

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS
MINUTES
February 10, 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, 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. No one spoke.

Motion by Costello, seconded by Kennedy to approve the Agenda; January 27, 2010, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.

The Planning Commission is considering a sign ordinance amendment for roof signs. The proposed changes lower the roof sign height from 10 to 5 feet above the height of the building or 10% of the building width, whichever is less, and require that the bottom of the roof sign be no higher than the height of the roof where attached. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and bring their recommendations to the council.

CCLEP proposed considering a revolving loan fund grant: however, the grant application would have been due by February 12th. The council discussed meeting with CCLEP to identify projects that can be ready for future grant applications rather than finding grant applications that need projects. Government moves at a slow pace and grant applications need to be carefully considered before we can support projects.

The Librarian I Job Description was updated at a previous meeting. The city uses ROI points to equate pay to the job description. The Personnel Committee considered the ROI points for the updated job description and recommend increasing the ROI points from 117 to 138 points.

Motion by Lenz, seconded by Costello to change the ROI points to 138 for the Librarian I position. Approved unanimously.

Mike Roth, City Administrator, gave the council an Open Meeting Law Refresher detailing the conditions where various meetings and gatherings are subject to the open meeting law. The purpose of the open meeting law is to protect the public's right to be informed, allow the public to detect improper influence, and gives the public a chance to provide input.

Councilor Lenz' Report:

- 1) Two moorings were vacated and the marina will purchase two commercial mooring buoys. The next two people on the waiting list have been contacted and accepted mooring usage.
- 2) The Park Board authorized free pool passes for anyone who is age 100 and older.

- 3) The Pool will be closing for maintenance March 1st – 5th.
- 4) The Park Board has been approached for providing a space for a community garden in the Recreation Park. They are looking at several possible sites.
- 5) Capital Improvements being considered for 2010 include some sewer and water upgrades and new pavement on South 8th Avenue West and to the sliding hill.
- 6) There is still one Park Board vacancy.

Councilor Sivertson's Report:

- 1) The Economic Development Authority met yesterday. They discussed their cash flow issue including a 2009 deficit of \$40,000. A new loan is needed immediately. The board chair has been given the authority to lay off the EDA Director if there are no funds to pay him.
- 2) The EDA Golf Course Committee asked the County for a loan of \$125,000: \$25,000 for capital improvements and \$100,000 for operating expenses.
- 3) Nancy Grabko gave her annual report for the housing projects. Her contract ends March 15th. She is offering her services for 20% less than last year.
- 4) The EDA Director has done a good job of negotiating with the Business Park Engineering firm and contractor in resolving MPCA issues. There is still \$71,000 worth of items to be negotiated. This is not a good time to lay off the EDA Director.
- 5) The EDA and the City need to discuss the special assessments for the business park to make the lots more marketable.
- 6) The Grant Application for the DEED project was received this week: therefore, we will be waiting for the reimbursement money a while longer.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

- 1) The Planning Commission is looking at our regulations for development of unsewered lots. We do not have any standards or inspectors. There is a lot of land in the city limits that is outside sewer areas.

Mayor Hakes' Report:

- 1) Attended the Firemen's Banquet. It was great.
- 2) A contractor for the Shoreline will be taking down the sheet metal sign this week, removing the safety hazards.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.