

**CALUMET VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**CALUMET VILLAGE TOWN HALL**

**340 SIXTH STREET**

**CALUMET, MICHIGAN 49913**

**APRIL 17, 2018**

**I. Call to order**

President Dave Geisler called to order the regular meeting of the Calumet Village Council at 7:00 PM on April 17, 2018.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Dave Geisler led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Roll call**

Present: President Dave Geisler, Trustees Virginia Dwyer, Sandy Johnson, Sharon Abramson and Peggy Germain

Absent: None

Vacant: Two council seats

Also present: Administrator Joe Snow, Clerk Julie Dahlstrom, Police Chief Keith Anderson, Village Attorney Jim Tercha and 9 members of the public plus 1 reporter.

**III. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Motion made by Trustee Germain and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Johnson to approve agenda with some changes due to availability of participants, motion carried (5/0).

Trustee Germain addressed proposing a resolution to thank individuals who worked on the lot adjacent to Bucko's Party Store.

**IV. Agenda**

**1. Petitions from the Public**

A. Mike Lahti provided update on the Italian Hall Monument

- President Geisler provided information regarding the Morrison School FSR Payment #16 error with WUPPDR.
- 1 member of public provided information on the Historic Tax Credit Program and urged the Calumet Village Council to pass a resolution for the program, provided hard copies of information, also there are 2 bills up for approval for the Historic Tax Credit Program. Calumet Village Attorney Jim Tercha will review possible resolution samples for the program.  
Motion was made by Trustee Germain and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Johnson to support the Historic Tax Credit Program. Roll call vote: Yeas; President Geisler, Trustees Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer and Germain, Nays; None. Motion carried (5/0).
- Owner of Bucko's Party Store/Aron Butkovich read a letter to the village council he had written regarding the vacant lot adjacent to Bucko's party Store.  
President Geisler advised; everyone should have the option to bid on the vacant lot. There were 2 members of the council verbally in favor of selling the lot to Aron Butkovich.  
Village Attorney Jim Tercha provided information on voting requirements for Trustee Dwyer made a motion to quit claim deed the lot adjacent to Bucko's Party Store to Aron Butkovich. Roll call vote: Yeas; Trustees Abramson, Johnson and Dwyer, Nays; President Geisler, Trustee Germain. Motion failed (3/2).
- Trustee Dwyer made a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Johnson to fix the wall adjacent to Bucko's Party Store by Buzz Johnson for \$7,600.00. Roll call vote: Yeas; Trustees Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer and Germain, Nays, President Geisler. Motion carried (4/1).
- 1 member of public informed village council new to are and believes Calumet is a historic area for creative individuals.

## **2. Minutes from March 20, 2018**

Approved March 20 meeting minutes with changes addressed during meeting while clerk read minutes to village council. Motion made by Trustee Dwyer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Abramson to accept the March 20, 2018 meeting minutes with changes. Motion carried (5/0).

## **3. DDA**

Leah Polzein provided information on the May 29 spring clean-up. DDA now has a website which may eventually include the Village of Calumet; cost would be less

than \$200.00 per year. WUPPDR/MEDC Grant addressed. Also is seeking legal opinion regarding the lot adjacent to Bucko's Party Store.

**4. Elm Street Project Resolution – Chris Holmes UPEA**

Chris Holmes/UPEA provided information regarding the Elm Street Project which is near 1.2 million dollars, MEDC Ice Grant Resolution for Elm Street improvements. Motion made by Trustee Johnson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Abramson to adopt Elm Street Project Resolution. Roll call vote: Yeas; President Geisler, Trustees Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer and Germain, Nays; None. Motion carried (5/0).

**5. Resolution to Thank Volunteer for Lot Adjacent to Bucko's Party Store**

Trustee Germain addressed a resolution thanking Peter Kowleski for volunteer work done on the lot adjacent to Bucko's Party Store. No motion or vote needed.

**6. Redevelopment Ready Comm                      Joint MOU**

President Geisler will be taking charge                      of the project for the Redevelopment Ready Comm                      . Motion made by Trustee Johnson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Dwyer to sign a memo of understanding with the MOU. Motion carried (5/0).

**7. Revised Morrison School FSR Payment #16/MSHDA**

Motion made by Trustee Johnson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Abramson to approve payment #16 of \$2,318.75. Roll call vote: Yeas; President Geisler, Trustees Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer, Nays; Trustee Germain. Motion carried (4/1).

**8. HDC Meeting Minutes**

There was a general discussion regarding the HDC meeting.

- **MISC**

Village Attorney Jim Tercha addressed village council regarding the deficit the village is experiencing with the garbage removal. Proposed eliminating garbage pick-up service via Waste Management and obtain outside company take over. Attorney Tercha advised adopting a resolution to remove village pick-up service to allow private firms to take over.

**Following is a resolution regarding garbage disposal:**

Resolved, that the Village of Calumet discontinue its weekly collection of garbage from residential premises within the Village and its existing contract with a waste disposal firm previously made for this purpose, effective after May 31, 2018, in favor of collection from residences by qualified private firms (waste haulers) who contract directly with residents for such purpose or the lawful disposal thereof by the residents themselves; that the Village Council amend, restate, or repeal existing ordinances pertaining to the collection of garbage or solid waste, accordingly and as appropriate, and that the Village notify its existing residential customers for garbage pickup of this decision and of alternative means for garbage removal available to residents through arrangements with private waste haulers.

