

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS
MINUTES
July 30, 2008

Mayor Larsen called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Members present: Evelyn Larsen, William Lenz, Kay Costello, Tim Kennedy, and Edward Bolstad

Members absent: None

Staff present: Mike Roth, Don Davison, and Kim Dunsmoor

Mayor Larsen invited the public to speak during a period of open forum. Open Forum is limited to one half-hour. No person may speak more than 5 minutes or more than once.

Norm Larson sent a petition around the RV Park asking for quiet time after 10:00 p.m. in town. The park has quiet hours at 10:00 p.m., but the noise from Birch Terrace and Gunflint Tavern continue. He doesn't want to stop tourism or business, but is asking that the businesses stop the noise within their borders through building improvements and moving the music inside.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to approve the Agenda; July 9, 2008, Minutes with correction on Spindler Variance – Kennedy abstained because he owns the building; July 13, 2008, Worksession Minutes; Payment of Bills; and Harbor Light Ruffed Grouse Raffle Permit. Approved unanimously.

Danna Asche, Cook County MIS, explained the concept of broadband which includes, but is not limited to ultra-high speed internet, television, telephone, and medical monitoring. The county is in the midst of drawing up and RFP and would like the city to participate in the creation of the RFP. There is also a fiber optic project in process that is different from broadband. The fiber optic will connect the courthouse with law enforcement, the schools, hospital and clinic. The two projects would interface if the broadband becomes reality. Tim Kennedy and Mike Roth will participate in the creation of the RFP.

The council discussed the Community Center Project Facilitation. The scope has changed significantly since the LHB Proposal. We have a tight time line to accomplish a plan that can be supported by the elected officials, community and referendum in November 2009. The recreation park master plan is also on the table. Many things in the park master plan are different than the sales tax issue. Costello questioned who will pay for the facilitator. Bolstad remarked that the final decision on the project is the county's.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to support the County's efforts working with Fischer to meet goals and objectives for a plan. Approved unanimously.

The Parks Manager position was advertised. We received 19 applicants from the 5 state region. The committee selected 5 applicants for interviews, 2 declined. Three candidates were interviewed. The committee recommends promotion of Dave Tersteeg to Park Manager effective June 4, 2008, the date that he became the interim Park Manager.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to hire Dave Tersteeg as the Park Manager. Approved unanimously.

Dave Tersteeg thanked the council and is looking forward to the future. The Assistant Park Manager position will be advertised.

Motion by Costello, seconded by Bolstad to approve the 2008 Improvement Contract with Redstone Construction in the amount of \$2,046,312.06. Approved unanimously.

The contractor intends to complete the neighborhood reconstruction by fall and Creechville by spring. The contractor will notify residents of construction timelines.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Larsen to approve the Coastal Program Grant Agreement 306-16-10(B17888) for the Grand Marais Park Area Master Plan with correction for Park Manager's name. Approved unanimously.

The council discussed whether the Park Area Master Plan could be blended with the community center discussion or whether it would make more sense to delay the process until the sales tax referendum has been decided. The Park Board will need to consider the timing.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve the purchase and accept the donation for a Phillips FRX Automatic External Defibrillator. Approved unanimously.

The Safety Committee has recommended AED's be placed at the pool and the golf course. The donated Defibrillator will be ordered through the Red Cross, donated by Karyle Hanson, and placed at the pool location.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to hire Emily Peterson as part-time custodian for city hall and the library. Approved unanimously.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

- 1) EDA Update: Sawtooth Cottages discussion was deferred until their next meeting when they will address the question of economic viability. The project looks unlikely, but they have asked the engineer to explore options to make the project feasible.
- 2) The EDA hired an environmental attorney to address the storm water runoff violations in the BDA. The EDA responded to their concerns through the

engineer, but legal council specializing in environmental issues is needed to counsel on the stipulation.

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) The North Shore Management Board is requesting that the City of Grand Marais put in their budgets for 2009 \$750 annual fee.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Larsen to put \$750 in the 2009 budget for North Shore Management Board. Approved unanimously.

City Attorney Davison's Report:

- 1) Provided the council with new laws that take effect August 1, 2008.
- 2) Minnesota Department of Administration Advisory Opinion:08-015 states that any materials in the packet or distributed to all members of the governing body must be available in the meeting room for inspection by the public while the governing body considers their subject matter.

City Administrator Roth's Report:

- 1) The council held a closed meeting yesterday to consider disciplinary action against City Attorney Davison. The stipulation does not directly affect any work Davison does for the city. The League of MN Cities was contacted and the city is not at risk for liability by retaining his representation. Davison will make regular reports to the council and an evaluation process will be established.
- 2) The Waste Water Treatment Facility received another Certificate of Commendation. The WWTF has received ten commendations since 1991.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.