

MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION



Held: March 14, 2022

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:57 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	Martha Frantz - Present
Rick Tolles – Present	Lynn Sylvain – Present
Jody Donsbach – Present	Bob Krabill – Present

EMPLOYEES: Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

VISITORS: David Fowler, Amy Fitch

MINUTES:

Sylvain doesn't see where the public records request from Jeff Gensler was noted in either minute. She thinks it should be in the minutes on the 14th. Krabill asked Kristel if she added Lynn's notes. Kristel said yes, she was unsure of where the items were spoke on about since she was not at the meeting. Kristel put the items in the places she thought they were discussed. She didn't receive anything in writing just what Sylvain had mentioned at the last meeting. Sylvain went through her notes and the request for a Vision Meeting is still not addressed. Sylvain stated it looks like the notes are in the minutes except for Jeff's records request. Mayor asked Jeff if he received a response to the records request. Jeff stated yes. He received the records in 13 days, his understanding is typically the legal standard is 20 days so he received them within that time.

Smith made a motion seconded by Frantz to table the February 14, 2022 meeting minutes until Jeff Gensler records request is added.

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 28, 2022.

BILLS:

Smith made a motion, seconded by Donsbach to approve the bills from February 25, 2022 – March 10, 2022 in the amount of \$26,605.51.

Sylvain asked if the \$16,626 Wholesale Water was always listed like that. Yes. Sylvain asked if this was once a month. Yes. Sylvain asked if this is about the average cost. Kristel said yes except for during the summer months cost is higher due to more water usage. Sylvain questioned the UBS Credit Card \$1,152.48 charge. She asked what cold patch was. Mayor stated it fills potholes.

Votes were:	Sylvain – yes	Frantz – yes	Tolles – yes
	Krabill - yes	Donsbach – yes	Smith – yes

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor Berry stated approval of bills have passed.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

David Fowler is here to discuss the second annual movie night for town. They would like to change it up a little this year. He would like to do the movies in the Town Hall theater. He would like to ask for the rental fees to be waived and they would ask for donations at the door which would then be presented to Council for the Town Hall use. He is wondering if there is a reason why they couldn't use the building as far as maintenance that needs to be done. This would be once a month for 5 months starting in May. Having this in the Town Hall would be better because the movies can start earlier, they would not have to worry about the weather or mosquitos. He would also like to discuss waiving the no food or drinks as well. They would be willing to clean before and after the events. He also asked if Council is considering moving back to the Town Hall. Mayor stated we are working towards that. We will see where covid ends up and if there are anymore stipulations on social distancing. It's a small room with a lot of people and there are still things with the state of Ohio that we have to follow. David suggested Council using the theater. Mayor thanked David for all he has done. Krabill asked for him to complete a detailed application with his requested modifications so Council can understand when voting. David asked if he should send an email request since he is asking for waivers. Donsbach suggested David fill the form as is with what he is looking for. Then if Council needs to adjust it we can discuss then. Krabill asked Kristel if there would be an issue with Council accepting donation money from this event. Kristel suggested we should ask our Solicitor.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Gave Mayor monthly report. Deputy asked if there are any issues that need addressed. Mayor stated speeding and some suspicious people going up to homes. Deputy asked what time this occurred. Mayor stated it was in the afternoon. Mayor thanked the Deputy for his service.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor stated we have had incidences of suspicious people around on the other side of the county. He wanted to make people aware that there could be undesirable people running around. One incidence was on the otherside of the river where someone went up to their door and asked them about items that were in their building. Mayor wants everyone to be cautious. Mayor stated we need to have a Town Hall committee meeting soon. We need to talk about what needs to be done to the Town Hall. The wind storm didn't do much damage around town, Chad and Jeremy got things cleaned up.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Chad got a new speed sign ordered should arrive in 6 weeks. He also ordered a surround to see if they can fix the other sign. The Bergren Company came out and got our Scata system back up and running for the water line. He took blueprints to Poggemeyer for the new part of Williamsburg to review. They made a couple of recommendations, still waiting to hear back from them. Unlimited Pickup is scheduled for April 23rd, mattresses are \$15, cost \$395 ton and an 18.2% fuel surcharge will be added due to fuel prices. The RT65 paving project is scheduled for May 5th weather permitting. They will be starting at county line then working into town. He has a