Motion made by Trustee Abramson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Dwyer to adopt a resolution to eliminate village garbage pick-up service. Roll call vote: Yeas; President Geisler, Trustees Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer and Germain, Nays; None. Motion carried (5/0).

## **9. Planning Commission**

No minutes to report, were not provided.

## **10. Committee (Department) Reports**

### **A. Office Report**

Village Clerk read her portion of office report and Administrator read his portion of office report. Motion made by Trustee Abramson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Johnson to accept office report. Motion carried (5/0).

### **B. Street Committee (Public Works) Report**

Trustee provided Street Committee Report in lieu the Street Superintendent was absent. Motion was made by Trustee Johnson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Dwyer to approve the purchase of flags \$132.00 and pack blower \$650.00. Roll call vote: Yeas; President Geisler, Trustees Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer and Germain, Nays; None. Motion carried (5/0). A motion was made to accept the street department report made by Trustee Johnson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Dwyer. Motion carried (5/0).

### **C. Finance Committee**

Finance Committee did not meet.

**D. Ordinance Committee Report**

Ordinance Committee did not meet.

**E. Personnel Committee**

Personnel committee did not meet.

**F. Public Buildings Committee**

Public Buildings Committee did not meet.

**G. Public Safety Report (Police and Fire)**

Trustee Dwyer provided the Public Safety report. President Geisler provided information on specifics on new police hire Betsy Ninko's contract. Motion was made to accept the hiring of police hire Betsy Ninko and accept the street public safety department report made by Trustee Dwyer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Abramson. Roll call vote: Yeas; President Geisler, Trustees Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer and Germain, Nays; None. Motion carried (5/0).

**MISC**

- Motion made by Trustee Dwyer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Abramson to begin regular village council meetings at 5:30 PM. Motion carried (4/1).

**11. Bills**

Motion made by Trustee Abramson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Dwyer to accept the payment of the \_\_\_\_\_ and current bills. Roll Call Vote; Yeas; President Geisler, Trustees Camp, Abramson, Johnson, Dwyer and Germain, Nay's, none, motion carried (5/0).

**Bills:**

\$36,790.76	Previously Paid
\$13,688.34	Current
<u>\$50,479.10</u>	<u>Total</u>

**12/13. Old/New Business**

Trustee Dwyer addressed budget discussion from previous village council meeting (3/20/2018). Trustee Germain inquired regarding clarification on compensation vs vacation time.

**Adjourn**

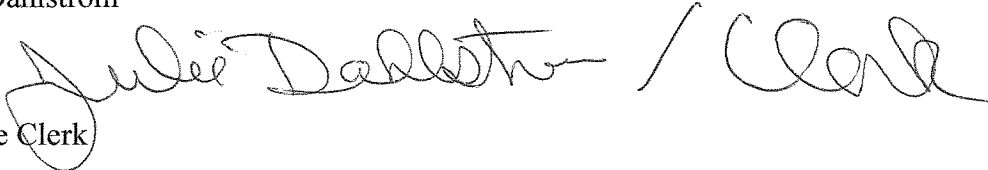
Trustee Dwyer departed the meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Johnson, there was no 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. President Geisler left the meeting and therefore no quorum was met. Meeting was ended at 11:10 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Julie Dahlstrom

Village Clerk

April 23, 2018

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Dahlstrom / Clerk". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name "Julie Dahlstrom" and the title "Village Clerk".

712 Pine Street

Calumet, MI 49913

March 29, 2018

Mr. James Tercha, Attorney

416-8th Street

Calumet, MI 49913

Dear Mr. Tercha

I received an e-mail from our clerk, Julie Dahlstrom, today. It supports what appeared in the Daily Mining Gazette. She wants her duties, and I believe that as village attorney you have a (noblesse oblige) noble obligation to insure that she gets them.

Please uphold the General Law Act and see that she is awarded her duties and the pay commensurate with the performance of those duties. It is most unfortunate that the administrator and the clerk have both been treated unfairly by those of us who should have upheld the law. On page one of the Administrator's contract it states: ". . . . These duties are delegated to the Administrator by the Village Clerk." The clerk stated that she did not ever relinquish her duties to anyone. Did we not negotiate in good faith with Joe Snow, if this is true?

You must remember as I do that there were four-inch high letters on the window of the office with the word CLERK emboldened on it. As I type this letter, I recall having to resign when I was elected clerk, because I didn't want to be legally liable for another person's work when you would not help me carry out the duties to which I'd been elected. Beverly Bracco was also denied the duties when she was elected clerk. Your allegiance to Sue Cone-Dana appears to me to be at the peril of elected officials and our people, village residents, if the following are true:

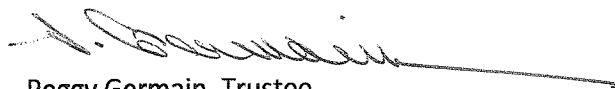
the Council never passed an office manager/administrator/comptroller ordinance

the General Law Act correctly requires that a transfer of the clerk's duties must be by ordinance

the clerk, Julie Dahlstrom, never delegated any of her duties

I believe that all three are true and ask you to rectify this situation so that both Joe Snow and Julie Dahlstrom do not suffer from the actions or inactions of our decisions.

Sincerely



Peggy Germain, Trustee