

# MEETING MINUTES

## GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

### REGULAR SESSION



Held: March 27, 2023

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:28 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:** Robin Dudley

**MINUTES:** Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Tolles to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 13, 2023. Mayor stated minutes are approved as presented.

Sylvain asked Smith about the sidewalks and if zone 13 was both sides of Bridge Street. Smith stated no, it is the east side of Bridge Street, this is where the sidewalks will be replaced first. Smith stated we based our decision on the sidewalks that were categorized as unsafe.

**BILLS:**

Smith made a motion, seconded by Frantz to approve the bills from March 10 – March 23, 2023 in the amount of \$2,346.23.

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

Glassford – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor said approval of bills pass.

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

Robin Dudley with the Grand Rapids Arts Council presented an application for the Jazz Fest to be held on August 13<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>. She is also requesting additional parking for the artists, Bridge Street across from the Library and the parking at the northside of Pirates park.

Donsbach made a motion seconded by Tolles to approve the application for use of public properties for nonprofit organizations for the Grand Rapids Arts Council Sunset Jazz and Art Festival to be held on August 13, 2023 with a rain date of August 20, 2023.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** None

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor said he gave Tolles information on places to beautify around town and asked if he talked with the Garden Growers group. Tolles said everyone is going to walk around to see the suggested areas and Tolles will be donating some items from his garden. Mayor thanked everyone in our Village that gave thought for the people in Mississippi that went through a horrible tornado that wiped out their town entirely. Mayor also stated the shooting in Nashville was heartbreaking and we should keep those people in our thoughts and prayers.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Chad has someone lined up to repair the header in the Town Hall, they will start when the weather is nicer, cost shouldn't be over \$1,000 depending on the cost of the steel. Twisted Timber Framing will be coming to work on Wright Pavilion, waiting on start date, cost around \$1,200. Chad said the canal was really low and noticed

the dam is starting to break apart behind Bluebell, he will look into getting it fixed. We received one quote for sidewalks from Premier Patching, waiting to hear from the others. We received three designs for the new compost sign, waiting on cost. We also received the ODOT salt contract resolution this emergency resolution will be on the agenda at the next meeting due to the May 1<sup>st</sup> filing deadline. Frantz wondered if the dam would be considered a historic site. Mayor asked if Chad heard about the tree, Chad stated he was given David Churchills number but is waiting on a return call. Mayor asked about the streetlight that was reported, Chad said Kristel has already reported it. Sylvain asked about the clock, Chad stated we will get to it when the weather is nicer.

**FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT:** Gave council a copy of the Sidewalk Committee meeting minutes held on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**COMMITTEES:** None

**ORDINANCES:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Sylvain would like to meet for the vision statement and needs assessment. She has also talked about ideas to improve the town, chess tournament, sunflower maze, community garden, council sponsored event, walleye event and art car. She would like to meet on a broader view and discuss the american rescue plan funds. Chad stated he was hoping to use the money on the required backflow preventer at the master meter because that is going to be costly. Glassford asked if there is a deadline to use the funds by. Kristel stated we need to have the funds committed to something by the end of 2024 and spend the funds by 2026. When the American Rescue Funds first came out it was to be put towards infrastructure like water and sewer improvements. Sylvain stated water and sewer would be the easiest use but she believes it can be used for tourism if it is down in your town. Sylvain stated we have DORA to discuss, Smith said she is waiting on additional information and then will schedule a meeting. Mayor thinks we need to reach out to the establishments to make sure they would be interested first and then continue discussion once they are willing. Mayor talked to three of the restaurants and told them we need to have a meeting with them to discuss their opinions on it since they would be the ones providing the service for DORA. Sylvain made a motion to meet on the American Rescue Plan funds. Mayor stated motion dies due to lack of a second. Sylvain asked Tolles if we considered just having sidewalks on one side of the street as a cost savings. Smith stated we have only discussed replacing the current unsafe sidewalks. Sylvain stated this is just a suggestion to move the project forward, manage our money and get the project done.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None


**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**

  
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Kristel Beyer, Fiscal Officer

  
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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.