



MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION



Held: July 10, 2023

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 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

EMPLOYEES: Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

VISITORS: Gary Wieging, Robert Stickley and Peggy Seab

MINUTES: Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 12, 2023.

Sylvain said at this meeting the Mayor claimed that this meeting was his meeting and she would like clarification on what he meant by that. Mayor stated it is a meeting the Mayor puts on for the council, to make decisions that are well within the limits of what council sets out for. Mayor gave an example that a council person should not do things that are not in the guidelines of a council person such as put stone on canal. Sylvain asked if this was his personal meeting, the Mayor explained no this is a meeting for the people.

Mayor stated if there are no other questions then they are approved as written.

BILLS:

Smith made a motion, seconded by Donsbach to approve the bills from June 9 – June 22, 2023 in the amount of \$2,992.75 and June 23 - July 6, 2023 in the amount of \$21,332.07 for total of \$24,324.82.

Sylvain asked Chad if he got three quotes for the Town Hall A/C system. Chad said no, he used who he has been using, which has been quality work at a lower price. He also wanted to get this repaired before the play was held in the Town Hall. Mayor said Chad contacted him to okay this as well.

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

MOTION APPROVED

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Peggy Seab asked if anyone had looked at a trash and recycling program for the Village. Mayor said we have not had the opportunity; he knows there is a new one in town. Peggy said yes, they have not picked up the trash, she was wondering if we could get some bids from other companies and do an aggregate program. Robert Stickley said he paid to take his trash to the landfill because he could not rely on when they would be picking his trash up. Smith stated she believes everyone is having the same issues. She is also and believes the company is learning the town routes and she is giving them time to get accustom. Smith said her trash finally got picked up today after three weeks. Sylvain stated Peggy Seab has asked the Village to look into trash and recycling option for the

village. Sylvain makes a motion to put this to a committee for the committee chair to get the quotes and make a proposal to council. Motion dies due to lack of second. Smith stated she is open to look at it and mentioned that the village has a free recycling service through the county. Kristel mentioned this was looked into years ago and got turned down due to people not wanting the community trash service. Angie Miller questioned so everyone would be using the same trash service. Kristel said that is what is being requested. Sylvain said yes that is the request but that is not the way contracts work you could negotiate per volume. If 80% want it and 20% do not, we negotiate off 80% and the other 20% can go their own way. Sylvain stated you cannot force someone to do it, it is a free choice to decide. Gary Weiging said each property owner can already negotiate with whatever company they want to get a better price. Peggy Seab asked about the electric aggregation and getting notified that energy harbor is now serving the village. She wants to know why the village is still paying toledo edison utility bills if energy harbor is cheaper. Kristel said everyone will still get the same toledo edison bill but there is a portion of your utility bill you can shop around for, which the village has through the electric aggregation program. When you receive your toledo edison bill there will be a portion of it that also mentions energy harbor this is the area that people can shop around for. The village bill will still be Toledo Edison. Peggy Seab stated that there is a dilapidated house at 17322 Henry Wood County Line Road and feels it is a dangerous building and a public nuisance. Peggy said you cannot see it from the road but with the Applebutter Fest parking and people walking she feels the building needs demolished. Peggy said the CIC owns it. Peggy also mentioned an expired tag on a third street alley, second house from Pratt Lane. Peggy has information on noise abatement. 85 decibels is considered hearing lose, most motor cycles are 80 decibels unless it is an earlier model than it is higher. When you have more than one motorcycle in a group it increases 3 decibels for each, so when they are riding in a group it is much higher. The state of ohio has a regulation for motorcycles 82 at 35 mph or less and 86 over that, she thinks that it is something to be concerned about. Mayor stated we know there is a definite problem because it gets loud in lots of places with them and sometimes there are lots of them. Mayor mentioned the same thing with cars that are loud. He said but having the capability of monitoring that sound level and then enforcing it somehow is a huge undertaking. Peggy Seab stated they do make cameras and monitors that record it and takes a picture of the license plate, she says just like a regular traffic ticket they mail a bill. She would like to ask the sheriff's office if they have a monitor. We have asked the sheriff's office before and they do not have a decibel meter. The Deputy stated you have to prove what year and what exhaust it came with; it is really hard to do. He stated he does not think the cameras are legal anymore. Donsbach stated we also have to keep in mind that the people that do bike are also spending money in our village as well. She feels we should be welcoming even if they do not spend money that day but do stop back another time. Frantz stated she has not seen big groups over 4 or 5 this year, normally you see pocker runs for charity riding through. Frantz stopped to talk to a small group of bikers and they did not have any plans at that time for a charity poker run. Dona Curtis stated this is a very busy town and a lot of people that live in town think that they live in a residential area. They complain about the bike noise, car noise and bar noise. She stated this is not your back yard, we need to embrace it. Angie questioned if the village is shopping around for electric why wouldn't we also shop around for the trash as well. Kristel stated the electric is through an electric aggregation program and the trash would be different. Sylvain thinks it something to look at again. Smith asked Sylvain if she would like to take this on, Sylvain said yes. Smith said she would like three quotes of similarity of same size of Grand Rapids. Bob Stickley asked

