

**Thursday March 13, 2026**  
**Ottertail Community Center**  
**Work Session Notes**  
**5:30 p.m.**

*This is an open forum. Council and Staff may speak openly.  
No business will be discussed other than on agenda.*

Council Present: Mayor Ron Grobeck, Mike Windey, Elizabeth Augustus, and Jerry Martin

Staff Present: Amanda Thorson, Clerk-Treasurer; Patty Hensel, Deputy Clerk; Justin Lohse, Maintenance Coordinator

Also Present: Scott DeMartelaere, Design Intent; Ottertail Volunteer Firemen; Hannah Layman, Chris Sim, William Layman, Tim Lueders, Mike Sanders, Ryan Hammer, and Stuart Fleischauer, Dan Conatser, John Carlson and Tommy Merickel

**5:30 p.m.** Discussion was held regarding the proposed fire hall expansion and community room improvements, including building layout, potential cost considerations, facility needs for the fire department, and the role of community meeting space with the Ottertail Community and Wellness project underway.

Volunteer firefighter Tim Lueders explained the importance of having showers available at the fire hall to allow firefighters to remove contaminants before returning home, helping protect their families from potential exposure.

Members of the Fire Expansion Committee noted that the proposed design has been carefully reviewed and discussed prior to being presented by the architect.

The importance of firefighter safety and providing adequate meeting space for community use and elections was also discussed. Attendees expressed appreciation for the service of the Ottertail Volunteer Fire & Rescue members.

The Fire Hall Expansion will be placed on the agenda for further discussion at the March 2026 council meeting.

Work session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Amanda Thorson  
Clerk-Treasurer