

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS
MINUTES
May 30, 2007

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

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

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.

Fritz Sobanja, County Commissioner, Joint Powers Recreation Board Member, and Community Center Revitalization Committee Member, addressed the council regarding the pool. It would be generous of the city to allow the pool to move to the community center. The Community Center Plan has been put on hold to complete soil borings, drainage and ground water studies. The hockey and skate board people are okay with a short delay to decided where to place the pool. None of the projects can move forward until the ground water studies are done.

Andy Brostrom, Planning and Zoning Commissioner, stated that the Planning Commission had held a public meeting regarding the visioning project. They had a good discussion with the public and decided to have another meeting. The meeting is has not been done yet and is scheduled for June 6. The Planning Commission has not been able to complete their job and give a recommendation to the council yet. Request the council wait for the Planning Commissions recommendation on the Comprehensive Plan.

Jan Sivertson, would like the council to keep in mind that 80% of our economy is based on tourism. Think about enhancing tourism while deciding where to place the pool and making comprehensive plan decisions.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to approve the Agenda; May 9, 2007, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.

The Planning Commission meeting regarding the Comprehensive Plan and Downtown Visioning is Wednesday, June 6 at 4:30 p.m.

Bev Wolke and Kim Smith, Chamber of Commerce, requested approval of the application for use of street and sidewalk for the Annual Car Show scheduled June 2, 2007.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to approve the Chamber of Commerce Annual Car Show Permit. Approved unanimously.

Bev Wolke and Kim Smith, Chamber of Commerce, requested approval of the application for use of street and sidewalk for Timber Days, fireworks, and July 4th Parade scheduled for July 4-8, 2007.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Bolstad to approve the Chamber of Commerce Timber Days including July 4th Parade and fireworks. Approved unanimously.

Mark Sandbo, Grand Marais Lion's Club, requested permission to sell raffle tickets in Harbor Park, street corners, and parking lots May 12-July 28, 2007.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Bolstad to approve the raffle ticket sales as requested May 12-July 28, 2007. Approved unanimously.

Dean Detrick, representing Austin Tamini Ridge Development, is requesting city annexation of a 120 acre parcel on the west edge of the city. The desired development would include city utility services. The concept development would include approximately 120 homes including some multi-family units. The homes would be built over a 10-15 year period as the market would dictate. The developer has been working with an engineer for utility design, wetland delineation, and stormwater runoff. The results of the study will alter the proposed concept. The first step in the process is to seek annexation into the city. The annexation process will include a public hearing and agreements with the county.

The DNR recently requested to exchange the state land in section 16-61-1E for land located in the eastern part of the county. The county and city opposed the land exchange. The land is DNR Trust land that should be income producing: however the land is not suitable for logging. The North Shore Trail, Superior Hiking Trail and ski trails are located on the property and are used by the public. The trails are an important link to the City of Grand Marais and should be protected and preserved.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to work in concert with the county to keep public ownership of the DNR land in Section 16-61-1E. Approved unanimously.

The final payment for the 2004 Downtown Water, Sewer, Streetscape project has been paid. The water and sewer portions of this project were previously assessed. The streetscape improvements cost \$764,302.52. Of this cost, the amount to be assessed to property owners is \$229,290.65. The assessment will bear an interest rate of 6% and be payable over 20 years.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve Resolution 2007-07 Declaring Cost to be Assessed, Ordering Preparation of Assessment Roll for the Downtown Streetscape Project. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to hire: Nicole Bockovich and Fred Dunsmoor as lifeguard, Dennis Moen as Seasonal Bathhouse Custodian, and

Rebecca Jacobs and Amanda Plummer as Seasonal Park Office Clerk. Approved unanimously.

The Fire Relief Association is covered for Faithful Performance Bond under the City of Grand Marais insurance policy. The city policy has a \$10,000 deductible. In order to comply with state law, the city needs to commit to cover the \$10,000 deductible for the Fire Relief Association or the association needs to purchase an additional policy.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to commit to cover the \$10,000 deductible for the Fire Relief Association. Approved unanimously.

Mayor Larsen's Report:

- 1) Evelyn Larsen and Bill Lenz were designated to make contacts with agencies and representatives regarding the City of Grand Marais Marina and Safe Harbor. Eighteen letters were sent to various representatives and agencies including MN Land Trust, Army Corp of Engineers, David Dill, Amy Klobuchar, MPCA, Jim Oberstar, US Fish and Wildlife, Grand Portage Tribe, MN DNR, Norm Coleman, Tom Bakk, and the US Coast Guard. Paul Burk of the US Fish and Wildlife has offered to help in the process and ideas to save money.

Councilor Costello's Report:

- 1) **Motion by Costello, seconded by Kennedy to ask Cook County to include the pool in the Community Center Revitalization Plan.**
Ayes: Costello, Kennedy, Lenz Nays: Bolstad, Larsen
- 2) The Library is holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, to discuss the library expansion.
- 3) The Joint City, County, School, Tribe meeting was well attended.

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) Asked for an update of looking for neighborhood park land. It is on the next Park Board Agenda.
- 2) Asked about use of the speed limit sign with the Sheriffs Department or the city purchasing a sign of their own.

City Attorney Davison's Report:

- 1) The Sheriff's Office has been receiving complaints about unlicensed contractors. A county-wide building inspector should a topic on the next Joint City, County, School, Tribe meeting.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.