meeting scheduled with Northwest Water & Sewer to talk about connecting our waterlines on the west side of town. He will be meeting with Darin Pogan for the Town Hall. Sylvain stated to hold off on fixing the Town Hall until we have an engineer walk through. Sylvain asked Chad to get a quote. Tolles asked Chad about Shirley Lamberts fill dirt. Chad was told since it has been over a year the contract is up so the company will not fill in dirt. Chad will contact her and let her know.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer gave Council the January and February 2022 Bank Reconciliation with accompanying Bank Statements. She also gave Council a copy of the Village Notes and Village Brochure and asked if there are corrections or additions to please let her know. The Cub Scout Pack 325 submitted their application for the Applebutter Fest. Sylvain questioned the bank reconciliation statement that lists 3.8 million and asked if that was in the general fund. Kristel stated no we have several funds that make up the dollar amount. The General fund is around \$320,000. She asked if this amount is unallocated to anything or are we spending out of the General Fund as well. Kristel stated we spend money out of the General Fund. Sylvain asked how much we spend a year. Kristel said she doesn't have that figure but can get that number. Sylvain stated she would like the annual numbers.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEES: None

ORDINANCES: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mayor stated Sylvain had a good idea what she was doing with her paycheck for Council but the Village cannot give your money away. Sylvain told the audience that she asked the Village to take what she makes and donate it to the foodbank. Mayor stated the Village cannot do that but we can pay you and you can donate it yourself. So you need to get the information to Kristel so she can pay you. Mayor stated it was a nice idea. Sylvain stated she didn't want to pay taxes on it and wanted to help the community. Mayor stated you can still help the community by giving it away yourself. Sylvain asked what we did for our Solicitor that gets paid but gives the money back. Mayor stated he made donations to the Village. Sylvain asked 100% of it. Mayor stated yes. Sylvain had asked last meeting about getting paid for accrued vacation in January if you quit in December. Mayor stated he did follow up on that it is in the employee handbook for an employee and Chad Hoffman he was under a contract. Sylvain stated if an employee works for the Village quits December 31st, do you have to be an employee to collect the accrued vacation. Sylvain stated most companys don't allow it. Krabill asked for clarification, if you work for a company in 2021 and accrue vacation do you get paid for it in 2022 if you are no longer employed. Krabill thinks yes. Smith stated private companys and government employment are different. Private companys if you get 5 days vacation or sick leave most of those don't carry over. If you work as a government employee your accrued vacation and sickleave will continue to rollover and build up. So if not used when you leave employment you get paid for that. Sylvain stated no more than ¼ of the accrued amount up to 30 days. Sylvain stated the question is do you have to be an employee in 2022 to collect the accrued vacation from 2021. Smith stated no. Sylvain would like to see that stated somewhere. Sylvain thought the Mayor was going to

check with our Solicitor. Mayor stated he will.

