

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS
MINUTES
January 11, 2006

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

Members present: Mark Sandbo, Edward Bolstad, Kay Costello, Tim Kennedy, 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.

John McClure presented a copy of the City of Lester Prairie Ordinance 240 regulating snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle (ATV), and off-highway motorcycle (OHM) use within the city. Currently, people cannot ride ATV's within the City of Grand Marais on streets. McClure would like to see similar access for ATV's and OHM's within the city as is currently allowed for snowmobiles. McClure asked that this topic be considered at a future city council meeting.

George Wilkes, Sawtooth Bluff Committee, is looking for city council representation as they proceed with planning for the Sawtooth Bluff. Kay Costello will be the city representative as long as the county is also involved in the committee.

Motion by Spry, seconded by Costello to approve the Agenda with addition of Building Height Moratorium; December 14, 2005, Worksession Minutes; December 14, 2005, Minutes; December 23, 2005, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Spry, seconded by Bolstad to appoint Emily Woolwine to the Library Board for one two-year term. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to re-appoint Don Schulte to the Park Board for one three-year term. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Spry to appoint Rich Franta to the Park Board for one three-year term. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Spry, seconded by Kennedy to re-appoint Hal Greenwood and to appoint Andy Brostrom to the Planning Commission each for one three-year term. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to re-appoint Hal Greenwood to the Public Utilities Commission for one three-year term. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to make the following council board appointments:

Board Name	Council Representative
<i>Cable Board</i>	<i>Bob Spry</i>
<i>Economic Development Authority</i>	<i>Tim Kennedy</i>
<i>Library Board</i>	<i>Kay Costello</i>
<i>ARDC Board</i>	<i>Mark Sandbo</i>
<i>North Shore Management Board</i>	<i>Bob Spry</i>
<i>Park Board</i>	<i>Mark Sandbo</i>
<i>Personnel Committee</i>	<i>Mark Sandbo, Bob Spry</i>
<i>Planning Commission</i>	<i>Tim Kennedy</i>
<i>Public Utilities Commission</i>	<i>Ed Bolstad</i>
<i>Safety Committee</i>	<i>Bob Spry</i>
<i>Sawtooth Bluff Committee</i>	<i>Kay Costello</i>

Approved unanimously.

**Motion by Spry, seconded by Costello to appoint Ed Bolstad as Acting Mayor.
Approved unanimously.**

One bid was received for gas and diesel for 2006.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Spry to award the 2006 gas and diesel bid to Grand Marais Superamerica. Approved unanimously.

Two bids were received for legal paper designation from the Cook County Newsherald and the Cook County Star. The Cook County Star was the low bidder with \$1.50 per inch.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Spry to designate the Cook County Star as the 2006 legal newspaper of the City of Grand Marais. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve the following depositories for the City of Grand Marais funds for 2006:

- Grand Marais State Bank**
- North Shore Federal Credit Union**
- Security State Bank**
- LMC/4M Fund**
- RBC Dain Rauscher**
- Smith Barney Citigroup/Citigroup Global Markets**
- Miller, Johnson, Steichen, Kinnard**

Approved unanimously.

George Wilkes, Citizen's Advisory Group to DNR Fisheries Management, presented the Frequently Asked Questions about Lake Superior Fisheries Management in Minnesota Report. Biologically, lake trout and herring have made a significant comeback in Lake Superior. Politically, there is not a lot of opposition between the sport vs. commercial fishing in our area. Wilkes asked the council to sign a letter of support for commercial fishing. The proposed management plan would allow all commercial fisherman to harvest lake trout, set nets in August, and allow herring harvest in November. Currently, only two commercial fisherman have been allowed to assessment fish for lake trout. There are approximately 22 Lake Superior commercial fisherman operating in Minnesota. The public comment period ends January 15, 2006.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy, to send a letter of support for Lake Superior commercial fishing to the DNR Fisheries. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve Resolution 2006-01 Supporting State Bonding Funds for Gitchi-Gami State Trail from Cascade River to Grand Marais. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve Resolution 2006-02 Election Equipment. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Spry, seconded by Bolstad to approve Resolution 2006-03 Accepting the Offer of the United States of America to Purchase a \$372,000 General Obligation Sewer Revenue Bond of 2006 and Providing for Its Issuance. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Bolstad to refer Resolution 2006-04 to Adopt an All Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Planning Commission. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to approve the revised City of Grand Marais Travel Policy that reflects the 2006 IRS travel recommendations. Approved unanimously.

The council discussed the need for a visioning process for the downtown area. The size and representation of a committee was discussed. The stakeholders should be identified. The committee should have representatives from organizations, people who are active in the community, respected by their stakeholder group, and residents or property owners of Grand Marais. The group must fairly represent a community vision and create a result that the council can support. There is a group that would train the small town committee in the process of visioning free of charge regardless of which consultant would be chosen in the request for proposals. The committee should be formed prior to acceptance of any request for proposal. The council will identify potential stakeholders at the next council meeting.

Motion by Costello, seconded by Kennedy to authorize Request for Proposal Downtown Visioning and Comprehensive Plan Update with a completion date of one year and a budget of \$30,000 - \$50,000. Approved unanimously.

Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Spry to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2006-01 Repealing Ordinance 2005-07, Which Provided for a Moratorium on the Establishment or Expansion of Any Building Taller than Thirty (30) Feet in Height. Ayes: Sandbo, Kennedy, Spry Nays: Bolstad, Costello

The Planning Commission considered the height moratorium and felt that the unusually high structure possibility was not practical nor economically feasible, that the current ordinance without the moratorium is necessary due to the topography of Grand Marais with much of the land on a slope.

Bolstad felt that it is presumptuous to think that someone would not build a structure with an unusually high roof line because it has not been done yet or would not seem practical or economically feasible to the average citizen. Furthermore, he felt that the 30 foot height limit offers more protections for citizens.

Costello felt that the council disagreed on the level of protection needed.

The council discussed the following topics for future meetings: sign ordinance and compliance, building codes, a pawn shop ordinance, harbor park progress, harbor/marina progress. Harbor Park has received some funding, but does not have the final plan yet. The harbor/marina process is waiting for a meeting with the Land Trust and the DNR. The DNR tested the soils: however, there is no design consultant yet.

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) We are seeking funding to remove the old power plant building
- 2) The PUC/City does not have legal title to their lots in the EDA plat yet.

Mayor Sandbo's Report:

- 1) The Park Board voted to tile the rest of the new bathhouse. The bid was \$9,000-\$10,000.
- 2) Burbach Aquatics was here last week to study the pool and will come back with a proposal for repairs.

City Attorney Davison's Report:

- 1) Both local newspapers addressed the Harbor Friends complaints with responses from both the county and city attorneys.
- 2) The annual City Attorney's Conference is scheduled for the first week in February.

Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve City Attorney Davison's attendance and travel expenses for the Annual City Attorney's Conferences. Approved unanimously.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.