



MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION



Held: December 12, 2022

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:46 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 – Absent
Jody Donsbach – Present

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

EMPLOYEES: Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

VISITORS: Peggy Seab

MINUTES:

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

Sylvain mentioned at the last meeting there was a bunch of students in and there is no mention of them. Sylvain asked Kristel if she captured that. Kristel stated she did not as they did not sign in. Sylvain asked if Kristel will be putting this into the minutes. Kristel stated if that is what Council wants. Donsbach doesn't feel it is necessary and stated the minutes is an overview, not every single thing has to be captured in the minutes. Smith said students come in every year around this time for class.

BILLS:

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Frantz to approve the bills from November 25 – December 9, 2022 in the amount of \$24,857.43

Sylvain questioned the Mid-Wood bill, winter gear \$1,313.36 and asked what it was. Chad stated the winter gear was not \$1,300. The winter gear purchased was coveralls and jackets, he believes it was around \$450.

Votes were: Glassford – yes Frantz – yes Smith – yes
 Sylvain – no, not without receipts Donsbach – yes

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor said approval of bills pass.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL: Peggy Seab took the liberty in writing a vision/mission statement. Her vision for Grand Rapids is to provide a thriving revitalized historic village that is family and business friendly. Her mission for Grand Rapids is to be an ethical and fiscally responsive government dedicated to proactively serve the community. Peggy thought these would be good suggestions for the vision/mission. Peggy also had some action items to discuss like recruiting businesses that compliment Grand Rapids, improve the village's visual image and she also had a list of suggestions for the website. Peggy asked Council if they had a chance to look at the paper she gave council concerning her sewer tap charge. Sylvain thanked Peggy for such a nice job on her mission/vision statement and list of items. Sylvain really hopes Peggy decides to run for Council at the next election. Smith asked for Peggy to email Council her list of items she has discussed. Mayor asked what Peggy was looking for with her sewer tap fee question. Peggy stated Resolution 2020-12 states a unit charge and we will deposit this less the cost

of the E-1 grinder pump. Peggy stated they paid for that out of pocket, she feels they overpaid and that's why she thinks she is owed a refund. Mayor stated we will have to look into that further. Donsbach questioned if this is for the sewer line extension assessment that all those residents are paying on, Mayor stated yes, Peggy elected to not do that and had to pay a fee up front and the cost of the grinder pump as well. Sylvain asked when we will meet on that topic. Mayor stated we will get the information needed on this, hoping early next year. Frantz asked if this would be in a committee meeting, Mayor stated possibly after getting all information around. Peggy stated she would like to get this resolved because they have another area on RT 65 that they would like to build on.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: The Deputy gave the Mayor the monthly report and asked Council if they had any questions or concerns. Sylvain stated we normally do not have someone here very often at the meetings. The deputy mentioned this is night shift we are at minimum staff, sometimes we do get calls that take precedence, he will mention it to his Sergeant, we do try our best to get out here. Mayor asked to keep a look out for speeders driving down through the main street and Route 65 east. Council thanked the deputy for his service to the community.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor stated the sidewalks are looking nice just need some clean up, dirt packed down around them and seeded. The sing along at the Town Hall was fantastic there was a lot of people there and childrens activites. The Mayor even participated, he had a really nice time. Frantz stated the people that went to the parade were astounded by the number of people in attendance and they really enjoyed it. Mayor said we need to look at the area behind the stores for more parking and possible signage. Mayor thanked everyone for participating in it and for the people that help put this on as well as the sing along.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Chad stated the dump truck is back with the salt spreader installed. The furnace in the lab building quit working it was 30 plus years old, we are getting a replacement at a cost of \$3,840 through Vicar's. The ceiling in the Town Hall is fixed and he thinks Mr. Richards did a nice job. Sylvain asked for Chad to take a picture and post on our website. Chad talked with K & K Construction they should be finishing the sidewalks up this week and clean it up.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer gave Council a copy of the November Bank Reconciliation and everything is reconciled. Gave Finance Committee Appropriation Status, Revenue Status and Fund Listing. Fiscal Officer stated on the agenda tonight, there are two resolutions. One resolution is to amend our appropriations in the income tax fund. At year end we transfer all money out of the income tax fund, we received more money than was appropriated so we need to amend our appropriations to allow me to transfer this amount. We will also need to amend our certificate of estimates resources for budget year 2022 in the income tax fund. This should be done prior to approving Resolution 2022-06. The second resolution on the agenda is for our temporary 2023 appropriations.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None
COMMITTEES: None

ORDINANCES:

Smith made a motion seconded by Donsbach to amend our current certificate of estimates resources in the income tax fund to read \$280,000 for budget year 2022. Sylvain questioned, this is not the amount of our payroll this is the amount we collected in income taxes. Kristel said correct.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor gave first reading to Resolution 2022-06: A resolution amending appropriation ordinance 2022-2.

