

***CITY OF GRAND MARAIS***  
***MINUTES***  
***April 13, 2011***

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

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

Members absent: Tim Kennedy

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 Sivertson, seconded by Carlson to approve the agenda; March 30, 2011, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.**

Beth Ferry and David Mills are requesting a conditional use permit to rebuild a non-conforming garage damaged by fire located at Lots 11-12, Block 23, Blackwell Addition at 820 Creechville Road. The garage is almost on the South property line which is well within the required 25' front yard setback. Non-conforming structures damaged more than 50% by fire may only be rebuilt by conditional use permit. State law grants the property owner the authority to rebuild within 180 days if a permit is applied for. The Planning Commission held a public hearing April 6, 2011. There were no public comments. Mills was present to answer any questions. The Planning Commission found that the applicant applied for a building permit within the 180 day window and will rebuild the non-conforming structure as it was. Any changes to the structure would require a variance. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the conditional use permit by a 3-0 vote.

**Motion by Spry, seconded by Lenz to approve Resolution 2011-05 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Grand Marais, Minnesota Approving the Request for Conditional Use Permit to Rebuild the Ferry/Mills Fire Damaged Structure. Approved unanimously.**

Ben Silence, Fire Chief, would like to add members to the fire department roster. There are 22 current members, there could be three to six members retiring in the next few years. The relief association has been discussing increasing the number of points needed to receive credit for a year of service in the relief association to increase participation in meetings and calls. The fire chief was given the okay to recruit two new members.

The Economic Development Authority has submitted a bill for engineering services for the Cedar Grove Business Park. There are funds still available from the bond.

**Motion by Spry, seconded by Lenz to approve payment to the Economic Development Authority for engineering services in the amount of \$ 79,205. Approved unanimously.**

Councilor Lenz' Report:

- 1) Park Board will have a meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> to review costs for the site upgrades and make a recommendation for the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- 2) The Park Board will interview four companies for the community connection project. There will be information available at the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting
- 3) Animal Advocates disbanded. There is another group that wants to incorporate and will want the same arrangements as Animal Advocates.

Councilor Spry's Report:

- 1) The Economic Development Authority approved the hiring of Bob Fenwick for Golf Course Manager. About 30 people attended the meeting and some people voiced their opinion that Todd Gervais should be hired instead of Fenwick. Bob Fenwick agreed to \$ 30,000 salary + benefits which is considerably less than what was advertised.

City Administrator Roth's Report:

- 1) The Library Board met with the architect. The county hired Orb for the construction management. They recommend that the Library should be closed during construction. The library needs a space to operate during construction. The addendum was approved by the county.
- 2) Will attend the MCMA Conference during the first week of May.
- 3) Will be on vacation during the end of May.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.