why there were grinder pumps installed and not a lift station on the Route 65 sewer line, he states some individuals are still having problems with grinder pumps. He never got information on the detailed set of quotes received from Poggemeyer. He would like to see the paperwork that was done on it. Smith said Kleinfelder formerly Poggemeyer would have this information. Sylvain stated there is a pending public records request, read it aloud and she is still waiting. Is anyone else concerned about it. Kristel stated she by any means is not withholding any public records from anyone and asked Sylvain to contact the Village Solicitor. Kathy Weiging just wanted to say she thinks we live in a beautiful village. Her and her husband live next to a very sloppy nasty house. The people there because we reported a few things are taking revenge on us. They will place a boombox facing our home with vulgar music. They were in the garden walk and had a group of ladies to see their back garden and the neighbors turned up their music as loud as they could. They do call the sheriff but when they get there it is stopped. She stated they have several vehicles sitting on the grass and one never moves. She said there was a dead deer hanging in the yard. She said the man pulls out in very high speeds and she is concerned for children riding by. The deputy stated he is aware of the issue and he personally drives by to try to catch them. Unfortunately, they cannot do anything until they catch them in the act. Gary Weiging said there is regulations 438.21 on noisy mufflers in this town and he knows all his exhaust systems have been altered. He has got sirens and whistles on his truck there is an ordinance against that 438.20. There is also a traffic ordinance on peeling 432.37. Chad said he sent him a letter on those items you read off and he will continue. Gary Weiging asked if we could convert the tennis courts to pickle ball courts. The Mayor said he has been talking about this and we should probably look into making its own court. The Mayor will discuss further with the Administrator on this on different options. Robert Stickley asked if anyone was looking into putting permanent bathrooms by the ball fields. He also noticed the drinking fountain; it looked like it was running out of a cooler. Chad clarified it is not running out of a cooler the water drips down because there is no sanitary back there. Robert thinks there should be sanitary back there. Chad said we could look at the cost of running a sanitary back there and bathrooms. Angie asked if the American Rescue Funds can be used for the restrooms and stated the lincoln street restrooms could use a refresh.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor stated the town was full of people this weekend and it was nice to see. Mayor thinks we need more parking for sure, he was thinking by the Town Hall since we had that surveyed, that would make an excellent spot for a parking lot. He will discuss that more with the Administrator. Mayor said over the weekend there were probably 22 cars in there in a disorganized fashion, he feels more could park there if organized for it. Mayor said the card board boat race was neat and thanked everyone that put on the festivities this weekend. Mayor stated the Jazz Fest and Applebutter Fest are the next events coming up here in the village. Mayor apologized he could not attend last meeting he was very sick.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Chad said Rowe Tree Service is going to be trimming in the park by Town Hall, also down ST RT 65 and by Rita's. He is also supposed to cut down 3 trees. Panning Excavating replaced an existing catch basin off Second Street. He would like to place an order for some mosquito fogging product. Cost \$3,847.50 for 15 gallons of a product called Duet. The mosquito traps were set. Sylvain asked about an organic solution, Chad said they have an organic option which is more expensive. Smith stated in previous years we had residents complain that we had the equipment but were not using

this messes with their funding and the pool board told us that. Sylvain stated we could make a donation or possibly use american rescue plan funds. Sylvain asked all of council if they would like to help the pool. Frantz spoke up and stated she thinks Ms. Sylvain should deposit her pay checks and then donate that towards the pool.

COMMENTS: Frantz wanted to give kudos to the village employee Jeremy Weaver, he will go out of his way to help people. He saw her car hood was up and he stopped to see if she needed help and he also helped her at the recycling area on a windy day.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is July 24, 2023, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the Old Fire Hall.

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

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.