

Regular Calumet City Council Meeting  
Calumet City Council Room  
Tuesday June 15, 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 Larry Pitts, Tim Zaren and John Vaudrin. Absent: Councilmember Strand. Also present: Clerk April Serich, Public Works Supervisor Bob Hoshal and Street Maintenance Worker Bill Berger.

Motion by Pitts to approve the agenda with the additions of draft Mitigation Action Plan, ARDC survey on Hwy #169 Cross Range Expressway, It. Co. Ryan Sutherland update, Discuss the flagpole in the Veteran's Memorial Park, Discuss Hill Annex Mine Park, Approve Greenway Fire Dept. rate increase of 3%, Dwight Nelson second water connection concerns, Al Goodman MSA to discuss MCJWWTP, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Motion by Zaren to approve the May Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts \$22,970.52, Disbursements \$32,657.78, Investments \$15,973.99 and total checking balance \$213,477.58, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to approve and adopt Resolution #21-06-18 a resolution accepting \$1,107 in donations and grants, \$597 Love Your Library donations, \$250 ALS grant, & \$260 NESW Wellness Grant, seconded by Vaudrin. Upon roll call vote taken, the following voted: For: Councilmembers Pitts, Zaren, and Vaudrin, Mayor Tuorila; Absent: Councilmember Strand; Against: none. Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports:**

Greenway Recreation Bd: No report.

Cemetery Bd: No report.

MCWWTP: Next meeting is June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mayor Pro-Tem Zaren will replace Mayor Tuorila at the meetings while he is absent. The contract for the JWW is not set up yet. The attorneys are still working on it.

WMMPB: No report. The Hill Annex Mine is open Friday and Saturday. City workers will be opening the gate M-TH. No tours yet. The bus should be ready in July.

Joint Fire Bd: Tourila and Zaren attended. Discussed the 3% rate increase. They are looking to buy a new Ford F350 six man crew cab truck. There were a couple resignations and a couple new ones put on. The calls have gone down on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Motion by Tuorila to increase the payment by 3% of the \$34,000 yearly cost (\$8,500 per quarter) starting in 2022 for five years (\$1,020 per yr.) seconded by Zaren, all in favor, Motion carried.

Police Services Report: April 20 hours used & May 12 hours used Balance owed to us = 12.5 hours.

**Comments and Requests from the Floor:**

**Department Reports:**

Public Works: Bob Hoshal reported that they replaced the air conditioner in the tower building. They replaced the starter in the city pick-up. They have been mowing all over. Nick Matanich's yard was taken care of after the winter water break by Casper Construction. They patched a couple spots on the bike

trail and mowed between Calumet and Marble. Councilmember Zaren thanked the workers for changing the starter and saving the city money. Discussed the flag pole at the Veteran's Memorial Park. It will not extend all the way. Motion by Tuorila to buy a new pole with a light to replace the broken one, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried. Uncommon flags is the company to look for one. The brush needs to be kept down by the new city sign. The council approved Bob to check with the snowmobile club to brush around the sign for us. Discussed the possibility of getting new banners for the poles. The ones we have are old and faded. The council approved checking on prices. Bob asked if he could put mulch in the tire by the bike trail. The council approved it. Bob stated the bike trail arch will get painted when he gets the boom truck from Marble. The ball park is cleaned up for summer use. The council approved spraying weed killer and putting sand down where needed. Greenway Recreation T-Ball started using the field. Discussion about the new LED lights on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave being too bright. Bob can check with Cory at MN Power if it could be adjusted. All of the city street lights have been replaced with LED lights now. Councilmember Zaren said he still has a hole in his yard from when MN Power removed a pole. Bob can check on this and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave street light addition. Ryan Sutherland from Itasca Co. will be doing the sidewalks on Gary St. He said the bids will be out soon. Bob said we need 4 new stems replaced. Council approved replacing them. Council approved Bill Gladden to store manholes, covers & boxes & storm pipes for the Hwy #169 project at the old Calumet Spur location. Bob is still waiting for a price on a generator from Mike. Bob will contact MN Power about Zaren's hole from a light pole, adding a light at 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave light turned down and light by the Calumet sign.

