

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS  
MINUTES  
January 9, 2008

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

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

Members absent: Tim Kennedy

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.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to approve the Consent Agenda with addition of the Schulte Property Purchase and Fire Truck; December 19, 2007, Minutes with addition of response to Tom Rawitzer where the Mayor pointed out that the current ordinance was in effect when he purchased the property; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.**

Tim McLean, Grand Marais Fire Chief, thanked the council for the purchase of the 2007 Fire Truck that was put in service December 20, 2007. The truck is plumbed for a water cannon and has foam application for auto fires at the flip of a switch. The truck has a bigger motor that will be better for our hilly terrain. The 1966 Fire Truck has been taken out of service and the fire department would like to list it for sale on eBay.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Larsen to begin the process of selling the 1966 Fire Truck the best way we can. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to appoint Dawn Byholm to a 2-year term on the Library Board. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to appoint John McClure to a 2-year term on the Park Board. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Lenz, seconded by Bolstad to appoint Carol Backlund to a 3-year term on the Park Board. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Lenz, seconded by Bolstad to appoint Norm Schroeder to a 3-year term on the Park Board. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Lenz, seconded by Bolstad to appoint Craig Schulte to a 3-year term on the Planning Commission. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to appoint John McClure to a 3-year term on the Planning Commission. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to continue council board appointments as follows:**

<b>Cable Board</b>	<b>Ed Bolstad</b>
<b>Economic Development Authority</b>	<b>Tim Kennedy</b>
<b>Library Board</b>	<b>Kay Costello</b>
<b>ARDC Board</b>	<b>Bill Lenz</b>
<b>North Shore Management Board</b>	<b>Ed Bolstad</b>
<b>Joint Powers Recreation Board</b>	<b>Kay Costello</b>
<b>Park Board</b>	<b>Bill Lenz</b>
<b>Personnel Committee</b>	<b>Evelyn Larsen, Bill Lenz</b>
<b>Planning Commission</b>	<b>Tim Kennedy</b>
<b>Public Utilities Commission</b>	<b>Ed Bolstad</b>
<b>Safety Committee</b>	<b>Tim Kennedy</b>

**Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Larsen, seconded by Lenz to appoint Kay Costello as Vice-Mayor. Approved unanimously.**

Two bids were received for legal newspaper. Cook County News Herald bid \$3/inch and Cook County Star bid \$1.5/inch.

**Motion by Lenz, seconded by Bolstad to designate the Cook County Star as the Official Newspaper for the City of Grand Marais. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Costello, seconded by Lenz to designate the following depositories of City funds for 2008:**

**Grand Marais State Bank'  
North Shore Federal Credit Union  
Security State Bank  
LMC/4M Fund  
RBC Dain Rauscher  
Smith Barney Citigroup  
Miller, Johnson, Steichen, Kinnard**

**Approved unanimously.**

Rebecca Wiinanen and Tristen Beaster, Cook County Soil & Water, submitted an application to the Coastal Grant for small-scale demonstration rain garden projects. These are smaller projects that can be constructed by private parties. The cost match will be provided by MN Conservation Corp labor and MN Cost Share Funds. The rain gardens are not designed to hold water for more than 36 hours. The rain gardens are designed to catch and clean water from a ¼" rain. Larger rains will over flow the rain

gardens. The idea is that the most pollution runoff is in the ¼” rains and rain gardens will help to reduce the amount of pollution that reaches Lake Superior. Construction will be done by the Minnesota Conservation Corp and the YCC will be available for continued maintenance. The Street Supervisor will be involved in the projects and some city staff hours may be needed. This is a two-part project: construction and education. They are requesting a letter of support from the council for the construction of four rain gardens located within the City of Grand Marais.

**Motion by Larsen, seconded by Costello to give a letter of support to Cook County Soil and Water for the rain garden project. Approved unanimously.**

City Attorney Davison received a letter from Attorney Dick Swanson representing the Schulte’s in the property sale requesting a March 10 closing with no contingencies for hazardous material mitigation selling the property as is. The EDA would need to sell bonds and lease the property to the city for the purchase. Council does not want to go any further without an appraisal and site inspection for pollutants. The Library Board engineering architect found the site to be appropriate and big enough for a one-story structure. Davison was directed to respond to Swanson that we need to stick to the proposed agreement including appraisal, contingencies and later closing.

**Councilor Lenz’ Report:**

- 1) The Park Board discussed cutting the cost of running the pool by having a custodian do the cleaning. They are in the process of looking for a part-time cleaner.
- 2) The campsite rates are advertised including tax: the rate will remain the same as advertised when the 1% tax sunsets.
- 3) The Park Board is negotiating with the DNR to put in a replacement dock. The DNR wants the dock to be handicap accessible and the city would need to agree to keep the docks for 20 years. The DNR would like to extend the length of the boat launch dock and the city would like to extend the concrete depth of the boat launch area.
- 4) The Park Board is discussing adding a dock that would extend off the North House Folk School area. The lease will need to be looked at and a new dock could accommodate 4-6 additional boats.

**Councilor Costello’s Report:**

- 1) The Joint Recreation Board is tackling the pool project by gathering as much information as possible and want to make a recommendation by May.

**Councilor Bolstad’s Report:**

- 1) The Public Utilities Commission follows the Cold Weather Rules: however, some accounts are delinquent and are facing shutoffs during winter.
- 2) The new breaker was installed in the substation and there is discussion about who is responsible for this problem.
- 3) The old power plant site will remain a frozen hole for the winter.

City Attorney Davison's Report:

- 1) Has been appointed to the Economic Development Authority as a county representative. Steve Holz and Chris Norman were asked to develop a multi-unit green building. They are investing a lot of time and money getting the necessary permissions from various agencies. The snowmobile trail and church location will be discussed further.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.