



MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION



Held: April 26, 2021

Page 1 of 4

The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:55 P.M. in the Old Fire Hall. Mayor John Berry called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Carol Steck - Present
Mark Sarkan - Present
Bob Krabill - Present

Rachel Smith - Present
Jody Donsbach - Present
Rick Tolles - Present

EMPLOYEES: Chad Hoffman and Kristel Beyer

VISITORS: Vance Weaver and Chuck Thomas

MINUTES:

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 12, 2021.

BILLS:

Smith made a motion, seconded by Donsbach to approve the bills dated April 9 – April 22, 2021.

Votes were:

Krabill – yes
Tolles – yes

Donsbach – yes
Smith – yes

Sarkan- yes
Steck – yes

MOTION APPROVED

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Chuck Thomas was here to discuss the Applebutter Fest. Chuck stated we put out a public statement that this may go forward upon approval from Health Department, State of Ohio or Council. He stated we can't just start this thing in a week, we need to start planning now. The date of no return would be September 1st. He also wanted to know about the Rhythm on the River Series, he just wants to know where we are at. He does not expect to get an answer tonight just wants to start the conversations. They have to start planning for the Fest but we know we may need to pull the plug at any time just like last year. He feels the fest is important to the community for the residents in town it helps add to their income by utilizing their properties. They discussed putting disclaimer signs up stating you are entering this at your own risk. There is no way to control the amount of people coming into town. Mayor stated that is a big topic and is almost a deal breaker because of this. Chucks personal opinion is he doesn't think we need to cancel. Mayor stated the State Fair is no spectators only agricultural. Mayor doesn't know if the guidelines will change. There are some variants that popped up in Lucas County currently, we don't know what that will bring. Smith asked what the purpose of the press release was because you haven't submitted an application

yet. Chuck stated yes they have. Smith stated sorry but there is nothing on the application saying how you will have people follow the guidelines. Chuck stated because we can't. Smith asked why they put a press release out stating it was happening then. Chuck stated because people keep asking us if its happening and the public notice stated it has to be approved. Donsbach stated that was not what it said in the article. Chuck stated he wished he would have read it first, it was supposed to have said this would happen upon Health Department or Council approval. Donsbach stated the headline read Festival will go ahead as planned or something along those lines. Donsbach stated she is extremely disappointed. Chuck stated he is too, if there was a problem Council has his number to call. Smith stated this is no different then two years ago when you stated the bridge would be closed. Its almost like you have taken on asking for forgiveness and not for permission. She is also disappointed, we have numbers too that you can call, so we know ahead of time. Mayor stated he had sent Chuck a text after reading the press release and didn't hear back from him. Chuck stated he was sorry he didn't see it. Mayor said we are unsure on the Fest but the Rhythm on the River on the Tow Path he can see possible. Mayor stated we need more information on how the guidelines will be followed for the Rhythm on the River. Sarkan stated its important to remember putting up a disclaimer sign is one thing for the people who see the sign. But the people that are here in the Village, the people who are working in the stores and restaurants they don't have the opportunity to choose whether or not to enter at your own risk. This is important to think about also. Krabill stated we are all cautiously optimistic that this is going to happen and he doesn't feel there isn't anyone at this table that doesn't want it to happen. This is going to be a different year; more people are getting vaccinated and hope things get better and better. He thinks that what needs to happen is that the Fest Committee needs to plan and watch what the State and County directives are and making sure we can follow that. Krabill stated what we are concerned is that you guys are prepared for all the contingents. We would all like this to happen as normal. Chuck wanted to apologize to each one of you for the situation that we caused, this was not done in any malus. We do not want to put any political pressure on anybody so we screwed up and he is really sorry about that. He is hoping they can do better.

Vance Weaver gave his Eagle Scout proposal for signature by the Mayor. Mayor asked Vance if he finalized the items Mr. Hoffman asked him to do. Administrator stated the Historical Society still needs taken off the project. Administrator stated he would contact the guard unit in bowling green they may know what paint to use on the cannon. He asked about the white paint being used to paint the fence. He suggested asking a person at a paint store to find out what type of paint to use on it. Administrator said other than that everything has been changed. Sarkan suggested asking Don Lynn Myers at Smoke & Fire Company in Waterville she is very knowledgeable on these types of things. Mayor asked what they will do with the old flag. Vance stated there is another Eagle Scout Project of a flag retirement box

that they will put the flag in. The Legion is donating a new flag. Carol asked if there is a lot of structural damage on the fence. Weaver stated the fence is uneven because there are some bolts missing. Administrator suggested contacting Don Grimm he would be able to figure out how to fix it.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator stated we haven't received anything for the Jazz Fest yet. Administrator said we have a lot of people asking about reserving the shelter houses this year. We currently have a request for a family reunion of 20 people at the Wright Pavilion. Krabill asked what the current regulations are. Administrator stated groups of 10. Mayor stated that could change. Tolles stated Bowling Green Parks has a limit of 30 people currently for their shelters. Mayor said lets look to see what the current regulations state and then we will go from there. Administrator said we will be getting the two play ground areas mulched and installed by a blower truck. Administrator stated there are two bushes next to the Memorial monument that are taking over the monument. We will be taking those out and replacing them. There are also a few trees at the bridge street playground and pirates park that are dead, we are hoping to get them replaced as well. We have a few residents with high grass, we will be mailing certified mowing letters to them. The Planning Commssion Meeting is here tomorrow night at 6 pm. The Villages 2007 Ford Pickup truck needs a new motor soon. Asked Council if we want to put money into this truck or do we want to purchase a new truck, the state bid pricing is \$21,784.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Reminded Council of the Unlimited Pickup this Saturday.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEES: Mayor said we received the Streets & Sidewalk Committee Minutes. Mayor asked the Administrator if we got any numbers back from contractors. Administrator stated no. Mayor asked about the check from the gas company. Administrator stated we haven't received it yet but we just mailed back papers Thursday. Mayor asked Council if there were any questions. Council did not have any questions.

ORDINANCES: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Sarkan commented on the River Crossings Plat 1, he went and visited the place in Monroe Michigan that the developers had done. He is disappointed with the straight streets and 50 foot lots. He feels they will be sardines out there. Mayor asked if he will be at the meeting tomorrow. Sarkan stated yes. Krabill asked if the Mayor talked with Harm about Memorial Day. Mayor talked with Ken Nags and he thought they will only be doing Memorial Day at the cemeteries just like last year but told the Mayor to double check with Harm.

Mayor asked the Administrator if we need to move on the truck you discussed earlier. Administrator stated if you want to purchase a new one then yes. Donsbach thinks we need to sell the Village truck. Krabill asked what the truck was used for. Administrator stated its used for everything, reading meters, going back and forth from parks, hauling the small trialer, its the miscellaneous truck. Donsbach made a motion seconded by Krabill to look into purchasing and getting a state bid truck for \$21,784.

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

MOTION APPROVED

NEW BUSINESS: None

COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

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


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

MOTION APPROVED

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is May 12, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at the Grand Rapids 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.