

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS
MINUTES
May 14, 2008

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

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

Members absent: Kay Costello

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. No one spoke.

One correction made to the minutes to add to the Mayor's Report that Oberstar's office called and the Grand Marais Marina Proposal will be included in his next bill.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to approve the Agenda; April 30, 2008, Worksession Minutes; April 30, 2008, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve the Dockside Fish Market Beer and Wine License. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve the Cook County Radio Tower Land Use Permit as requested by Cook County. Approved unanimously.

Greg Wright, North House Folk School, requests a conditional use permit to include housing for summer interns on the second level of its proposed milling shop. According to the attached floor plan, the upper level of the milling shop will include three bedrooms, a bathroom, kitchen facilities and a common area on their property located at Lot 14, Block 45, Village Plat. The interns do not pay for housing. It is important to the community programs such as the evening community baking events. This year, North House received 12 applications for internships and they would like to have 3 interns. There was concern about intern parking not being on the street/highway. North House will provide parking for the interns on-site. They are working with Hedstrom Lumber Co. to store their lumber there and only bring the materials to the school site when they are ready to use them. This will open up the upper parking lot. The Planning Commission held a public meeting on May 7, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. Several comments from the public included parking concerns and housing of interns competing with local businesses. The Planning Commission approved the Conditional Use Permit with a 3-1 vote.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve the North House Folk School Conditional Use Permit. Approved unanimously.

Greg Wright, North House Folk School, also requested an Amendment and Restatement of the Lease Agreement with the City. The lease allows North House Folk School to attach building on their property to the red building located on city property by a removable single story hallway that would cross the shared property line subject to a 180-termination notice. City Attorney Davison wrote the amendment and believes the agreement to be in the spirit of the letter of agreement.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Larsen to approve the Amendment and Restatement of the Lease Agreement between North House Folk School and the City of Grand Marais. Approved unanimously.

At the last meeting, the council asked about parking associated with residential uses downtown. The Planning Commission discussed parking provisions and recommends a requirement of one off-street parking space per residential unit located within 150 feet of the property. The easiest way to enforce this rule is to make the parking convenient. Downtown residential units still require a conditional use permit dependent upon providing parking.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve the parking changes to the Proposed Downtown Zoning Ordinance. Approved unanimously.

Council discussed single-family homes existing in the downtown district and the ability to build single family homes in the commercial downtown district. Single-family homes in the commercial district are not desirable and should be removed from the ordinance. Other ordinances that should be made with regard to adult uses and pawn shops because the proposed changes do not address these uses that were excluded in the current ordinances.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2008-05 Downtown Zoning Ordinance Revisions with approved changes. Approved unanimously.

Council considered a leave of absence request from Tim McLean, Property Maintenance Worker.

Motion by Larsen, seconded by Bolstad to approve a one-year leave of absence request effective May 16, 2008, for Tim McLean, Property Maintenance Worker, and to pay available vacation and comp time hours on a bi-weekly basis until depleted. Approved unanimously.

The pool is in need of immediate repair of a portion of the south wall that is separating from the building. Repair estimates have been between \$6,000 - \$14,000 all dependent upon what is found after opening up the wall to see what the real damage is. Park Staff recommends that reasonable repairs should be approximately \$10,000.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to approve up to \$10,000 repairs to the pool wall. Approved unanimously.

Chuck Carbert submitted his 30-day notice of resignation. His last day will be June 9, 2008. He has accepted a job in Nebraska. The job will be advertised in the local newspaper, boreal, League of Minnesota Cities and Park/Recreation Association magazines.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Larsen to accept Chuck Carbert's resignation with regrets. Approved unanimously.

Tom and Mike are looking at the Murphy Mountain site to see what would be involved if the marina dredging material were to be dumped there. There is a deadline for approving the site and we are waiting for more recent samplings of possible contaminants. There would be a deed restriction on the property and fill. The Corp anticipates they would do the dredging in August.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Bolstad to hire Jeffrey Iverson as Bathhouse Custodian and Lauren Biesemeyer as Park Office Clerk. Approved unanimously.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

Economic Development Authority Updates:

- 1) Superior National Golf Course is trying to pursue IRR grant for capital expenses to construct a cart path. The project is anticipated to cost \$200,000 this year. They documented a loss of 600 rounds of play due to not allowing carts on the course when it is wet from a previous days rain.
- 2) EDA developed design review guidelines for Sawtooth Cottages and how to put in infrastructure and pay for it. They will place the open market rate lots for sale. No lots have been sold yet and a rough road needs to be constructed in order to see the lots.
- 3) There have not been any new sales of lots in the Business Development Park.

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) We have not heard anything from the MPCA about the old power plant site yet. They are waiting for further studies from Environmental Troubleshooters. We expect their report in a month or two. The Public Utilities Commission has taken all the necessary steps.
- 2) Attended the State of the Coast Conference with 2 others. The conference was very informative.

Mayor Larsen's Report:

- 1) Harbor Friends have posted two events for the community: May 24 is a beach sweep clean-up day and a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Sweetheart's Bluff Handicap Trail.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.