



# MEETING MINUTES

## GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION



Held: June 8, 2020

Page 1 of 5

The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 8:39 P.M. in the Old Fire Hall. Mayor John Berry called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Rachel Smith – Present  
Jody Donsbach – Present  
Rick Tolles – Present

Carol Steck – Present  
Mark Sarkan – Present  
Bob Krabill – Present

Donbach made a motion seconded by Smith to amend the meeting agenda to include Resolution 2020-05.

Votes were:      Steck – yes                      Donsbach – yes                      Sarkan – yes  
                         Smith – yes                      Tolles – yes                      Krabill – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

**EMPLOYEES:** Chad Hoffman and Kristel Beyer

**VISITORS:**

Steve Best, Larry Davenport, Joe Schroeder, Bob Trame, Dorinda Shelley and Stephanie Ringler

**MINUTES:**

Krabill made a motion, seconded by Donsbach to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 11, 2020.

**BILLS:**

Smith made a motion, seconded by Donsbach to approve the bills dated May 8 – June 4, 2020.

Votes were:      Krabill –yes                      Steck – yes                      Donsbach – yes  
                         Tolles - yes                      Sarkan – yes                      Smith - yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

Steve Best stated him and Larry Davenport have been working diligently with a couple different designers to work and plan for things for the subdivision itself. They have tried to negotiate for the parcel on the corner and had an agreement verbally but then found out it's not happening. Possibly this agreement might come back around. They want to make the development with a walking trail. They would like to put forth the offer to purchase the area to be able to complete the next step of zoning change and then the site plan approval. It would probably be another 6 to 8 weeks until they get drawings for Council to view. Steve has been in the real estate business for many years. Larry Davenport is from the County in the Millbury area and worked in the accounting profession. Larry thought this area was a great opportunity for this to be developed. They have discussed this with the school as well. Steve said Chad called him up because someone heard we are building apartments. This is not the case; we are not building apartments. They opened it up for

discussion from Council. Krabill asked about the infrastructure of the water, sewer and electric of us being a smaller Village. Steve said the area actually has oversized utilities since it was meant for industrial so we will probably have to down size it. They will incur the expense to install the utilities in the area. Steck asked if they were going to be single family homes. Yes. Steck asked what the price point is. Steve said they will start out in the \$180,000 homes. The Schools Superintendent asked for higher value homes and we will but not right away. The homes will start at 1500 to 1600 sq. ft. craftsman's style and country style homes. There will be typical restrictions such as no semi in the driveway, only particular types of fencing, etc. Steck asked if we have a copy of the restrictions, Steve said they will get those soon. Steck asked if they had samples of the way the homes would look. They passed around sample pictures. The lots will be ¼ to ½ acre pie shaped lots. Steve said these homes will have a lower level. Mayor asked if lower level means basement or split level. Steve said split level. They want to incorporate the school and Penta to help build with apprenticeship programs. They are looking into an option to start building inside. Mayor stated this is a nice thing that could happen for the Village. Steve stated your community is very beautiful. He thinks the area is better situated for a development and people want the country feel. Steve asked the status of the purchase agreement, administrator said it has been presented to Council. Council can make a decision tonight or next meeting if they want. Mayor thanked them for coming.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Sheriff gave Mayor monthly report. Mayor said a lot of people have been running stop signs especially on Third and Bridge Street.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Berry had a few calls concerning the park property we can discuss later in new business. He was also contacted concerning the public restrooms. Mayor said he assumed that's why Bob Trame, Joe Schroeder, Dorinda Shelley and Stephanie Ringler are in attendance tonight. Mayor stated the restrooms have been closed and we do not want our two employees to go in and clean them during this time. These restrooms can be unsitely and currently with this virus spreading we do not want to expose our employees. Mayor said Bob Trame came to a committee meeting and said the Chamber was going to place portable restrooms on private property around town. Mayor has not seen any yet. Bob Trame said it was discussed further and we realized the cleaning was going to be an issue whether it's a portable restroom or public facility. We do not have the man power to do this to the necessary standards, they think using the current facilities would be easier to maintain than portable restrooms. They have heard complaints from customers coming to town that there are no public restrooms available. The town is going to die this summer if they are not open. Mayor asked why the customers cannot use the restrooms in their stores. Joe Schroeder said most of the buildings are 150 years plus old and they are not ada complaint except for the restaurants. The Chamber has worked hard to follow the guidelines for Covid19. Businesses are coming off of 2 months of no income. The Chamber received mutiple phone calls and emails of when the restrooms would be open. He has spoke to the metro parks and mary jane thurston state park their restrooms are open. He said the June 10<sup>th</sup> opening of outdoor playgrounds, he believes there is a need for restrooms. The Chamber wants to know what they can do to help facilitate opening the restrooms. They understand why the Village doesn't