NEW BUSINESS: Sylvain would like the Administration office to be open back up with regular hours. Chad stated it has been open. Sylvain would like it to be back open with regular business hours. Chad said we can do that tomorrow. Sylvain asked if the website can be updated when we cancel a meeting. Kristel stated yes, she sends the information to our website guy. Sylvain requested for him to make it so Kristel can update the website for cancelations. This would also be a great place to list the office is open with regular hours. Sylvain stated in the Council minutes she asked for a meeting on Vision for the Council to develop what we are going to accomplish in the next two to four years. Can we set this meeting now? Mayor asked Sylvain when would she like it. Sylvain suggested 6 pm before our next Council Meeting. Sylvain would also like to talk about the Town Hall. Amy Fitch is the public relations coordinator for the Arts Council. They are currently having a poetry contest. It would be great if the poetry contestants can come to the Town Hall at 7 pm and they would reveal the winner and have a poetry reading. Amy mentioned the stairs at the Town Hall are so steep and the railing is very low. Amy feels the railing needs raised up right now. Sylvain asked if the programming committee is far enough along to have a vision of what and how they want to use Town Hall. Amy stated we have discussed a talent show called Grand Rapids has Talent. Sylvain stated Amy, Diana, John and her are on the Town Hall finance committee and it costs about \$5,400 year to maintain it in its current state. It is the Historical Society and Arts Council working together to see what they want to do in Grand Rapids with the Town Hall long term. Sylvain stated the Village owns the building and it is up to Council to provide guidance to them. We have had a roof leak and asked Chad not to fix it because an engineer should walk through the building. She did talk to Poggemeyer the gentleman is willing to walk through the building. The estimate for structural inspection including a health check is about \$10,000. She is walking through with him on Monday at 2:30 pm if anyone else would like to come. Sylvain stated we should make a resolution to fund the Town Hall maintenance over a long period of time. If this is a building we want to maintain we got to make an investment to it. The group is looking at grants, there is an opportunity to get the Village certified as an Historic Village and therefore we would be subject to our portion of the Federal grants which averages about \$98,000 a year. She stated grants are a long-term process and we already missed the deadline this year. Sylvain stated the vision meeting would accomplish what the Council wants to do such as are we going to preserve our historic buildings. When talking with the Arts Council they need handicap assessable bathrooms and a freight elevator to get items upstairs. They would like to serve food and beverages. The immediate request is for \$10,000 to get Poggemeyer in here to see what the viability of the building long-term. David asked if she went out for multiple quotes, Sylvain stated not yet. Sylvain is asking Council for approval to move forward with a structural inspection and for us to incorporate in our meeting on the vision is to how are we going to use this building and what is our investment in it to maintain it long-term. Her proposal is that we make a resolution that would have enough funds in it. This is why she is asking for our operating funds versus what is in the bank. The next two years the Council will have to fund this. Sylvain stated the structural inspection will let us know if we could ever add on to the building. Amy stated the Pemberville Opera House had added on a huge elevator for

transporting equipment. Amy stated Lynne Long will be doing the silent movie during the Rapid Rally Days this year. Amy stated they will be going over to the Opera House soon. David stated what needs done now is to make it safe for people to use the Town Hall. Mayor asked Sylvain to get other quotes to see if there is a savings. Sylvain asked David what he thinks needs done to be able to use it for movies. David stated definitely needs cleaned, remove props from stage, look at railing and if we want to utilize the chair lift. Tolles stated weren't we looking into the Historical Society and Arts Council about helping with the chair lift. Mayor stated yes this is what started all the discussions we are having concerning the Town Hall. Krabill asked when the potential first movie would be. David said May 28th. Frantz asked where he did the movies before. David stated in the park next to the Town Hall and Council let him use the electric and the Town Hall for restrooms. David stated if Chad ever needs help with the building he would be happy to help. Sylvain stated there was a recommendation made to put on a levy, she does not think that is a good idea. If we had a community enrichment committee then we could look at things like fitness equipment that Whitehouse has, making the tennis court a pickle ball court. Tolles asked about the public restrooms are they staying open late enough. Mayor thinks they are staying open later. Tolles asked if Chad will be following through with what former Chad started on the sidewalks. Mayor stated he has two people he will be walking sidewalks with to get some quotes. Frantz asked if it turns out that Chad cannot come at 2:30 pm how will we know. Frantz would like to attend as well. Sylvain stated she will let Kristel know and she can publish it if she wants. Tolles asked if there is a meeting on Thursday as well. Sylvain said yes at 7 pm here. Tolles asked if it was open to the public. Sylvain stated yes, it is a finance committee report out. What they are interested in is if the Council is interested in sustaining the building, if so what is the commitment. Which we would say we are getting ready for a walkthrough and potentially a quote if Council will pay for it.

COMMENTS: None

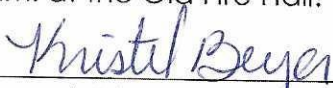
ADJOURNMENT:

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

Votes were:	Frantz – yes	Tolles – yes	Krabill - yes
	Donsbach – yes	Smith – yes	Sylvain – yes

MOTION APPROVED

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is March 28, 2022 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.