

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS  
MINUTES  
May 28, 2008

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

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

Members absent:

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 Agenda, May 14, 2008, Worksession Minutes, May 14, 2008, Minutes, and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.**

The council discussed the final wording of the Amended City of Grand Marais Zoning Ordinance.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Larsen to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2008-05 Amending the City of Grand Marais Zoning Ordinance. Approved unanimously.**

Tristan Beaster, Cook County Soil and Water, presented the preliminary cost estimate for the proposed Rain Garden Projects and the State Cost-Share Assistance Contract. Under the cost-share program, the city will be responsible for 25% of the project. Staff in-kind time would account for the city's share. The project is designed to get the landowners involved in the process. Although the maintenance is the responsibility of the city, Cook County Soil and Water is very committed to this project and will help with maintenance. Maintenance includes keeping sediment and weeds out of the rain garden and is generally needed for 2-3 years. Minnesota Conservation Corp will help for the first year.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to approve the State Cost-Share Assistant Contract for the Rain Garden Project with Cook County Soil and Water. Approved unanimously.**

Resolution 2003-11 had an incorrect property description. Resolution 2008-10 corrects the property description for the Glen and Deanna Maxwell Conditional Use Permit.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Larsen to approve Resolution 2008-10 Glen and Deanna Maxwell Conditional Use Permit. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Larsen, seconded by Bolstad to charge a recording fee for all property based resolutions and have the city record the resolutions. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to send a letter to Cook County requesting that they include Old Shore Road in their lake shore septic inspection program. Approved unanimously.**

Councilor Costello's Report:

- 1) The Joint Recreation Board has distributed their Pool Report to the Commissioners, Council, School Board, and Pool Committee.

Mayor Larsen's Report:

- 1) Workshop topics: Discuss the Marina Proposal and the Noise Ordinance issues and options. Budget worksessions begin in June.

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 p.m. for a Hearing on Proposed Assessments.

The meeting resumed at 5:27 p.m.

An amendment to the Power Sales Contract between SMMPA and the City of Grand Marais is needed because the Old Substation no longer exists. The amendment corrects the language to include only the North Substation.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to approve the Amendment to Schedule A to the Power Sales Contract between Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency and the City of Grand Marais, Minnesota. Approved unanimously.**

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) Asked much are we obligated to spend on the upcoming projects? We should look at the economy and decide if we can professionally and reasonably move forward with the project.

We have a contract with S.E.H. for design. We have \$30,000 - \$50,000 worth of work already contracted even if we decide to delay the project.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

- 1) The Economic Development Authority held a special meeting regarding Sawtooth Cottages where they considered developing in stages vs. the whole project. If the project is going to be successful, the whole project needs to be done. The EDA decided to move forward with seeking bids. The ability to sell the market rate lots is the only way to recoup costs. If the bid is high, the EDA will step back. If the position of the bond counsel is not good, the EDA will step back. Northern Communities Land Trust is ready to build 5 homes and has secured \$1.2 million in financing; however, development is dependent on the infrastructure project. The EDA will do all the project or none of the

project. Recently, NCLT decided to focus their efforts on rehabilitation rather than new construction.

- 2) We applied for more money for Creechville through IRRR: we may hear if it is awarded by June. There are 4 property owners outside the city limits: two of the owners now wish to be included in the project.

The council discussed possible dates for a joint meeting with the county. June 4-6 are possibilities.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.