

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
*March 12, 2007*

Mayor Larsen called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Members present: Evelyn Larsen, Tim Kennedy, Kay Costello, Edward Bolstad and William Lenz

Members absent: None

Staff present: Mike Roth and Kim Dunsmoor

The council met in worksession to discuss the status of the library and pool projects. There are a lot of questions that need to be answered. Where does the county stand on the projects and the 1% sales tax issue? Both of these projects need county involvement and support. Boards and commissions that are working on these projects need direction from leadership regarding the parameters of each project before they move forward. The council would like to have a facilitated informal meeting with the county board to discuss these projects and determine budgets, priorities and put together a joint plan.

The library could stay in its current location with a 25-foot expansion toward the east resulting in 1150 square feet of additional space. The public seems to be satisfied with the library location and services: however, accessibility and parking remains issues. The library is about 25 years old and needs a roof replacement, additional staff workspace and parking.

The Joint Powers Recreation Board has nearly finished their report on the pool and it is almost ready to be released. The pool has safety concerns and projects that have been delayed waiting to see what is decided about the sales tax issue and the future of the pool. The Pool Committee had decided that it would be better to build new than to renovate the current building based upon the problems with the current building and the cost to renovate being nearly the cost of new. The basin needs resurfacing at a cost of \$50,000, the structure needs replacement, there is water in the basement and the space is not adequate for the mechanical systems. Options to pay for a pool are: sales tax, bond after a referendum, and city and county funds.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.