Regular Calumet City Council Meeting

Calumet City Council Room

Tuesday January 21, 2025

5:00 P.M.

Mayor Mike Troop led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Mike Troop called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mike Troop, Councilmembers Dan Strand, Barbara Banks and Steve Serich. Absent: Amanda Hernesman. Also present: Clerk April Serich, Treasurer Mary Garner, Public Works Supervisor Bob Hoshal and Librarian Melanie Lefebvre.

Motion by Banks to approve the agenda with the addition to authorize Itasca County to pay the contractor in full for the Gary St. project and pay the final payment to the county, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve the December reg. meeting minutes, seconded by Banks, all in favor, M/C.

Motion by Strand to approve November 14, 2024, Election Canvass meeting minutes, Results: Mike Troop Mayor, Barbara Banks and Steve Serich Council members, seconded by S. Serich, all in favor, M/C.

Motion by Strand to approve the December Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts $164,699.93, Disbursements $125,113.52, Investments $11,602.86 and total checking balance $536,795.81, seconded by Banks, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to transfer $14,235 to General Debt Service from Water, transfer $14,235 to General Debt Service from Sewer and $18, 979 to General Debt Service from Radio Tower, seconded by Banks, all in favor. Motion carried. Discussion about paying back the engineering fees to water & sewer when we get the grant money from IRRR.

Police Update: Lee Longoria stated that Attorney John Dimich is working remotely and charging extra fees for the City of Nashwauk and some other area cities. He has given out administrative letters & citations. Abatement is hard when we don’t have a prosecuting attorney. He suggested that we contact Angie Hill or John Dimich to ask about working for us. The Nashwauk PD has been working 20 hours a month. Once we have an attorney, he can send out another letter.

**2025 Board and Committee Appointments:**

Official Newspaper: Scenic Range News Forum

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

City Engineer: Bolten & Menk Engineering, Alan Johnson and Andy B

City Depositories: Park State Bank, First National Bank of Coleraine and LMC 4M Fund

Insurance Agency: Itasca Reliable and LMC

Mayor Pro-Tem: Dan Strand

Greenway Joint Powers Fire Board: 1. Steve Serich 2. Barbara Banks Alt. Amanda Hernesman

Library Board: Barbara Banks Also appointed: April Bouchie 3-yr. term

Cemetery Board: Barbara Banks Alternate: Dan Strand

Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board: 1. Mayor Mike Troop 2. Steve Serich

Alternate: Barbara Banks

Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board Hwy #169 Committee: Dan Strand

Weed Inspector: Mayor Mike Troop Assistant Weed Inspector: Bob Hoshal

Greenway Recreation Board: Dan Strand Alternate: Mayor Mike Troop

Blight Committee: 1. Mayor Mike Troop 2. Steve Serich 3. Dan Strand

Civil Service Director: Mayor Mike Troop Alternate: Steve Serich

Building Inspector: Andrew Sharpe Township and Range

Marble-Calumet Joint Wastewater Board: 1. Dan Strand 2. Tim Zaren Alternate: Barbara Banks

Motion by Banks to approve the 2025 Board and Committee Appointments, seconded by Serich, all in favor, motion carried.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports**:

Greenway Recreation Board: Strand reported that Mesabi Metallics will help pay for projects.

Cemetery Bd: No report.

WMMPB: discussed the Hill Annex Mine DNR museum list of items that we can get.

Public Works Report: Bob Hoshal discussed the Safety & Loss Control Training that is required for city employees. Discussed Theinwell coming. He needs to contact Jolene about the snowblower grant.

Library Report: Librarian Melanie Lefebvre reported that the library is hosting a Soup Supper February 26th @ 5:00 p.m. at the Greenway Snowmobile Club. There is cribbage on Mondays 1-3, Pickleball Mon.- Thurs. a.m. and p.m., Coffee and Coloring Thursdays 1-3 p.m. Also, there are many puzzles to check out.

Comments from the floor: Amberley Schneider was present with her daughter and Todd Katzenberger to discuss the status of her home being a hazardous building and she was requesting more time to fix the house. They want until July 1 to either fix it or tear it down. The issue is in the court system and the judge will decide what will happen. The city approved calling the attorney to let him know that the city is okay with giving until July 1.

**Unfinished Business:**

Utility Shut-offs: 20 letters were sent out.

Update on Blight: There were some vehicles towed, and Taylor moved the van, so it didn’t need to be towed. They still need to clean up their yard. Jessica Hoshal needs to remove the white goods on the right of way of Morgan St. Clerk Serich will check on an attorney for the criminal prosecutions.

Engineer: Andy from Bolten & Menk suggested that the council should approve getting bid documents for the city hall/library projects, so everyone is bidding on the same thing. Bob asked about MNRW funding for projects. Andy will check into GAP financing for upfront costs of projects.

Motion by Troop to approve the Meyer Group Engineers agreement for city hall/library projects bid documents $9,700, seconded by Banks, all in favor, motion carried.

Update on Radio Tower: Mayor Troop talked with the city attorney and SBA has not made payment to Everest yet. They want a recorded deed for the leased property before they make a payment.

Update on Bank Building: Clerk Serich contacted a realtor about selling the building. Nick from Edge of the Wilderness Realty gave the city a proposal to sell the building. The council tabled it until the next meeting. The council had a discussion about leasing it first before we sell it. We can contact IEDC, Blandin, and other realtors to see if they can help us with leasing the space and advertising.

**New Business:**

Motion by Strand to approve the low bid from Range Cornice for the city hall roof at $198,464, seconded by Troop, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve the 2025 Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board dues $600, seconded by Banks, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve Itasca County to pay the contractor in full for the Gary Street Project, seconded by Troop, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Troop to approve the final payment to Itasca County $351,408.50 for the Gary St. Project, seconded by Banks, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Serich to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m. Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved,

April Serich, City Clerk Mike Troop, Mayor