

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
January 28, 2009

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

Members present: Sue Hakes, Jan Sivertson, William Lenz, Tim Kennedy and Kay Costello

Members absent: None

Staff present: Mike Roth and Kim Dunsmoor

The council discussed many issues facing the city: 1% sales tax, economic development, city buildings and capital projects, budget, contract/vendor support, and the noise ordinance.

The 1% sales tax is a priority. There are a number of projects that people have identified. The commissioners will approach Tom Bakk to see if minor modifications can be made to the legislation. Suggested modifications include changing community center from single to plural to include multiple facilities, swimming pool was not in the original legislation – is the language inclusive enough or would it need to be added, use of funds to pay off Superior National Golf Course bonds, and other various projects. The county commissioners are the leaders on the 1% sales tax.

Economic Development is a priority. The city can help through zoning and leadership. GMATA has a good flyer that should be distributed by various agencies when businesses are looking for information on building a business in Grand Marais.

The budget will need to be revisited with the local government aid cuts becoming larger.

Capital Projects should be considered and prioritized.

Several people are asking about a noise ordinance and are concerned about the noise that comes from several downtown businesses. Possible solutions included a waiver or notice by the recreation park that we have a vibrant downtown and there may be music later in the evenings, make sure our marketing of the recreation park includes that this is a city park, and consider a noise ordinance that sets times when music/noise coming from businesses must end with exemptions for various festivals in the city.

Review vendor/contract support by requesting RFP's periodically.

A budget worksession will be set for February 25th at 3:30 p.m.

A day-long workshop/retreat will be tentatively be set for March 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss city priorities.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.