Smith made a motion seconded by Frantz to approved Resolution 2022-06: A Resolution amending appropriation ordinance 2022-2.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor stated Resolution 2022-06 has passed.

Mayor gave first reading to Resolution 2022-07: Temporary Appropriation Resolution for the Village of Grand Rapids, Ohio.

Donsbach made a motion seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2022-07: Temporary Appropriation Resolution for the Village of Grand Rapids, Ohio.

Sylvain questioned if we ever do a financial review before these are presented to Council. Kristel stated we have not meet for the temporaries but we do meet before the permanent appropriations usually early March.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor stated Resolution 2022-07 has passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Sylvain asked about the utility meeting. Glassford stated he has not had a chance to look at his schedule he has been dealing with other things. Sylvain asked about a commitment for having a utility meeting in January. Sylvain asked Chad about the tree's, Chad is still waiting on whose tree's they are. Sylvain asked who is doing the survey, Chad stated Poggemeyer. Sylvain asked if the tree's end up not being her's then when will they be taken down? Chad said he would have to contact someone to see when they would be available. Sylvain stated if they fall and damage her property then you are aware the village would be liable, Chad said yes. Sylvain asked if he would object with her taking care of the tree's. Chad said if Sylvain would like to pay for them to go ahead. Mayor hand delivered the three pay checks to Ms. Sylvain that she stated she didn't receive. Mayor asked her to deposit them. Sylvain stated so these are the checks that I did not want to receive because I want to donate my time to the service of Council. Kristel asked Sylvain to please deposit these checks so the Village will not have to start an unclaimed monies fund.

NEW BUSINESS: Sylvain stated Peggy mentioned she would like to see a list of accomplishments on the website and asked Council if they would like to list their accomplishments they made this year. Donsbach stated her committee did not meet, Frantz thinks this first year was a great learning experience, Glassford stated he has not been on Council long but he led his first meeting and we are still working on it. Smith stated

we have done a lot of leg work, we are working on items and some fell short. We have started sidewalk repair which has been a long-standing battle, she feels this is a huge accomplishment. Sylvain mentioned she made a recommendation we revise the employee handbook and update and review the council rules. She recommended we create a vision statement with 3 to 5-year goals during our term. She recommended we hire the most qualified solicitor. She recommended we do the structural assessment on the Town Hall. She recommended we develop a strategy for the Village. She recommended we update the website. She recommended we post when a tree is taken down so a resident from the community can benefit from the wood. She recommended an evaluation system for those that apply to the council. She recommended to look at the cost of the water bills. She recommended skype or zoom meetings. She recommended a needs assessment. She questioned harmful chemicals of mosquito spray. She recommended a holistic approach to the vacating of alleyways. She recommended Council pay for the design of the pool area before we allocate Village property. She recommended that she does not take any pay for her work along with other Council members to do the same. She recommended we review and revise the committees. She recommended that when we have guests we introduce the Council to them. Donsbach really feels that every single member of this council has the best interest of our Village and to portray anything less than that is very counterproductive and she is not on the Village Council to be counterproductive.

COMMENTS: Mayor stated we have trouble with a person in town that goes against the codes and ordinances, then sits on a seat that tries to enforce them. The Mayor stated we have a conflict there, that is not even good for the community to see. Mayor hopes we can work on a better year.

Frantz said a person told her they were very impressed with the sidewalks that were done when you first come into Grand Rapids.

Smith thanked Kristel for producing all the information for the audit and doing an impeccable job.

Frantz stated she would like to speak for the Council and Mayor to give sympathy to Alex Glassford for the passing of his grandfather. Donsbach said also our deepest condolences to our Village employee Jeremy Weaver for the passing of his father.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

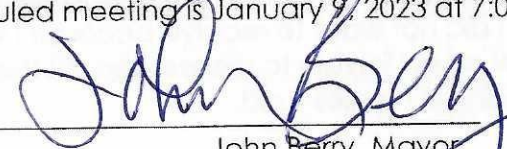
Votes were: Donsbach - yes Glassford - yes Frantz - yes
 Smith - yes Sylvain - no

MOTION APPROVED

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is January 9, 2023 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.