

Regular Calumet City Council Meeting
Calumet City Hall Council Room
May 19, 2026
5:00 P.M.

Mayor Mike Troop led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Mike Troop called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mike Troop, Councilmembers Dan Strand, Nick Porter & Barbara Banks.
Absent: Councilmember Steve Serich. Also present: Clerk April Serich, Treasurer Mary Garner, Librarian Melanie Lefebvre, Public Works Street Superintendent Bill Berger.

Guests: Heidi Owner Calumet Saloon and Tabitha Kuhlman Calumet Saloon.
Heidi is requesting to add two efficiency apartments in the basement of the Calumet Saloon. A motion by Strand to approve and adopt Resolution #26-5-19 a resolution approving the Multi-Use Commercial & Residential Property at the Calumet Saloon for two efficiency apartments with a rental inspection, license and fees, seconded by Banks, upon vote taken, For: Troop, Strand, Banks & Porter. Opposed: none. Absent: Serich. Resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Tabitha from the Calumet Saloon is requesting approval to hold a car show on August 22nd on Gary Street, block it off with barricades, and use city garbage cans for the event. Motion by Porter to approve the car show, block off Gary St. and use city garbage cans, seconded by Troop, all in favor, motion carried. Tabitha will donate a bike rack if the city will chain it to the bench across from the bar for everyone to use.

Motion by Troop to approve the agenda, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.
Motion by Strand to approve the April regular meeting minutes, seconded by Troop, all in favor, motion carried.

Discussion about the interest on the investments and receiving the MN Dept. of Education grant money. Department reports were discussed and tabled until the next meeting so the transfers can be fixed. Motion by Troop to approve keeping \$200,000 plus the interest earned in the checking account and when we receive the \$200,000 grant money from the MN Dept. of Education it will be put into an investment account, seconded by Banks, all in favor, motion carried.

Meeting attendance and Reports:

Greenway Recreation Board: Strand reported that there are new rules. Everyone signs for kids. They are waiting for funding for the condenser. Baseball starts June 1st with 205 Boys and 75 Girls for Softball.

MCWWTP: the next meeting is in June.

WMMPB: Banks reported that there was a 10 yr. study done on mining.

Cemetery: Porter reported that the next meeting is in June. Strand stated that Saturday the flags will be put out for Memorial Day if anyone wants to help.

Department Reports:

Library Report: Library Director Melanie Lefebvre reported that the annual Tea Party Fundraiser brought in \$2,500 including a \$1,000 from the Calumet Saloon. The defibrillator pads need replacing in the library. They are on back order. The Community Garden Committee will be putting some beds together tonight.

Public Works Report: Public Works Superintendent Bill Berger stated that they are waiting for Spring to come. The skid steer needed work. The tracks for it are here but not put on yet. Bill will scrape and level the Take a Five Park area for the GAGA ball pit.

Day of Action: The council and volunteers need to sign up for T-shirts. Discussed if the skating warming shack can get a tin roof put on. Discussed stencils for the crosswalk and handicap parking spots. We need a map of where the 4 wooden picnic tables, 8 cement picnic tables and 4 cement/wood benches are going to be moved from the Mine Park area. One cement table will go outside the fence near Julie's Jungle; some tables will go in the Community Garden area and the Calumet Square area.

Discussed some of the rentals. Mike Peluso needs a letter sent for an inspection. Charles Nelson, former Calumet Church building needs a letter sent about the fire hydrant repair, zoning permits for decks and rental inspections needed before anyone can stay there and license and fees need to be paid before anyone can live there. Zach Boorman needs a letter for rental license inspection and renter violation of ordinances-blight. Rilla Varin's water is shut off.

Unfinished Business:

Utility Shut Offs: 10 late notices were sent.

Update on Blight: Eddie Finke at 1020 Gary St. has a lot of garbage and vehicles in his yard. Gary Scherf removed a car but has a lot more that are not licensed and operable. Send a utility bill if he is living there. Red Rock Auto is okay for now. He is in the process of moving. Motion by Troop to approve the next step on blight properties that have not complied with the ordinances by sending the information to the attorney for prosecution, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

It's okay for Barbara Banks to send a letter to Gary Larvingston about his property.

Motion by Troop to approve Iron Range Electric to install ADA door buttons, exit signs and smoke detectors at the Calumet Square, seconded by Portert, all in favor, motion carried. Discussion about the grass by the bank area and that the mining equipment shouldn't be moved until Fall because the big equipment makes ruts. The city workers will fix the ruts that were made by moving mining equipment from the Hill Annex Mine.

Motion by Troop to approve the bid that the library received from Square & Fair Construction for cutting areas under the stage and making doors for \$700, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

After discussing the extended DNR lease for the mine park/depot area, the council tabled it until further clarification on the date and when we need to remove the depot building from the property can be made. Discussed asking Mine Land Reclamation/IRRR to help with the costs.

Motion by Troop to declare that the city has surplus equipment including several grills, tables, chairs, and other items (to be determined by Bill what is not needed) in the Take a Five garage that can be scrapped, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Mike Troop adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m. May 19, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

April Serich
Calumet City Clerk