



# MEETING MINUTES

## GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION



Held: March 13, 2023

Page 1 of 4

The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:51 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:** David Fowler

**MINUTES:**

Smith made a motion seconded by Tolles to bring the February 13, 2023 meeting minutes back to the table.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Smith made a motion, seconded by Donsbach to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 13, 2023.

Sylvain commented on the minutes and said that her list of suggestions were not added to the meeting minutes. Smith stated she recalled asking Sylvain for a list of the items, Sylvain said had stated then she would be out of town and would get to it when she could. Kristel said we are currently discussing the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and this would be for the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Smith made a motion, seconded by Donsbach to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2023.

Sylvain asked if the list of items will be added. Donsbach said we have discussed before that not every single thing needs to be captured in the minutes. Sylvain stated that is true but we do not want material omissions, she was talking about how to improve the Village and she gave a list of ideas. Smith said this was why we asked you to email the list to us so it could be captured correctly. Sylvain said she stated she was traveling and the list is on the recording.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

**BILLS:**

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the bills from February 24 – March 9, 2023 in the amount of \$27,584.60.

Sylvain asked about the \$3,200 electric bill is this normal, Kristel said yes, it is a monthly bill.

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

receipts

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor said approval of bills pass.

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

David Fowler stated Sylvain called him and they talked for about 45 minutes. David stated some of his statements were in correct on his public encouragement/call out. Sylvain told David that she had made certain concessions while council was addressing items of importance to her and to the Village. David said his comment on Sylvain not being able to work with the rest of the council was not necessarily 100% correct. David told Sylvain that her presentation gets everybody charged and he thinks the concessions she is willing to make are over shadowed by the frustration of the moment. David encouraged everyone here to look past that and look at the root of what is being discussed at that moment. David stated he knows it is hard, he too feels stressed, frustrated or amped up while he sits here. David said when there is a disagreement it seems it is taken by the group as a whole and there is an immediate shutdown. David does not feel this is healthy to work for the betterment of the community and this is why each of you are here. David encourages council to work through the disagreements and frustrations towards the betterment of our community. David received the Oath of Office from the Village and read aloud. David said with this, the council's duty is to serve the community, like reviewing the employee handbook and he feels it is outdated and needs updated for the employees. He stated a lot of things get brought up by people sitting in these chairs and it seems to die or disappear. David said some things are brought back to the table like the DORA and doing the sidewalks which is great. He feels if someone brings something to Council some form of an answer is owed to that person and to the community. He encouraged Council to come together and to be proud of what they accomplish in their term on Council.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Deputy asked if there were any concerns. Frantz stated there are a lot of stray cats around. Deputy said that Weston used a program and he will pass this on.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor received an email from Steve Powell concerning the Fox-Shank Meadow Project, property located across the street from the school. The Black Swamp Conservancy(BSC) mission is to protect and preserve natural and agricultural lands in northwest Ohio for the benefit of future generations. They will direct the installation of improvements to the land such as drainage, habitat restoration and wetlands restoration near the surrounding creek for the benefit of water quality in the Lake Erie watershed. The BSC will retain ownership only during the period of implementing these modifications. The most exciting part is, as a condition of the land sale, when the BSC is finished with their improvements, the entire parcel will be given to Otsego Schools completely free of charge. Otsego will utilize the property as a living laboratory for the educational benefit of their students. Areas of study such as conservation practices, environmental improvements, agricultural practices, water quality, land management, biology, horticulture, soil science, and others will be implemented for students of all ages. There is a meeting Tuesday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the





Sylvain asked Peggy if she agreed with the numbers. Peggy stated this was not what she was asking. Sylvain stated if Peggy is not clear on this then this should be tabled and another meeting needs to take place. Peggy wanted a refund on the interest and the grinder pump on her current residence. Mayor stated the grinder pump is not the Village's responsibility, we can not stock those or charge them to you. Peggy stated the other residents got the pump included in the charge. Mayor stated yes because they signed up for the project and she was not included in the project. Sylvain made a motion to table the Resolution to discuss further.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Sylvain brought information about the Perrysburg DORA. They have a great DORA website that lists simple rules to follow. Sylvain is still working to get the impact to their insurance and whether they hired a consultant. Sylvain stated there was no mention of additional security needed and doesn't understand why it was such a point of discussion at the meeting, she can't see us needing additional security for DORA. Smith asked Sylvain to forward the information to her via email and any further information she receives. Smith also asked the rest of council to send the information they gather to her via email as well. Frantz sent the report from Swanton DORA to council members via email just prior to the meeting. Frantz received a copy of the application Swanton used to create DORA, all steps are layed out and we could use this as a template. Tolles stated he has information as well and will email.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mayor asked Council if they would like to act on the Runs to the Rapids application. Smith made a motion seconded by Tolles to approve the application for use of public property for non-profit organization to sponsor activities and events from the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce for the 5K Run/Walk Run to the Rapids to be held on April 29, 2023 contingent on the Chamber sponsoring the event and providing insurance.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Donsbach suggested giving notice to Northwest 190 Ambulance District, so maybe they would hang around in town during the event. Glassford stated we discussed last meeting about taking something on as a community, is this something we could take on, just something to think about.

**COMMENTS:** None

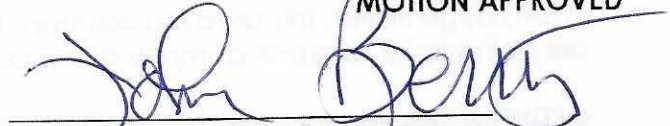
**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is March 27, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the Old Fire Hall.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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.