

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS  
MINUTES  
March 8, 2006

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

Members present: Mark Sandbo, Edward Bolstad, Tim Kennedy, Kay Costello and Bob Spry

Members absent: None

Staff present: Mike Roth, Don Davison, and Kim Dunsmoor

Mayor Sandbo 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 during open forum.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy approve the Agenda; February 22, 2006, Worksession Minutes; February 22, 2006, Minutes; Payment of Bills, American Legion Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo; and Cook County Amateur Hockey Association Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo. Approved unanimously.**

Terry Olson and Tim McLean, Grand Marais Fire Department, presented the council with the desired specifications for a fire truck. A new truck meeting these specifications is anticipated to cost approximately \$200,000. The department's fire engines are 1966 and 1984 engines. The 1984 engine did not pass the pump test inspection.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Spry to approve the Fire Department Fire Truck Specifications and directed staff to seek funding for the purchase of the fire truck. Approved unanimously.**

Greg Wright, North House Folk School, presented their annual report, course catalog, and their report to the City of Grand Marais. North House Folk School has been in existence for 9 years. Enrollment has continued to rise each year and has shown increased enrollment for the first two months of 2006. With increasing enrollment, North House is considering more classroom space with thoughts to expand the red building and build a green building between the bike trail and the parking lot. North House would like to expand to do more classes in another location. If the council would like to discuss the possibility of the space identified by the Sawtooth Bluff Committee, North House would be interested.

The council discussed the three companies interviewed for the Downtown Visioning and Comprehensive Plan Update. Kennedy felt that the Community Growth Institute would give us the biggest bang for the buck because of their commitment to include implementation. Bolstad was more impressed with the Community Growth Institute. Costello's top choice was the Community Growth Institute and liked their approach to

community input. Spry's first choice is Community Growth Institute. Sandbo did not indicate a first choice, but liked both S.E.H. and Community Growth Institute. The council decided to do reference checks on S.E.H. and Community Growth Institute and be prepared to make a decision at the March 29, 2006, meeting.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Spry to advertise for contractors for Grand Marais Harbor Park Project. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Spry, seconded by Bolstad to approve \$500 donation to Cook County Community Education. Approved unanimously.**

The Great Lakes Initiative Membership is \$2,000. More information will be available at a later meeting.

The council requested a clear interpretation of the use of ATV's within the city.

**Motion by Sandbo, seconded by Kennedy to table the WDSE Tower Request. Approved unanimously.**

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) Public Utilities Commission approved a new organizational chart that realigns supervisory positions.
- 2) The new apprentice has resigned his position due to salary and housing market restrictions.
- 3) The Public Utilities Commission is ready to seek bids for the refurbishing of the water tower and is working with the tourism associations for a design on the tower.
- 4) Questioned whether we should accept the state code and contract with a building inspector or not.

Councilor Costello's Report:

- 1) The Sawtooth Bluff Committee will present their proposal to the County Board on March 14.

Mayor Sandbo's Report:

- 1) The Park Board has requested that the original pool agreement between the city, county, and school be revisited. Originally each entity shared equally in the cost. Now the city pays for nearly all the expenses.

The council meeting was closed to discuss a personnel issue.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.