

*CITY OF GRAND MARAIS*  
*MINUTES*  
*April 9, 2014*

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

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

Members absent: None

Staff present: Mike Roth, Len Bloomquist, Kim Dunsmoor and Chris Hood

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 Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of the MN Deer Hunters Association Arrowhead Chapter Raffle; March 26, 2014, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.**

Paul Nelson and George Wilkes, CCLEP, gave a district heating project update. They found the project to have great benefit to Cook County due to increases in propane and fuel oil while biomass would be stable. Most of the savings would go directly to the taxpayers by reducing heating costs of public entities. The District Heating bids were way above the engineer's estimates. They recommend placing the project on hold. The District Heating group will still give a report complete with engineering in the near future. Based on current energy projections, the group expects the market will change and this will become a viable project. At that time, we can take the project off the shelf and re-bid it. The council thanked them for their time and effort. CCLEP will continue to work on other energy efficient projects.

Len Bloomquist, Property Maintenance Supervisor, stated that the line striper that we use to paint our streets and curbs needs replacement prior to this season's striping. Len provided quotes for four different machines from two separate companies. He recommends purchasing the 5900 Line Lazer 2 from Diamond Vogel for \$ 6,185. This unit is commonly used by cities and provides the functionality that we need. We will need to purchase some accessories and paint.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Spry to purchase the 5900 Line Lazer 2 from Diamond Vogel in the amount of \$6,185. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Sivertson, seconded by Spry to approve the Sydney's Frozen Custard Strong Beer and Wine License contingent upon a successful background check. Approved unanimously.**

Mark Sandbo would like to reapply for the Governor's Council on Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to provide a letter of support for Mark Sandbo for a position on the Governor's Council on Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Lenz, seconded by Spry to approve Resolution 2014-05 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Grand Marais, Minnesota Allowing Survivor Benefits to be Paid in Cases Where the Firefighter Dies Before Becoming Vested. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Sivertson to approve Resolution 2014-06, A Resolution Approving Collective Bargaining Agreement By and Between City of Grand Marais and American Federation of State, County, and A Municipal Employees, Minnesota Council 5. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Carlson, seconded by Spry to approve 1.5% wage increases for the supervisors who are not in the union retroactive to the beginning of the year. Approved unanimously.**

The Library Director hiring committee conducted an interview, checked references, and would like to offer the job to Steve Harsin.

**Motion by Sivertson, seconded by Carlson to hire Steve Harsin as Library Director. Approved unanimously.**

Pat Hennessy, Liquor Store Manager, announced his retirement effective May 31, 2014. The job will be posted with applications due by May 2, 2014.

Travis Wickwire, Park Facilities Manager, resigned his position. The job has been posted with applications due by April 18, 2014.

Councilor Lenz' Report:

- 1) Reviewed the Parkside Public Access public meeting. We have received 44 written comments as of 4/1/14: 20 express overall support, 3 express negativity, 12 advocate for a capped, accessible breakwater to walk on- primarily from photographers concerned about taking pictures of the lighthouse/moonrise, 7 ADA compliant, 3 concerned about the adequacy of the basin size to accommodate 30-40 foot cruising boats, and 2 concerned about the height above the water of the breakwall.
- 2) Moving Matters would like to place a temporary sidewalk at Boulder Park adjacent to the curb during Fisherman's Picnic and have some fun activities in the rest of the parking lot. Currently there is no sidewalk to connect downtown to Artist Point.
- 3) The Lions Club would like to have a 56' x 113' tent to be used at Fisherman's Picnic and other events in the Harbor Park and/or other areas: however, they do not have the funds to purchase the tent without help from other entities.

Councilor Spry's Report:

- 1) The EDA settled their pending litigation with S.E.H. for their design/engineering work in connection with the undeveloped property adjacent to and north of the Business Park. The settlement agreement, in the amount of \$30,000, calls for payments of \$10,000 each

year. The City loaned the EDA \$10,000 for the first payment which was made last year as the EDA had no working capital available to make the payment. The EDA is asking the City to lend them another \$10,000 to make this payment. When the EDA levy is received, the EDA will repay the City at least the initial \$10,000. Council also discussed the remaining interest due from a \$100,000 loan to the EDA dating back to 2009. The EDA repaid the principal, but never paid the interest.

- 2) Oddz and Endz is a non-profit group that is wishing to use the Howling Wolf property as an incubator to bring in new businesses and sell used furniture similar to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thrift Store except selling donated big furniture excluding beds.

**Motion by Spry, seconded by Sivertson to approve a temporary loan to the EDA in the amount of \$10,000. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Sivertson to forgive the interest and remove from the books the \$5,040 due from the 2009 \$100,000 loan to the EDA.**

**Ayes: Sivertson, Kennedy, Spry, Lenz**

**Nay: Carlson**

- 3) Pat Campanaro will hold an Open House for the EDA on May 13, 2014, at 4:00 – probably in the City Council Chambers.
- 4) Superior National Golf Course has started re-hiring people for the season.

Councilor Sivertson's Report:

- 1) The Library Board said their good-byes to Linda Chappell and approved out-of-class pay for Patsy Ingebritsen and Tom Knutson during the time Linda retires and a new Library Director is hired.

City Administrator Roth's Report:

- 1) Would like to attend the Annual City Manager Conference May 14 – 16<sup>th</sup>. Council approved his attendance.

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

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Mayor, Laurence Carlson

ATTEST:

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City Administrator, Michael J. Roth

