

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

Motion by Costello, seconded by Bolstad to approve the Agenda; September 26, 2007, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 2007-03 Amending the City of Grand Marais Zoning Ordinance Permitted Principal Uses in the C-2 Zone. Approved unanimously.

The amendment adds professional offices and radio and television stations, not including transmission towers and transmission antennas.

Paul Coe, Cook County Insurance Agency, discussed the 2007-2008 insurance policy through the League of Minnesota Cities.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve 2007-2008 League of Minnesota Cities insurance in the amount of \$64,521. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Costello to approve the 2007-2008 Liquor Liability Insurance Coverage. Approved unanimously.

Dick Grabko, S.E.H., gave an update on the Creechville grant application process. The Army Corp of Engineers Section 569 was applied for and we will know the result in December. A state bonding request has been submitted, but this option is a long shot. Small Cities Grant was submitted in a cooperative effort with Lake County - \$450,000 toward Creechville low-moderate income help and hookup and rehabilitation services. IRR can be applied for Creechville and/ or Sawtooth Cottages. Although both projects would qualify for funding, Sawtooth Cottages meets more criteria for funding. The council could apply for funding for both projects up to \$350,000 and place priority on one of the projects.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Lenz to apply to IRR for the maximum \$350,000 with \$200,000 toward the Creechville Project and \$150,000 toward the Sawtooth Cottages booster station with first priority for Creechville. Approved unanimously.

Councilor Lenz' Report:

- 1) The council discussed the pool in today's worksession and the pool will be discussed at the next Park Board Meeting.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

- 1) The Planning Commission is in the process of drafting an ordinance to allow the Sweet Life Bakery to continue as a non-conforming use in the present location as long as it continues as a wholesale and/or special order retail operation and complies with all state licensing requirements. The Planning Commission is in support of the continued use.

Councilor Costello's Report:

- 1) An article in *Minnesota Cities* discussed codifying the cities ordinances. The last time the code was completed and published was 1994. The ballpark figure for an outside company to complete the codification is \$10,000. Mike Roth questioned the scope of the services for \$10,000 and stated that we could publish the code ourselves and that most of the code has been updated by our city attorney. The code would need to be approved by the council and can be made more accessible through the city's website.
- 2) The Library Board is continuing to look at possible options for a new site. Linda will talk with the council in November about three serious possibilities. One of the possible sites is on ISD 166 land. There are advantages to having the library close to the school and Higher Education would like to partner with the Library.
- 3) Questioned if we are applying for a handicap access for the Visitor Center. Yes.

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) The tax assessment for every city in the state is listed in *Minnesota Cities*.
- 2) The Public Utilities Commission has received the second bid for the Old Power Plant clean up to find the extent of the plume to satisfy MPCA requirements.
- 3) The North Shore Management Board is reviewing zoning. We need to review our ordinance to see if it fits with the city's zoning ordinances. It appears that the zoning requirements of the North Shore Management Board apply more to rural applications and not to municipalities where lots are serviced by public water and sewer.

City Attorney Davison's Report:

- 1) Had visits from foreign workers stating that there were 8 workers housed in a two-bedroom home. We need to remind employers of the city boarding house code where no more than 5 unrelated people can reside in a home. In this

case, there were problems with electric, water and mold in the building where the employer required them to stay. One solution would be to create rental standards and require licensing of rental properties. This option would require a building inspector and collecting of fees with the licensing.

City Administrator's Report:

- 1) Chuck Mahron, Community Institute, is expecting to complete our final draft of the visioning document and we will soon have the final action on the revision of our comprehensive plan.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Mayor, Evelyn Larsen

ATTEST:

City Administrator, Michael J. Roth