Al Goodman, MAS Engineering, discussed the facility plan for the Marble-Calumet Waste Water Treatment Plant. They would be working with Benchmark Engineering as a team effort if they are awarded the project. A proposal will be given to the City of Marble on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ike Nelson requested a lower price than \$40 for water at his vacant lot. It was turned on June 14<sup>th</sup>. After a discussion about the rates for snowbirds, vacant houses and a couple residents that have different rates, Motion by Pitts to leave the price for an additional lot at \$40 a month to treat everyone the same, \$20 for half a month, seconded by Tuorila, all in favor, motion carried.

Julie Warmuth discussed the building of her house that she got a permit for last summer. She would like to build a metal pole building instead of a stick built house. The council approved the difference. She can come and get another permit if the current one expires before she can get it built. Discussed logging off some of her property. She will need to check with the county because of the wetlands.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Utility Update: Delinquent accounts over \$200 need to have shut off notices posted. Discussed the possibility of a resident with the water disconnected having the water on and carrying water to his vehicle. Also discussed a resident with the water disconnected having a hose connected to the neighbors. It will be checked and disconnected.

Update on Hazardous Buildings: City attorney Brian Bengtson stated that the demolition of houses is prohibited at this time because of the Governor's NO evictions order. When it is lifted we can continue with the process. Clerk Serich will confirm with the contractors that had submitted bids to demo the houses if the prices are still valid or if we should have them submit new ones.

Blight Update: Nashwauk Police gave a list of addresses to Clerk Serich for long grass in town. Bob checked on the properties and all have mowed now.

We received the deed for the 241 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. property. The county did ok the sale of the old Longrie lots.

**New Business:**

ARDC Survey on #169 for all people who use the highway. They want everyone to fill one out.

The Mitigation Action Plan will be reviewed by the Mayor and Clerk and be submitted by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Tuorila to approve the use of the baseball park for Greenway Recreation T-Ball, seconded by Pitts, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Pitts to approve the repair & siding on the city garage at 916 Gary St. with the approximate total of \$2,300 (Zaren will order the materials needed), seconded by Tuorila, all in favor, motion carried. Discussed the water source for the rest area on this lot. It would be too costly. The alternative could be putting a spigot or fountain outside of the city shop at 200 Mesabi Ave. with a shut off inside the building so it wouldn't freeze. We would like to have a water bottle filling station. Vaudrin will check on prices. We are still looking for more funding sources also.

Discussed renting out the 24x24 city garage at 902 Gary St. The council wants an ad put in the paper listing it for rent at \$100 a month with a 6 month lease. Clerk Serich will put it in the paper.

Motion by Tuorila to sell the surplus playground equipment at the old city park, the clerk can set up a day to look at it and a time for bids to be in by and then open bids and pay for items, they will have 3 days to get it off of city property, seconded by Vaudrin, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Tuorila to pay the MASC dues \$275.70 per year, seconded by Zaren, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Zaren to pay the mileage for Mayor Tuorila at \$190.40 and Clerk Serich at \$95.20, seconded by Pitts, Tuorila abstained, all the rest in favor, motion carried.

No quotes were received yet for the heat/air units. Clerk Serich will check with A.S.A.P heating. We need 4 units-1 back room, 1 Clerk's office, 1 Mayor's office and 1 library (separate quote).

Clerk Serich will set up a Budget meeting with Bonnie Sterle the week of Sept. 13-17.

Discussed the Calumet Clean up Days. Friday June 18<sup>th</sup> 8am – 7 pm and Sat. June 19<sup>th</sup> 8am-12pm Bob and Bill will work up there on Friday with Zaren, Vaudrin and Serich volunteering. Clerk will let the Nashwauk Police know that we will have dumpsters up at the park over the weekend.

Mayor Tuorila adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m. Tuesday, June 15, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk

Tim Zaren, Mayor Pro-Tem