

MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION



Held: August 8, 2022

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:22 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
Rick Tolles – Present
Jody Donsbach – Present

Martha Frantz - Present
Lynn Sylvain – Present
Alex Glassford - Present

EMPLOYEES: Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

VISITORS: Sierra Cousino and Angie Miller

MINUTES:

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 25, 2022.

BILLS:

Smith made a motion, seconded by Frantz to approve the bills from July 22 – August 4, 2022 in the amount of \$19,697.43.

Sylvain questioned the bill for \$557.59, the memorial tree what was that for? Mayor stated that was for Smith's husband. Sylvain asked how much was it for, it cost just under \$47. Sylvain stated since it benefits a council member or their family they have to abstain from voting on the bills. Mayor stated we have a motion on the floor and Frantz seconded. Sylvain stated no.

Votes were: Frantz – yes Sylvain – no Donsbach – yes
Tolles – yes Glassford – yes

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor said approval of bills pass.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL: Sierra Cousino introduced herself to Council. She brought forward an idea of an all-inclusive playground and splashpad that could be paid for through grant funding through the state of Ohio. She thinks this would bring more versatility throughout the year to the Village. Mayor mentioned it just so happens that the pool board is in attendance and has some ideas they are working on. Monica Thompson said the pool board is looking at pool designs that also includes a splash pad.

Angie Miller stated she presented some Village communication options and some software to Council. She thought the Village was going with the CodeRed. Mayor stated the CodeRed is through the County and costs a minimal fee. Angie thought there was talk about having the CodeRed on the website and she hasn't seen it yet. Mayor stated we will look into that.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor stated the musicals are going really well on the canal. Mayor mentioned we scheduled a meeting for the Sidewalks on August 18th at 6:30 pm. The Jazz Fest is coming up August 21st. A whole new group is doing the planning and they need volunteers if anyone is interested. Mayor said speaking about CodeRed, he had contacted Tow Path Radio about sending a warning about the tornado sirens being tested at a different time. Mayor was really impressed with how well it got out to the community and thanked them for that.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Williamsburg Subdivision is hooked up to Grand Rapids water, everything went well, it is not on yet, they are still finishing up. We received a bill from Poggemeyer for the inspection cost \$949.64, the developer pays the bill and probably one more bill will come. He had Rowe Tree Service come out on Thursday. We have a few tree's that need taken down or trimmed. The big Hickory in the Cemetery is dead, will be trimming Sycamore trees around information cabin, two Maples, tree by Town Hall and a tree nearby need trimmed, the cost is \$4925 to do all this, if we keep the wood the cost would be \$525 less. There are more areas that need attention but this will get us started. A tree by Willow he is getting a price on and one on Second Street and Monroe, we would also like him to go through and trim branches that are hanging over the road. Sylvain asked if a tree is on the easement can a resident submit it for consideration to get it taken down? He will have to look into that. Sylvain asked if the trees on the canal are the Villages or the Parks there are several dead. Chad said the Village's, we usually have to wait until the water is out possibly in the winter but he can ask him about those as well. Donsbach asked about the RT65 roughed sections. Chad had asked ODOT that question and the road had bumps in those areas which they grounded off. When traffic hits those bumps it causes oil to come off vehicles which makes the blacktop deteriorate faster. He was told over time the color will blend in. Frantz stated she noticed the weeds sprayed on the corner of the bridge and thanked Chad. Chad stated he is trying to see how far he can go to cut the trees back there.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer gave Council a copy of the July Bank Reconciliation and everything is reconciled. Gave Finance Committee Appropriation Status, Revenue Status and Fund Listing. We have a third reading tonight of the request to vacate an alley between inlots 261 and 262, a third reading of a Resolution for the Village to apply for a Wood County Park Grant. There can be a motion for passage of both if Council chooses.

Smith made a motion seconded by Tolles to table the third reading of Ordinance 2022-5: Ordinance Vacating Alley Between Inlots Number 261 and 262 in the Village of Grand Rapids to be able to gather more information prior to making a decision.

Votes were:	Sylvain – yes	Donsbach – yes	Smith – yes
	Tolles – yes	Glassford – yes	Frantz – yes

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor stated Ordinance 2022-5 has been tabled.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEES: None

ORDINANCES:

Mayor gave third reading to Resolution 2022-02: A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to prepare and submit a 2023 application to participate in the Wood County Park Grant Program(s) and to execute contracts as required.

Donsbach made a motion seconded by Frantz for passage of Resolution 2022-02: A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to prepare and submit a 2023 application to participate in the Wood County Park Grant Program(s) and to execute contracts as required.

Votes were:	Donsbach – yes	Smith – yes	Tolles – yes
	Glassford – yes	Frantz – yes	Sylvain – yes

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor stated Resolution 2022-02 has passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Sylvain stated the needs assessment meeting needs scheduled. Smith stated she will take care of it.

