

Regular Calumet City Council Meeting  
Calumet City Council Room  
Tuesday July 15, 2025  
5:00 P.M.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dan Strand led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dan Strand called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Dan Strand, Councilmembers Steve Serich and Nick Porter. Absent: Mayor Mike Troop and Councilmember Barbara Banks. Also present: Clerk April Serich, Treasurer Mary Garner and Public Works Supervisor Bill Berger and Street Maintenance Worker Ray "Rusty" Richards.

Motion by Porter to approve the additions to the agenda-approve Thein Well repairs to the well head, approve Resolution #25-7-15-2 a resolution to apply add change to agreement with Hawk Construction, discuss culvert collapse at Dave Estey's on Buckmaster Rd. and discuss and approve a zoning permit for Kristi Serich at 441 Morgan St. for fence panels, seconded by Serich, all in favor, MC.

Motion by Strand to approve the June reg. meeting minutes, seconded by Porter, all in favor, MC.

Motion by Strand to approve the June Clerk & Treasurer Reports & bills, Receipts \$176,543.15, Disbursements \$53,797.65, Investments \$1,413,566.26 and total checking balance \$299,431.28, accrued interest will be taken out until cashed in, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

**Meeting Attendance and Reports:**

Police Report: NPD Lee Longoria discussed the blight process with the prosecuting attorney, and he will work with Clerk Serich on sending out the violation of code notices before each council meeting.

Comments and Requests from the floor: John Tulibaski is requesting 9<sup>th</sup> Ave re-tarred or at least be oiled down. Clerk Serich will contact Run a Muk four-wheeler club and see if they will do it. Shana Perry is requesting that a parking sign be put by the skating rink shack so people attending ball games know that they can park there and then they don't have to block driveways on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. Bill Berger will put up a parking sign on the skating rink building.

Greenway Recreation Board: Strand stated that the meeting is on Monday.

Cemetery Bd: Porter stated that the meeting is next month.

WWTPB: Banks stated that she showed up, but no one else was there for the meeting.

WMMPB: Serich reported that there was an update on Hwy #169. The state will make it a better 2 lane.

Public Works Report: Bill reported that equipment went down at the water tower. Rick from NOS gave a quote of \$3,553.00 to replace a part for backup power. Bill can order the part instead. John from Wastewater has a program to exercise the hydrant valves, GPS & overview for \$150 an hour and it would take about 2 1/2 hours. Motion by Porter to approve John from Wastewater to exercise the hydrant valves, seconded by Serich, all in favor. M/C. Discussion about 823 8<sup>th</sup> Ave shut off is sticking out and they wondered if it could be cut off. Bill will check it out. Motion by Porter to approve a \$3,000 limit on a credit card for Public Works Supervisor Bill Berger, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried. Bill said he has been training in the new public works street maintenance worker Ray "Rusty" Richards. Things are going okay. The weeds need to be sprayed around town.

Library: Mary Garner, President of the Library Board reported that the library has been very busy with the many events. The community picnic was successful. Melanie is on vacation so there are subs filling in. \$2,000 will be coming soon for computers from the Calumet Saloon Community Charities of Minnesota gambling. We might use the Greenway Snowmobile Club for events when construction on city hall/library starts July 29. No pickleball on council meeting nights.

**Unfinished Business:**

Utility Shut Offs: 8 late notice statements were sent out.

Update on Blight: Nuisance code violations were discussed. Building Inspector Andrew Sharpe said nothing has been done at 754 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. Give information to Attorney Brian Bengtson and get an estimate

for demolition. The rental above the post office is leaking and needs repairing. 546 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Tara DeGuisseppi rental needs more work but they have done some removal of blight.

Update on the city hall/library project: Motion by Strand to approve Resolution #25-7-15 to send a letter requesting \$167,000 in additional funds from the IRRR to finish the city hall/library project, seconded by Porter, upon vote taken, for: Strand, Serich and Porter. Opposed: none. Absent: Troop and Banks. Resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Update on the Bank Building: Clerk Serich met with Chris Ismil from the IRRR and discussed grants. There are a few that work together and he wants to come back with others to talk about how they can help us. Mari Jo and Greg Anderson from the Hematite have gotten their license for an LLC and have purchased some equipment. They are ready to go into the building as soon as it's ready, hopefully by Spring 2026. They will present a lease agreement at the next meeting in August. Tamara from IEDC sent a sample. The city received an estimate for a proposal from Bolten & Menk Architect for \$59,500 for plans. The council said no. We will get individual quotes for an electrician, contractor and master plumber. Discussed the removal of equipment at the Hill Annex Mine Park on Wednesday and Thursday August 20 & 21 at 10:00 a.m. Greg can possibly get Lake Head Constructors loader to use, and he has a car hauling trailer. The city approved the employees to help and use city equipment to bring items up to the bank building area. There will be a Calumet mine information sign put up by the bank building area. The council approved the Hematite to put up a sign saying Coming Soon on the old bank administration sign.

Update on Community Garden & Market: Evan Petz discussed the process that needs to be done. The four pine trees need to be taken down and the sod scraped between the tree line. Plackner gave an estimate of \$800 to remove the trees but not the stumps. Braton Tree Care was going to give an estimate, but it was not received by the meeting time. Discussion about firewood, chipping and mulching between gardens. Motion by Porter to approve the removal of four pine trees of up to \$800 and the city employees to scrape the top level of dirt off at the garden location and Greg Anderson to remove the stumps and possibly have someone chip them for use in the garden, seconded by Serich, all in favor, motion carried. The council approved the use of the bank building parking lot for the Community Market s long as the vendors sign a liability form and they pay for the porta potty.

#### **New Business:**

Motion by Strand to hire Janel Dill, who had the most experience, as the new cleaning person from the three applications received with the pay at \$15 per hr., seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Porter to approve the MAOSC dues \$284.50, seconded by Strand, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Strand to approve Thein Well to pull the pumps at the well house and replace 600' of pipe, 2 check valves, and a reducer for approx. \$24,000 taking ½ from Water Fund and ½ from Tower Fund, seconded by Porter, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Porter to approve and adopt Resolution #25-7-15-2 a resolution to apply for and accept funds from the IRRR for the bank building, seconded by Strand, upon vote taken, for: Strand, Serich and Porter. Opposed: none. Absent: Troop and Banks. Resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Motion by Porter to approve and adopt Resolution #25-7-15-3 a resolution to apply for and accept funds from Lake Country Power for the Community Garden, seconded by Serich, upon vote taken, for: Strand, Serich and Porter. Opposed: none. Absent: Troop and Banks. Resolution was duly passed & adopted.

The council approved the agreement with Hawk Construction to proceed with the next step of the project. The electric in the council room needs to be moved.

Serich stated that he noticed the skating rink building roof is caved in.

The council approved to pay Range Cornice for the final roof bill.

Motion by Troop to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. Tuesday, July 15, 2025, seconded by Serich, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
April Serich, City Clerk

Approved,  
Mike Troop, Mayor