

*CITY OF GRAND MARAIS*  
*MINUTES*  
*December 8, 2010*

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

Members present: Kay Costello, Sue Hakes, Tim Kennedy and William Lenz

Members absent: Jan Sivertson

Staff present: Mike Roth, Kim Dunsmoor and Chris Hood by telephone.

Mayor Hakes 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.

Maggie Barnard, Cook County Visitor's Bureau, updated the council about the upcoming Winter Tracks Festival February 4 – 13, 2011. As part of the festival, the group would like to have a snow sculptures throughout the county and is requesting use of Harbor Park for one 8 ft x 8 ft block sculpture and three or four 4 ft x 4 ft sculptures. In addition, they are requesting that the city provide equipment and operator to help fill the sculpture blocks, remove snow during sculpting and during the tear down process.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to support the Winter Tracks Proposal not to exceed \$500 for equipment and operator help from the city. The Park Board will review locations for the sculptures in January. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Lenz, seconded by Hakes to approve the Agenda; November 30, 2010, Minutes with corrections; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.**

Karen Holte, owner, and Randall and Cheryl Woodward, buyers, are requesting a conditional use permit to operate a bed and breakfast as a boarding house at 121 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Lots 6-10, Block 24, Village Plat in the R-1 district. This single family home is located in a primarily residential neighborhood and is currently used as a bed and breakfast. Holte was granted a conditional use permit in 1995. At that time and today, bed and breakfast is not specifically named as an allowed conditional use: however, boarding houses for 3-8 people are allowed. A boarding house is defined as "Any dwelling other than a hotel or motel where meals or lodging and meals for compensation are provided for five (5) or more persons pursuant to previous arrangements. A public hearing was held December 1, 2010, to consider the proposal. There were no public comments. The commission recognized that this application was to renew an existing conditional use permit for a long-standing business. They noted that the new owners were not proposing any substantive changes to the business, and that it would not have a noticeable effect on the neighborhood. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the conditional use permit with the following conditions:

- 1) The maximum number of four bedrooms may be rented at one time.
- 2) Off-street parking shall be provided with a minimum of one space per guest room and one space per operator.

- 3) The proposal shall meet all lot size and setback requirements required in the R-1 zone district.
- 4) One sign shall be allowed with a maximum area of four square feet.
- 5) The owner or manager shall be in residence when rooms are being rented by paying guests.
- 6) The facility shall not be used for commercial receptions, parties, etc. for other than overnight guests.
- 7) If ownership is transferred, a new conditional use permit must be applied for by the new owner within 60 days of the change of ownership, otherwise the permit shall terminate.
- 8) Lighting shall not be placed in required setback areas and must be directed inward and not toward any property line. No upward directed lighting shall be permitted. No lighting may create glare on adjacent properties.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve Resolution 2010-15 Approving the Request for a Conditional Use Permit to Allow the Holte/Woodward Bed and Breakfast. Approved unanimously.**

The council discussed the budget. The state is still in a deficit, so we do not know if we will receive the certified LGA amount. The union contract expires at the end of 2010: although, we budgeted no increase in wages, this is still an unknown. The pool is aging and the existing boiler may need replacement. The PUC will not raise electric or sewer rates for 2011, but water rates will increase 1.9%.

**Councilor Kennedy's Report:**

- 1) Biomass Energy Public Meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Room. The group is also working on second interviews for L.H.B. and S.E.H.
- 2) The Energy Plan Committee meeting is scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. and the Community Center.
- 3) The Public Utilities Commission will not increase rates for electric or sewer services, but will increase the water usage rate by 1.9%.

**Councilor Costello's Report:**

- 1) The Library Board will meet with the architect on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the results from the community meetings.
- 2) AEOA is conducting a study on homelessness in Cook County. They are doing a number of interviews. Costello encouraged them to make the results known to Cook County residents.

**Councilor Lenz' Reports:**

- 1) The Park Board has set rates for 2011. There are no increases for daily sites from Sun – Thurs, and a \$2/night increase for Friday and Saturday. Monthly sites will increase 3% per month. 2 month rental will cost \$50 more per month than the 3 month rental and a 1 month rental will cost \$100 more per month than the 3 month rental. Camper storage increased \$2/month. There is a four month minimum on high value sites such as the

waterfront sites 41-47 East and 23-28 West. The rate for a second car was reduced to \$3 per site for daily and \$30 for the season. Marina seasonal rates will increase by 3% with free winter storage and there will be no increase for daily rates. Pool rates for campers will increase by \$1.

- 2) The Community Center Steering Committee will interview three architect firms, none of which proposed Burbach Aquatics as the pool architect. The committee is aware of the city's letter to no longer participate if Burbach is not chosen. The group will ask if the architect will work with Burbach Aquatics.

City Administrator Roth's Report:

- 1) The levy must be set before our last meeting of the month. The council may approve the levy after the Truth-in-Taxation Hearing or select another meeting date.

Mayor Hakes' Report:

- 1) Have received complaints about icy sidewalks. It is a challenge to keep sidewalks clear. Right now they are good.

The meeting was recessed at 6:09 p.m. for the Truth-in-Taxation Hearing.

The meeting was resumed at 6:11 p.m.

**Motion by Costello, seconded by Kennedy to approve Resolution 2010-16 Approving Final 2010 Levy, Collectible in 2011 in the amount of \$ 825,997.43. Approved unanimously.**

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

***CITY OF GRAND MARAIS  
TRUTH IN TAXATION  
PUBLIC HEARING  
December 8, 2010***

Mayor Hakes called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

Members present: Kay Costello, Sue Hakes, Tim Kennedy and William Lenz

Members absent: Jan Sivertson

Staff present: Mike Roth, Kim Dunsmoor and Chris Hood by telephone.

No one from the public wished to speak.

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.