City of Calumet

Special Meeting to discuss projects and funding with Sarah Carling

Tuesday February 28, 2023 8:30 a.m.

 Council Room

Present: Mayor John Tuorila, Council members Tim Zaren, Dan Strand, Amanda Hernesman and John Vaudrin. Also present: Clerk April Serich, Treaurer Mary Garner, Librarian Melanie Lefebvre & Sarah Carling.

We discussed the list of priorities with the averages for each project.

Library upgrades-building and roof repairs.

Park Improvement and development- playgrounds upgraded and ADA compliant. Add toddler equipment. Redo the pavilion at the Calumet Mine Park, Improvements at the Take a Five Park also.

Community Events/Entertainment -Facebook training/promotion of community calendar

Road Improvement – Capital improvement plan-2nd Ave paving bike trail.

Infrastructure – Water & Sewer Gary St. County project apply for Federal funding, etc.

Ballfield Upgrades- do we really need the ballfield or is there some other sport that could utilize it.

Commercial/Retail Business Development- Old Spur Station.

Increase law enforcement- more hours? Sheriff’s Dept.?

Water Station on Mesabi Trail- tie in with county project, Mesabi Trail Club purchase fountain & repair station because it impacts their trail, county stub waterline.

Bike Repair Station on Mesabi Trail-Discussed a trail head with information about sources and community amenities for safety by the Depot parking lot or city shop. SHIP might help.

Expand Housing- Lisa Randall will identify renovation needs for each community. Look at possible lots for sale, adjustments made for tiny homes? Habitat for Humanity is now using modular homes.

Clerk Serich will send Sarah the plat for the proposed new development the city had prepared years ago.

The City of Calumet received $150,000 from the Blandin Foundation to use as seed funding to make more money for projects. We need to work with CEDA to get as much funding as possible. It is supposed to reduce the strain on the general fund.

We need to look at the top 5 projects. Are they eligible Blandin fund projects? Estimate a budget for each project then look at what grants are available. Get quotes, estimate total cost and figure out a timeline (most likely 2024).

Discussed the Park State Bank building. It was better than we thought, there was more room. A new roof was put on a few years ago and it has been maintained. There are handi-cap bathrooms also.

Things to check on- expenses (heat, electricity). Can the city afford it? Who will clean it?

It is a great opportunity for the city to receive this building for a possible multi-purpose community center. It is all one level and lots of parking space. Mayor Tuorila will contact Brian from the bank and ask questions. The LMC had concerns if there was asbestos in the building.

Sarah will contact Mesaba trail and Karen at the County.

Meeting ended at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 28, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk John Tuorila, Mayor