

***CITY OF GRAND MARAIS***  
***MINUTES***  
***June 9, 2010***

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

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

Members absent: None

Staff present: Mike Roth, Tom Nelson, Linda Chappell, 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.

Linda Chappell, Library Director, gave an update about the expansion project at the library. The library sent a cover letter to various architectural firms to find interest in the library project. The Library Board plans to get proposals to go to the county board to request 1% sales tax funding and hope to have drawings completed by the end of this year. They have been encouraged by the county board to continue planning. This project is small in comparison to others and the Library Board hopes to build in 2011. There are no legal requirements for professional services or paper posting. The Library Board will bring their budget to the council in July.

The May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were discussed and will add that Hakes, Sivertson, and Kennedy attended the opening of Stone Harbor Wilderness Outfitting & Supply.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to approve the Agenda; May 26, 2010, Worksession Minutes; May 26, 2010, Minutes with correction; and payment of bills. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Hakes, seconded by Lenz to approve the Superior Cycling Association Street and Sidewalk Permit to hold the Sawtooth Challenge Mountain Bike Race on August 28, 2010. Approved unanimously.**

Tom Nelson, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, presented the Water Emergency and Conservation Plan to the council. The plan must be updated every 10 years. MN DNR approved the plan on May 10, 2010. The city's unaccounted water is significantly less than in the past. Although the population has increased, actual water usage has declined. The most logical conclusion is that people are using water conserving devices. The Public Utilities Commission approved the plan at their last meeting.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to approve the City of Grand Marais Water Emergency and Conservation Plan. Approved unanimously.**

Tristan Beaster, Cook County Soil and Water, talked with the council about three potential storm water projects: 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue W, 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue W, and Humphrey Circle. The grant would provide

\$12,497 and would require a match of \$4,165. For each of these projects, Cook County Soil and Water has prepared a preliminary estimate. The grant funds would not provide enough funding to do all of the projects. If the grant project is approved, we will contact the adjacent property owners and ask for their participation. We will use the grant funds in the area where property owners are most willing to participate, perhaps by paying for new larger driveway culverts. Projects would need to be completed by June 3, 2012.

**Motion by Costello, seconded by Lenz to approve the State Cost-Share Assistance Contract as discussed with Cook County Soil and Water up to the amount of \$12,497 with a city match of up to \$4,165. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to approve Community Business Partnership Grant Program Annual Accounting report for the City of Grand Marais. Approved unanimously.**

We plan to apply for a Small Cities Grant to combine with this Community Business Partnership Grant to allow us to provide larger low interest loans to businesses in Grand Marais.

City Administrator Roth's Report:

- 1) We received a letter from Burbach Aquatics that states that they have the right to be able to step into the county community center project to design the pool because of an agreement signed by the city when we were discussing renovating or replacing the pool in the recreation park.
- 2) The city will send a letter asking the owner of a vacant property to mow the grass. The city has legal authority to remedy the situation after legal notice and to certify the cost on property taxes.

**Motion by Hakes, seconded by Kennedy to send a letter to the property owner when complaints are received. Approved unanimously.**

Councilor Lenz' Report:

- 1) Revenue is up at the park, pool and golf course.
- 2) The Park Board voted to remove the \$25 special events application fee. Most of the events do not cost very much: however, events like the Dragon Boat Festival cost the park \$400. Next year the board will review the cost of special events. The Park Board approved the Dragon Boat Festival Application and will absorb the \$400 labor charge for setup of docks and buoys.
- 3) There will be a 50' boat on one of the buoys this year.
- 4) The Joint City/County/School/Tribe meeting discussed the 1% sales tax and the school referendum.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

- 1) The Planning Commission tabled Ron Lund's Conditional Use request to the next meeting on 7/7/10. The commission needed additional information about how the business would fit on the property.

Councilor Sivertson's Report:

- 1) The EDA spent one hour on golf course discussion and one hour on the business park. The U of M Crookston talked about marketing the business park and wondered why we created the park when the criteria are not met such as an airport and workers and asked what is the asset that Grand Marais brings to a business?

Mayor Hakes' Report:

- 1) Spoke with the owner of the old theater building at length and spoke about the streetscape project, zoning changes, and safety concerns. He will take a look at removing the panels on the front of the building and was interested in storefront loan and grant opportunities.
- 2) Stan Linnell and Peter Harp, DNR, will visit the city council on June 29<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. and will tour the park and marina.
- 3) The orange flag project would cost about \$100 for 100 flags. The flag would be an indicator to vehicle traffic that the pedestrian wishes to cross the road. Staff was directed to provide a cost and explanation of how the project would be implemented.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.