want their employees exposed to the cleaning of the public restrooms. He read some information from the CDC that the recommendation is to open public restrooms when feasible in public and park facilities because it allows people to wash their hands. Sarkan asked when the Chamber received these messages how did you respond to those. We sent information back that we are very sorry but the public bathrooms are under jurisdiction of the Village and included the Villages phone number. Sarkan said so you didn't advise them that the Chamber said they were going to get portable restrooms and didn't. Joe said well what's the difference between portable restrooms and the two public restrooms. Bob Trame said it's a lot easier to clean public facilities than portable restrooms. Krabill started by saying he is in agreement with them, we need restrooms. Krabill said but Bob Trame came to a Council committee meeting a month ago and said he was going to get portable restrooms and get a cleaning schedule. Also said if no one volunteered he would take care of it. Administrator stated that this morning the guys told him and the Mayor what they find in the restrooms on a normal basis. It's pretty disgusting, if our employees clean these and start having symptoms then the whole office would have to stay home and there would be no one to do the daily testing. Bob Trame said possibly hiring an outside service to clean the restrooms, this would be something the Chamber would be willing to pitch in on. Council agreed that an outside company would be a good idea. Smith said she doesn't think we should put our staff at risk. We should hire an outside company to accommodate people because we need to have restrooms open. Joe Schroeder said what if the Chamber would look at the possibility of getting a cleaning service to have a contract for 90 days with an option to extend for another 90 days and the Chamber would split the bill. This is just a idea, we would have to present it to the Chamber board tomorrow. Joe Schroeder said he would be happy to take the lead on getting a quote and bring to Council at the next meeting. He also stated he agrees with the Administrator the Village employees jobs are so broad, you have to consider an entire public utility being shutdown if someone contracts Covid19. We just want to work something out to get restrooms open. Dorinda Shelley suggested locking the restrooms at night may help. Administrator stated Dave LaRoe use to lock the restrooms at night when his restaurant closed. Dorinda Shelley also suggested putting up sanitizing lights. Administrator stated he would talk with Dave LaRoe to see if he will start locking them up again. Mayor asked Joe to make sure whoever he gets is insured with the Village listed as additional insured. Joe said if the Chamber is hiring them they would have to be insured with them as well. Mayor understands the issue we just need to work together to try to fix it. Bob Trame thanked the Administrator for the explanation of why the restrooms are not open and he agrees with the explanation.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Administrator read his report; it will be attached to the Official Minutes.

The lady on Fourth Street was contacted by the Health Department to cleanup outside. Her daughter called Friday and ask to place a dumpster, Administrator said yes as long as it's on her property. The dumpster was filled over the weekend and Monday she was pulling items back out of it. The Health Department called the Village and asked if the Village could do anything. Steck said that is a health issue why does that not fall under the Health Department. Administrator said the Health Department has it in their hands so let them pursue it. Steck said where do we stand then. Administrator said he would call the guy at the Health Department to see if he is up to date

on it and if not he needs to come back to check on it. Steck said it has to be a fire hazard. Donsbach asked about the several litter containers and that she probably has multiple cats, can the Humane Society get involved too. Administrator said the Health Department cannot enter the house but Human Services can. The guy was supposed to call Human Services.

