

MINUTES
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
July 27, 2007

Committee Members Present: Peter McDermott, Jim Millis, Rick Utech, Frank Allen

Advisory members present: Catherine McLynn, Dale Adams

Chamber Staff: Bud Stone, President; Renee Thompson, Administrative Assistant and Finance Coordinator

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Peter McDermott made a motion to approve the June 29, 2007 meeting minutes. Rick Utech seconded the motion. Motion carries.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

ZONING ORDINANCES

Catherine McLynn reviewed the recommendations received for zoning ordinance revisions and asked for the committees' comments and for their involvement.

Discussion then led to the WasteWater Treatment plant.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Catherine McLynn informed that committee that a judge-approved Itasca County to form a study commission to evaluate whether or not it would be beneficial to replace Bob Olson with a County Administrator vs. a County Coordinator.

There can be up to fifteen individuals involved with the study. The judge will appoint someone from each district to be on the study committee.

If you are interested in being on the study, you can pick up an application at the Court Administrator's office on the 3rd floor of the courthouse. The application deadline is August 18, 2007.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

OTHER

Bud suggested that the committee members review the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Bud reminded the committee of the Sugar Hills Forest Legacy Celebration on August 9, 2007 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Bud informed the committee that the State is now working on a Forest Legacy Implementation plan; he and Mark Johnson, with the Minnesota Deer Hunters, will be involved in the planning process.

Dale Adams gave an update on block 27 and what other items the City has been working on.

Dale also informed the committee that Shawn Gillen, the new City Administrator, will be starting on July 30, 2007.

Catherine McLynn informed the committee that from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15, 2007, the Commissioner of DNR, Mark Holsten, will tour the Canisteo Pit and discuss ownership and funding options with the Western Mine Planning Board.

Peter McDermott informed the committee that the deadline for comments on MN Steel is July 30, 2007 and that Mesabi Energy will be having a public hearing in St. Paul on July 31, 2007.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

Peter McDermott made a motion to adjourn. Jim Millis seconded it. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, August 31, 2007.