

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS
MINUTES
May 9, 2012

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

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

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 Kennedy, seconded by Spry to approve the Agenda with additions of Car Show, Pool Resolution, and Potential Bond Refunding; April 25, 2012, Minutes with correction – “seconded by Lenz”; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.

Aaron Mielke, Fire Department, addressed the council. Eight bids were received for the purchase of a fire truck. Five of the eight bids were over our grant amount. The fire department considered the three remaining bids. The lowest bid was from Freedom Fire: however, they did not meet our desired specifications, service and support due to location in Georgia is of concern, warranty was less than others, there would be additional charges for inspection, delivery charge and equipment was neglected in the bid. Stainless & Repair met the desired specifications, is located in Wisconsin, offered to take our old tender as a trade-in and had the best warranty of all the bids. Midwest Fire met the desired specifications, is located in Minnesota, and would take our old tender as a trade-in. Bids were as follows: Stainless & Repair \$213,513; Midwest Fire \$217,879; Freedom Fire (did not meet specs) \$ 210,940; Forstner \$220,950; Rosenbauer \$225,929; Clarey’s/Pierce \$259,549; North Central Ambulance \$250,000; Custom Fab \$228,074. The fire department recommends purchasing the fire truck from Stainless & Repair and purchasing the loose equipment locally because it will save \$1,000.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Lenz to purchase the fire truck from Stainless and Repair in the amount of \$ 204,086. Approved unanimously.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on May 2, 2012, to consider a Preliminary Plat application from David Parsons for Uptown Grand Marais. One neighbor was present at the hearing and was concerned about stormwater controls and maintenance. One written letter was received expressing concerns about stormwater controls and maintenance. The Planning Commission noted that this plat differs from an earlier application and consists mainly of the commercially zoned property with a small part of the residential zoned property included in Outlot B for a stormwater retention pond. Outlot A is designed to be a private easement until such time that development would necessitate a public road. Lot 1, Block 2 on the west side of Outlot A is undeveloped with some older structures on the property. Lot 1, Block 1 on the east side of Outlot A is undeveloped. Lot 2, Block 1 includes the existing motel and restaurant. Lot

3, Block 1 includes 4 existing cabins and a 4 unit motel building. There is no new development proposed at this time; they are asking to subdivide the property. The Planning Commission stipulated that a plan for an emergency vehicle turnaround and stormwater infrastructure easements be defined prior to council approval. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the Uptown Preliminary Plat with the condition that the preliminary plat include an emergency vehicle turnaround and stormwater infrastructure easements: in addition, prior to submitting plans for a final plat there must be a developer's agreement that includes landowners' association documents including road maintenance, stormwater requirements including maintenance and easements for access to lots, utilities and stormwater infrastructure by a 3-0 vote.

The developer submitted new plans that included an emergency vehicle turn around and easements for stormwater infrastructure.

The council has the authority to grant a variance allowing Uptown Avenue to be a private road. It will be located on a 66' wide outlot. If there is a need for a public street in the future, the road would meet the requirements.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Spry to approve the Uptown Preliminary Plat with a variance for a private road. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Sivertson, seconded by Lenz to approve Summary Publication of Ordinance 2012-04 An Ordinance Granting a Nonexclusive Cable Franchise to Arrowhead Electric Cooperative, Inc. Approved unanimously.

The Animal Ordinance was discussed. Suggestions for changes included removing fish from the description as a domestic animal; talking with law enforcement about redemption of animals with no proof of vaccination, and limits on domestic animals should be revisited such as 3 dogs, 6 cats, and exempting animals that are generally caged.

Motion by Lenz, seconded by Spry to hire Erika Haglund, Ryan Martinson, and Anna Green as seasonal lifeguards; Jacob Schroeder as seasonal groundskeeper; and Greta Hall and part-time liquor store clerk. Approved unanimously.

Kim Linnell, Chamber of Commerce, presented the application for Street and Sidewalk permit for the Annual Car Show. They would like to have the cars on Wisconsin Street Saturday, June 9, 2012. They will keep the alley open.

Motion by Sivertson, seconded by Lenz to approve the Annual Car Show Street and Sidewalk Permit. Approved unanimously.

The council discussed the pool resolution. Kennedy, Lenz, Sivertson and Spry support the concept of a community center and think that the proposed resolution does not commit the city to participate financially in the project. Carlson does not support the concept of a community center.

Motion by Spry, seconded by Kennedy to approve Resolution 2012-04 Authorizing Legal Counsel to File an Action for Declaratory Judgment Against Burbach Aquatics, Inc.

Ayes: Kennedy, Spry, Sivertson, and Lenz

Nay: Carlson

Staff presented a proposed refinancing of the \$2,885,000 Electric System Revenue Bonds, Series 2003. The refinancing is recommended by our financial advisor Ehlers and will save the Electric Department approximately \$15,000 per year.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Sivertson to approve refinancing of the \$2,885,000 Electric System Revenue Bonds, Series 2003. Approved unanimously.

Councilor Lenz' Report:

- 1) The Park Board has changed their meeting times from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- 2) May 21st is Harbor Park Clean-up Day 9:00 a.m. If it is raining, the backup date is May 23rd.
- 3) The Park Board has identified 5 Capital Projects they would like to work toward:
 - a. Community Connection
 - b. Site upgrades - electric and sewer
 - c. Playground upgrades
 - d. Pave the road to the marina
 - e. New office/bathhouse complex
- 4) The D.N.R. presented a preliminary plan to upgrade the boat launch area. The Lenz, Tersteeg and Roth asked for changes to facilitate pedestrians, less parking spaces and more open space near the lake. The D.N.R. is concerned about the Park's Master Plan that includes an events pavilion: they are concerned that parking for boaters will be taken up by the event pavilion patrons. If they upgrade the boat launch, they will abandon the launch by the Coast Guard.

Councilor Spry's Report:

- 1) The E.D.A. Housing and Rehabilitation projects are moving along. We will know if we will get another grant next month.
- 2) Superior National is charging for range balls now and they purchased a new point of sale system and continue to plan for more changes.
- 3) The E.D.A. gave their Director 30 days notice. His last day will be the next E.D.A. meeting. They will be seeking advice from the Cook County to go through the hiring process.

City Administrator Roth reminded the council that the city provides administrative services to the E.D.A. and has been very clear in informing the E.D.A. that we will not provide administrative services if there is no director.

Councilor Sivertson's Report:

- 1) The Library is still finishing their furniture plan and will hire a seasonal part-time Library Page.

- 2) Sivertson and Kennedy are a part of the “Go Cook County” initiative. The mission statement is “Sustainable Prosperity for All.” The initiative has hired Norspan to develop a plan to stimulate Cook County’s economy.

City Administrator Roth thanked the council for the opportunity to attend the IMCA Conference. Topics included ethics, lean operations, civility in politics which is still found at the local level, and learned that everyone has a Grand Marais story.

Mayor Carlson received a card from Jim Wiinanen thanking the City for their contribution to the Emergency Services Conference.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.