

MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION



Held: May 22, 2023

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:40 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: Peggy Seab and Bob Stickley

MINUTES: Smith made a motion, seconded by Tolles to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 24, 2023.

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 May 8, 2023.

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

MOTION APPROVED

BILLS:

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Frantz to approve the bills from April 21 – May 4, 2023 in the amount of \$19,891.12 & May 5 – May 18, 2023 in the amount of \$21,329.87 for a grand total of \$41,220.99.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Sylvain asked about the Tim O'Neill floor joist repair. Chad said it is for the Town Hall above the garage door.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Mayor stated to Peggy Seab that the Village does not have any information on the trash/recycle service at this moment. The Mayor stated we did try this before and a lot of people were opposed to only have one trash service through town. Peggy asked about placing recycling bins downtown next to the trash bins and she stated the park has both.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor said there was a good car show this weekend. Bob Stickley said there was a black mustang and a grey mustang that decided to drag race from County Line towards town. Mayor stated next year it may be a good idea to have

a sheriff patrol that. Mayor stated there was close to 550 cars, which it has never been that big. There was a lot of activity all over town. Mayor reminded everyone that next weekend is Memorial Day and there is a parade on Monday at 10:30 am.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Village received a park grant of \$2,340 to purchase two picnic tables. He applied for and got approved for an Ohio EPA equipment grant totaling \$9,456. This will be used to purchase a valve exerciser and leak detector kit. The Town Hall floor joists are repaired. The compost sign has been received and installed. Sylvain asked about the floor joists, she was only aware of the header needing repaired. Chad said the two floor joists that were cut out were repaired. Sylvain asked about the pavilion, Chad said the guy said he would get to it when he can. Sylvain asked about the clock, Chad said we will get to it when we get time.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Gave Council a copy of the letter Chad read at the last meeting for their reference. Also gave Council the resignation letter from Glassford.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEES: Smith talked with Mr. Scott from Wildside about the DORA, he shared with her that a neighboring municipality had an attorney come in and give a presentation on the step by step process. Smith said Mr. Scott was going to reach out to that attorney to see if he can come and do that presentation and if not, we will ask for a copy of the PowerPoint. Martha has information from Swanton on everything that needs to be done.

ORDINANCES: Mayor said we have the second reading of Res. 2023.01, Sylvain stated she asked a bunch of questions that have not been answered. Sylvain asked Mr. Rothenbuhler. Mr. Rothenbuhler stated we are done negotiating if this does not pass he doesn't think we are in a position to move forward. Sylvain stated no one knew the math behind what she was billed and what she was offered back. Smith stated she saw it for the first time when Peggy sent it to her. Smith stated she is requesting \$6,216 back in labor. Sylvain stated you cannot have a second reading on an ordinance without the questions asked being answered. Smith stated this is a resolution. Mr. Rothenbuhler said if you want to table it you can but it needs three readings, you also can vote down said resolution. Mr. Rothenbuhler said the \$3,119 was the interest, we agreed, the Seab's attorney agreed that it was wrongly paid and we owe that back this is what the resolution is referencing. Mr. Rothenbuhler said as far as the grinders he checked with Poggemeyer numerous times. Sylvain asked if Kristel can answer the questions submitted, Mr. Rothenbuhler said you can send questions but we have negotiated this for so long, he personally talked to the Seabs attorney on the phone and we both believed we had an understanding. He is under the opinion from the Village's standpoint that he has talked about it, the Mayor talked about it, we are done negotiating it is the \$3,119. Seab stated the original resolution stated it was the \$25,000 minus the material and grinder costs. She asked why should she have to pay for that twice. Mr. Rothenbuhler talked with Poggemeyer and they are in the

