

CITY OF GRAND MARAIS  
MINUTES  
March 29, 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: 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.

Bev Miller thanked the council for their response to the people and is looking forward to working together in the downtown visioning process.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve the Agenda with addition of East Bay Suites, Worthless Check Program, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue West, Employee Retirement; approve March 8, 2006, Worksession Minutes; approve March 8, 2006, Minutes; and Payment of Bills. Approved unanimously.**

Bev Wolke, Chamber of Commerce, asked for approval of the Application for Use of Street and Sidewalks for the Car Show scheduled for May 20, 2006. This year the Chamber requested the city parking lot next to the Senior Center rather than Artist Point because it is cold on Artist Point. In addition, the Car Show may need to have 1<sup>st</sup> Street partially closed between Broadway and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West. Bev will communicate with the Whole Foods Coop, Bill Bally, and the Farmer's Market.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to approve the Greater Grand Marais Chamber of Commerce Street and Sidewalk Permit for the Car Show scheduled May 20, 2006. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to hire Community Growth Institute for the Downtown Visioning and Comprehensive Plan Update.**

**Ayes: Kennedy, Costello, Sandbo, Spry                      Nay: Bolstad**

Councilor Bolstad questioned hiring a consultant for visioning without a moratorium on building in the downtown area. It is not uncommon for a city to place a specific moratorium on specific types of building while the ordinance is reconsidered.

Two bids were received for the Harbor Park Construction Administration. RLK Kuusisto gave an estimated bid of \$15,000. Gary Fishbeck gave an estimate of \$29,925. The

council questioned the amount of the bids and the hours needed to complete the project. The council would like more information.

The liquor store carpet is 10 years old and is difficult to maintain along with the vinyl runners. We have received two bids for removal of the old carpet, floor preparation and non-skid commercial grade porcelain tile. 1010 Interiors Inc. gave a bid of \$25,232.84 and Dreamscapes Building and Design gave a bid of \$16,885.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Spry to hire Dreamscapes Building and Design General Contracting to tile the Liquor Store in the amount of \$16,885. Approved unanimously.**

We have experienced continued turnover in the lineworker position and continue to have difficulty attracting qualified candidates. The Personnel Committee asked the union to consider raising the base salary for the lineworker position by \$2. The union voted to accept the City's proposal regarding the base salary for the lineworker and apprentice lineworker.

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to increase the base salary for the lineworker position by \$2 for a base hourly wage of \$20.82. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Spry to make the lineworker salary increase retroactive to April 13, 2006. Approved unanimously.**

The Planning Commission reviewed the Final Plat of the East Bay Suites Phase II submitted by Gunflint Gals LLC. Their drawings include the final plat for the newly constructed section of the building. No changes have been made from the approved preliminary plat. City Attorney Davison has approved the declarations, covenants, and restrictions in October, when East Bay Suites Phase I final plat was approved. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the East Bay Suites Phase II Final Plat by a vote of 4-0.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Costello to approve the East Bay Suites Phase II Final Plat. Approved unanimously.**

Kim Dunsmoor requested changing our worthless check collection services from RCB Collections to Financial Crimes Technology Services.

**Motion by Kennedy, seconded by Spry to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Financial Crimes Technology for worthless check collection. Approved unanimously.**

Mayor Sandbo discussed the condition of 1<sup>st</sup> –3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues West. We have waited for possible grants to complete the reconstruction of utilities and street without success. It is time to move forward with this project.

**Motion by Spry, seconded by Bolstad to ask for a feasibility study and seek bonding for the 1<sup>st</sup>–3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues West project. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Kennedy to accept the resignation of Jim Curtis from the Street Department with a letter of thanks for his years of services. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Bolstad, seconded by Spry to approve training for Mike Roth and Kim Dunsmoor to attend the Minnesota Municipal Clerks Institute in July 2006. Approved unanimously.**

**Motion by Spry, seconded by Kennedy to move the July 12 council meeting to July 5, 2006. Approved unanimously.**

Mayor Sandbo's Report:

- 1) The MN Land Trust has requested a meeting with the City and DNR on April 18. Sandbo and Costello will attend.

Councilor Kennedy's Report:

- 1) The council received the city attorney's memo regarding ATV use in the City of Grand Marais. The opinion of the city is that ATV's are not allowed on city streets.
- 2) Will be gone for the April 12, 2006, meeting.

Councilor Bolstad's Report:

- 1) Public Utilities approved an Organizational Chart that realigns jobs due to retirements and abilities.
- 2) Public Utilities replaced a transformer that serviced Sawtooth Ridges Apartments. The transformer was defective and caused damage to smoke detectors, microwaves, televisions, refrigerators and other items. We are working with insurance companies and the transformer company. Thankfully no one was injured.
- 3) The water tower will be refurbished this summer. There are ongoing discussions with the Gunflint Trail Association regarding the desired logo.
- 4) Early this year we discussed priorities for the city. One of the priorities was deciding whether to adopt the state building codes.

Councilor Costello's Report:

- 1) The Community Center Revitalization Committee meets tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. Sandbo will attend the meeting.
- 2) The Sawtooth Bluff Committee presented their ideas to the County Board. The County would like a clear directive between the county and the city and to develop a recommendation by the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in June.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.