

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS
MINUTES
February 9, 2011

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

Members present: Larry Carlson, Bob Spry, Tim Kennedy, Jan Sivertson and Bill Lenz

Members absent: None

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

Mayor Carlson 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 Spry, seconded by Lenz to approve the Agenda; January 26, 2011, Minutes; Payment of Bills; and North House Folk School Raffle Permit for October 23, 2011. Approved unanimously.

Greg Wright, North House Folk School (NHFS) Director, presented their annual report. NHFS will be hosting NPR's featured radio show Mountain Stage in September. The student enrollment declined in 2009, but rebounded in 2010. Initial student registrations for 2011 indicate an increase in student enrollment for this year. Improvements to the campus include the addition of the milling shop during 2007-2009, the relocation and improvement to the Blacksmith Shop during 2010-2011 and planned for 2011-2012 is removing the asphalt in the lower parking area and replacing it with pavers, expanding the upper parking lot, and transforming the entrance to the school. During construction that is expected to begin October 1st, NHFS will need to figure out what to do for students entering campus while the official entrance is closed. NHFS will be talking with the Park Board to see if they can utilize some space in the Recreation Park during that time. There is an average of 25 students on campus during October and November. Future improvements may include transforming the yellow office building into a student center.

The council discussed a draft letter to Burbach Aquatics, Inc. informing them that the Cook County Board of Commissioners chose not to retain BAI's services for the aquatics center portion of the Cook County Community Center Project, despite repeated written and verbal requests from the City that they retain BAI to perform these services for the County's project. The City will have no involvement in the County's project. The City does not intend to move forward with its own pool project at anytime in the foreseeable future.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Carlson to send the letter to Burbach Aquatics, Inc. regarding the Cook County Community Center. Approved unanimously.

The council discussed the 2011 Park Board Capital Improvement Plan. The park plans to upgrade 10-20 sites to full hookup, adequate power, and pad improvements, plan and design a pedestrian entrance, develop a safe harbor marina concept plan, plan and design a new park

office/bathhouse complex, upgrade the public access ramp and boat trailer parking in the SW corner of the harbor and add toddler swings to the existing playground.

Mayor Carlson's Report:

- 1) Attended the Firemen's Dinner and thanked the firemen for all their efforts.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

- 1) The Planning Commission discussed the city's 2 mile extra territorial authority in zoning matters. Roth and Kennedy met with county representatives to talk about a specific property owner's request and the differences between the city and county's ordinance. The Planning Commission is discussing how to come up with something that makes sense and deal with the matter in a comprehensive manner.
- 2) The Energy Committee is trying to focus and define their effort.

Councilor Sivertson's Report:

- 1) The Library Board presented the drawings of the proposed addition at the Library to the County Board and received approval to move forward. The proposed addition carries a preliminary cost of approximately \$1 million.

Councilor Spry's Report:

- 1) The EDA Board met and decided to place an ad to hire a Golf Course Administrator to see if there is any interest in the job. The board did not discuss the EDA Director position or the business park. They don't have enough funding to hire a full time EDA Director and are asking for additional funds to hire a Golf Course Administrator for about \$75,000.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.