opinion of that not being true. Mayor stated the original resolution was to get the project started. Smith stated to Sylvain the first she seen Peggy's new numbers is when she received it in the mail. Smith said Sylvain talks about transparency but you ask questions behind everyones back. You do not share responses when you do get responses so how are we all supposed to know what is going on and that this is being done. Sylvain stated when she gets the responses from Kristel she will put something together to discuss with the council. Mr. Rothenbuhler asked Peggy Seab, did we not have a conversation on the phone that we agreed and that we both said that we may have some disagreements on both sides but we both agreed to move on and she was okay with the \$3,119 being paid to her. Peggy Seab said yes that was just the initial amount and she is still looking for material costs. Peggy Seab stated she doesn't feel a \$22,000 sewer tap fee should be correct. Peggy feels she paid twice for the grinder pump. Mr. Rothenbuhler stated per Poggemeyer everything was bought in bulk so the prices per item may not be consistant when buying in bulk, in talks with people at Poggemeyer two pumps were not purchased. Frantz asked if Peggy had receipts for the money paid out, Smith sees sales order and work authorizations. Peggy stated she is asking for reimbursement on what the other residents paid which was \$6,000 for a grinder pump and that is what she wants back. Smith asked what changed from the conversation with Mr. Rothenbuhler on agreement and from the last meeting when we were moving forward. Peggy Seab stated she will agree with the \$3,119 interest but she still wants to proceed further to get the material costs reimbursed. Peggy Seab said the way the Village engineered the whole project was rediculous, that whole line along RT 65 we should get the same benefits as the rest of the Village. Smith stated an example of people on Rangeline Road when NW Water & Sewer District came through people had to pay \$25,000 to tie in, this is something we do not have control over. Chad stated we discussed this that the Wood County Health Department made the residents pursue this. Robert Stickley stated why doesn't the county push all the other places along roads where you can smell the sewage. Chad stated maybe because they have enough property for a proper septic. Chad said to contact Wood County to ask them. Smith asked again what changed, it sounded like you were going to accept the resolution but you were still going to pursue it further. Peggy stated that is correct, it was a start.

Mayor gave the second reading to Resolution 2023-03: Resolution approving the draft amended Wood County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Sylvain stated in the resolution it stated we would have a meeting to discuss. Kristel clarified and stated in the resolution there was an area to fill in a date for when the resolution gets approved. Sylvain stated we just received this paperwork today to generate questions and thinks we should table it for two weeks. Chad said he read this information to Council at the last meeting. Kristel said the County would like the approved Resolution back in July, Council can take the time between the readings to learn more on this.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Tolles made a motion seconded by Smith to hire K & K Construction to replace the sidewalks in the Village at \$13 sq. ft. to not exceed \$50,000 in 2023.

Sylvain asked Tolles what the payment terms were. Chad said we write a check when the work is done. Sylvain asked Tolles why we stay under \$50,000, Smith said because we would then have to publicly bid the project which would cost much more. Sylvain asked Tolles how many years will it take to replace the sidewalks, Smith stated it depends how much we can get done with this amount. Sylvain asked if there is a timeline to get this all done. Tolles stated no there is not.

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

MOTION APPROVED

NEW BUSINESS: Tolles asked about the tree that was planted near the train tracks on Front Street, was that by the Herman family? Mayor stated yes.

COMMENTS: Alex Glassford expressed thanks for welcoming him to council, he never expected to be moving but he got the opportunity. He thanked everyone for the friends he made and the people he met. Council thanked Glassford.

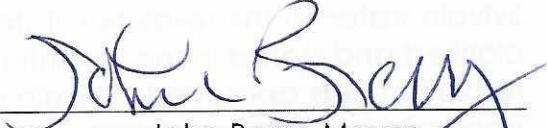
Chad asked Sylvain why she planted more willow trees. Sylvain stated she has no comment. Chad asked her why, she knows she is not supposed to, he asked if he can take the one out that is on Village property? Sylvain stated she has no trees on Village property, Chad said it really looks like it is on Village property. Chad said he gave her the information last year on not planting willows and asked her if she thinks she is better than everyone else? Mayor stated you put your pants on like everyone else does in this town but why do you do that? Chad said there is no reason to do that, it states in our ordinance not to do that, right? Chad said he gave Sylvain the paper last year on this and you told me I was going to jail. He is sure she read it and here you went and did it again. Chad asked if there is a reason. Sylvain stated she has no comment. Donsbach said this is a conflict of interest. Smith stated you know how I interpret that, you are the one sitting here to enforce the rules but you do not even follow them. Sylvain stated she does not enforce anything and does not get anything passed. Smith stated you demand answers from the rest of us but here you are refusing to answer.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is June 12, 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.