 to start on the 500 ft. monitoring wells at the Hill Annex Mine Park and then 4th Ave. Bob stated that they can trade with Northland –the snow bucket even up for the loader bucket, but there might be a \$50 charge. The dump truck is up and running with a new cutting edge coming for the V-plow from H&L for about \$400 delivered. They have been moving a lot snow. The County will be coming this week to remove snow on Co Rd #12. The State is coming back next week to finish up on the highway.

Discussed the percentages of the water and sewer payments currently at 25% water and 75% sewer of the \$80 per month utility payment. The council decided to leave it the same. Also, we don't need to take money from the radio tower for the water and sewer portions of the SE project loan payment just the street portion.

2022 Board and Committee Appointments

Official Newspaper: Scenic Range News Forum

Legal Council: Brian Bengtson, John Licke and John Dimich along with Itasca County Attorney's Office

City Engineer: Benchmark

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: Larry Pitts Also appointed to the Library Board: Mary Garner 3 yr. term

Cemetery Board: Dan Strand

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

WMMPB Hwy Committee: Mayor John Tuorila

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

Greenway Recreation Board: Dan Strand Alt: Larry Pitts

Blight Committee: 1. Mayor John Tuorila 2. Tim Zaren 3. Larry Pitts

Civil Service Director: John Vaudrin Alt: Mayor John Tuorila

Building Inspector: pending. The city is looking for someone.

Motion by Strand to approve the 2022 Board and Committee Appointments, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and pay the MMUA -Mn Municipal Utilities Association dues of \$174 for 2022, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussed the payments from Samaritan Transport for the old fire hall building. When the payments are made they will be put into the Equipment Fund Savings account at the First National Bank of Coleraine and the money will be used for the loan payment on the new track loader. We need to make sure that there is enough money in there to cover the cost of the payments. We will bring it up at the next meeting if there is not enough to cover the loan payment.

Discussed an offer of a purchase agreement for some land along 9th Ave. The city does not own it. We lease it for our utilities. No action taken.

Discussed the number of cameras and where to put them for the Take a Five Rest Area. No action taken. Clerk Serich will check on the estimate for installing electric in the storage building too.

Discussed the Blandin Foundation grants that area cities received but not Calumet. Clerk Serich will contact Sarah Carling to come and talk to us about funding and grants.

Mayor Pro Tem Zaren adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m. Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk

Tim Zaren, Mayor Pro-Tem