NEW BUSINESS: Tolles mentioned the empty lot on Front Street he believes the funeral home owns. There is a plant growing over into the sidewalk that needs trimmed back. Chad will contact them.

COMMENTS: None


ADJOURNMENT:

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

Votes were:	Smith – yes	Tolles – yes	Glassford – yes
	Frantz – yes	Donsbach – yes	Sylvain – no

MOTION APPROVED

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is August 22, 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.



MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING



Held: August 8, 2022

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The Council of The Village of Grand held a public hearing from 6:35 P.M. to 6:56 P.M. in the Old Fire Hall to consider the request to vacate alley between inlots number 261 and 262. Mayor John Berry called the public hearing to order with the following members present:

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

Alex Glassford - Present
Lynn Sylvain - Present
Martha Frantz - Present

Mayor Berry stated we are here to consider the request from Kevin and April Olman to vacate an alley between inlots 261 and 262 in the Village of Grand Rapids. Mayor said if this were to pass then the alley gets split in half between the two abutting property owners. Mayor stated we received a letter from a neighbor stating they object to this alley being vacated.

Sylvain stated the fact that the Olman's asked Council to vacate the alley is not a reason for the Council to vote yes. Also the fact that the neighbor votes no is not a reason for the Council to vote no. Sylvain is looking for criteria to give back any alley space in the Village, this goes back to a holistic approach. Sylvain asked Tolles if he had any criteria, Tolles mentioned the Village shouldn't vacate alleys that go street to street. Sylvain stated Council vacated an alley next to Mark Sarkan's that goes street to street but he was a Council member at the time. Smith stated that is not true that was done many years ago. Smith stated Mark Sarkan was not on Council when that was approved, that had to have been over 20 years ago. Sylvain asked Frantz if she had any criteria that she would like to use. Frantz stated when the town was first layed out the alleys were used for hiding things, garbage collection, pets in backyard and she doesn't see a reason for any of them to be vacated at all. Donsbach asked the Mayor if we could return to the Agenda of the meeting since the requestors have arrived. Mayor explained to Kevin and April Olman that the Village received a letter from one of the neighbors and they are opposed to vacating the alley. Kevin mentioned that for emergency egress to the neighbors property it is still possible from Second Street if that is one of the issues. Mayor stated both properties would get 13 feet if the alley is vacated. Kevin stated on the auditor's website it shows it as a 10 foot alley. Mayor stated if it is 10 feet then each adjoining property owner would get 5 feet. Kevin stated he spoke to the neighbors so he is surprised to hear they sent a letter. Mayor stated there are several alleys that have utilities in them. April stated there is not utilities in this alley. Mayor stated forever is a long time and if utilities would want to use this alley then they could. Kevin stated the utilities for the Village and Gas Company were

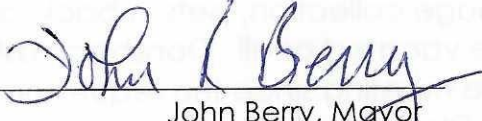
checked. Mayor stated the Village normally does not just give up property. Frantz asked what would they do if it does not get vacated. Kevin stated he would probably regravell it himself anyway. Kevin stated it is not maintained by the Village the way that they would want to finish it. April stated we would like to use it as a driveway. Mayor stated we had a similar request that the Village did not vacate but allowed the property owner to use it and if the Village ever needs it then it is still there as Village property. Kevin stated there is no public access from this alley to get through it leads to private property. Kevin stated if you look at the history of alleys they were derived from blight and for easements for utilities. Kevin stated the Solicitor did some investigating and wondered why it wasn't vacated with the alley that went all the way to River Road. April stated that the neighbor's do not use that alley. Kevin said they would like to do some expansions and improvements on their property. Sylvain stated on the same street there are two other alleys just like yours. Kevin asked if they have made requests. Sylvain stated not since she has been on Council. Interim Administrator Chad stated one of those alleys has a waterline running through it. April said if someone pulls into the alley they would have to use their driveway to turn around and that doesn't make sense.

Smith explained to Kevin and April before they had arrived it was mentioned that them making the request doesn't make it an automatic yes and the neighbor's letter doesn't make it automatic no. Smith stated she would like to gather more information. Sylvain stated if the Council would come up with some criteria then we can let the community know whether to submit or not to submit. Donsbach asked what they are wanting to do to the area. Kevin stated the primary idea was asphalt or concrete, then a cantilever and garage. Kevin stated whatever the Council decides they will live with and their desire is to make it something better. He thinks with all the clearances with no utilities, private property on all three sides and not being an emergency situation, this would not be an issue to vacate. April stated we want to beautify the area and improve on the property.

No further questions so the meeting was adjourned.



Kristel Beyer, Fiscal Officer



John Berry, Mayor