Administrator made a phone call to the Wood County Parks about if they are opening their playgrounds and what guidelines were they following. He will be getting back with him.

Grand Rapids Township is applying for a Sign Grant and it includes Villages signs. Rita will keep us posted.

Steck asked how we are supposed to clean the equipment hourly. Administrator said we can't. Donsbach asked if there are any guidelines on public restrooms. Administrator wasn't sure what they were. Steck asked if we have money available to put towards required cleaning of the restrooms. Administrator said yes. Krabill said since we are getting feedback from people should we put up signage explaining why they are not open. Administrator said we could try to put something together.

**FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT:** None

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**COMMITTEES:** Krabill discussed the Safety & Welfare Committee meeting minutes held on May 14, 2020, they will be attached to the official minutes. Krabill asked if the Administrator would order more signs to be installed at the ball diamonds since baseball will be starting.

Administrator said Mr. Downey contacted him about the pool and it not being open. He asked if the town would still provide water to the pool if they rent it out to the BG swim team but not to residents. Administrator has not heard back from them since then.

**ORDINANCES:** The Fiscal Officer gave the first reading to Resolution 2020-05: Resolution creating fund 4903 for Miscellaneous Capital projects.

Krabill made a motion seconded by Donsbach to waive the three readings and declare an emergency to Resolution 2020-05.

Votes were:	Krabill – yes	Steck – yes	Donsbach – yes
	Tolles – yes	Sarkan – yes	Smith – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

Krabill made a motion seconded by Donsbach for passage of Resolution 2020-05: A Resolution creating fund 4903 for Miscellaneous Capital Projects.

Votes were:	Steck – yes	Donsbach – yes	Tolles – yes
	Sarkan – yes	Smith – yes	Krabill – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor stated Resolution 2020-05 passes.

Krabill made a motion seconded by Smith to purchase a new mower at state bid pricing of \$9,625.

Votes were: Donsbach – yes Tolles – yes Sarkan – yes  
Smith – yes Krabill – yes Steck – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

Smith made a motion seconded by Steck to reconsider the application to extend west third street.

Votes were: Tolles – yes Sarkan – yes Smith – yes  
Krabill – yes Steck – yes Donsbach – no

**MOTION APPROVED**

Smith made a motion seconded by Krabill to place the application on the June 22, 2020 agenda.

Votes were: Sarkan – yes Smith – yes Krabill – yes  
Steck – yes Donsbach – no Tolles – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

Krabill asked about approving the real estate agreement. This means that we are offering it to them so they can continue to start the path of designing and if ultimately they decide not to move forward then this reverts back to us. Administrator says it's an option to purchase so if one part doesn't go through then this is void.

Krabill made a motion seconded by Smith to approve the real estate agreement with Steve Best and Larry Davenport for parcel E19-509-070000036001.

Votes were: Smith – yes Krabill – yes Steck – yes  
Donsbach – yes Tolles – yes Sarkan – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**COMMENTS:** Krabill thanked Kristel for a great audit, they appreciate it. Mayor received an apology from Dylan from Knuckleheads. They take their trash from behind their building then behind the Fire Hall down the sidewalk and cross Front Street at the first alley. The bag was leaking grease the whole way, Dylan was going to try to see if he can clean it and stated this will not happen again. Mayor said it looks bad and hopes it doesn't happen again.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Smith, to adjourn.

Votes were: Krabill - yes Steck – yes Donsbach –yes  
Tolles - yes Sarkan – yes Smith – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is June 22, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at the Old Fire Hall.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristel Beyer, Fiscal Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Berry, Mayor

All formal actions of the Council of The Village of Grand Rapids concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.