



MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION



Held: September 25, 2023

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:37 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

Louise Estep - Present

EMPLOYEES: Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

VISITORS: Peggy Seab and Gary Wieging

MINUTES: Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Frantz to approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 11, 2023.

Sylvain stated no, according to Sunshine Laws public meeting minutes need to be published in a timely manner and these were published this morning and she feels this is not enough time to absorb what is written and take action. Sylvain feels we need two more weeks to review before voting on them.

Votes were: Estep - yes Sylvain - no
Donsbach - yes Frantz - yes

Smith - yes
Tolles - yes

MOTION APPROVED

BILLS:

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the bills from September 8 – September 21, 2023 in the amount of \$6,550.75.

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

Smith - yes
Estep yes

MOTION APPROVED

Sylvain questioned the American Legal Publishing \$4,400, is this part of the \$11,000 that was approved. Administrator said yes, this is to get them started. Sylvain asked when will we get the ordinances. Administrator said he has to finish more paperwork and then they will start going through it all.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Robin Dudley presented the application for use of public property for the 2024 Jazz Fest to be held on August 18, 2024. Smith asked if anything has changed on it from last year. Robin Dudley stated no. Mayor thanked her for the application and stated he is not sure if this needs action tonight but we will look it over. Robin Dudley stated correct we just want to reserve the date. Robin Dudley said the mayor mentioned parking after the last event and she is willing to work that out with any suggestions he may have. Sylvain made a motion seconded by Donsbach to approve the application for use of public property for nonprofit organization to sponsor events and activities for the Grand Rapids Arts Council for Sunday August 18, 2024.

Votes were: Smith - yes Donsbach - yes
Tolles - yes Estep - yes

Frantz - yes
Sylvain - yes

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor thanked Peggy for the lighting update and utilities information and we are working on that. Gary Wieging is still having issues with his neighbor, he stated it calmed down for a while and then it started back up. Gary mentioned he still has junk vehicles parked there, anywhere from 4 to 8 cars parked there at times. He stated his neighbors blue chevy truck does not have an exhaust on it. They are still having issues with speed, noise, and junk cars. Mayor stated it would be helpful when the deputy catches them in the act. Gary asked if the lawyer sent a letter, Administrator said yes. Administrator said he did talk to the neighbor and asked him to move the white car and he stated he did not have the key for it. Gary said his neighbor is very hateful and loud. Gary said all he can do is keep calling the sheriff. Gary said the Village has regulations on storage of junk vehicles, peeling and noisy mufflers. Mayor stated the last time the deputy was here they asked if you had cameras, Gary said he does now, Mayor said maybe he can show that to the deputy. Sylvain stated possibly having a mediation between Gary and his neighbor with Solicitor and Mayor on the several ordinances and the things Gary thinks are violations. Solicitor Rothenbuhler stated he talked with the neighbor as well. Solicitor mentioned to Gary that there is something called a private nuisance he could contact a lawyer if he wanted to file a lawsuit. There are things he can do himself that sometimes the Village cannot get into without the sheriff catching them in the act. Gary does not understand why we cannot enforce the ordinances in place, Solicitor Rothenbuhler stated if we would pursue further with the prosecutor, we do not have any proof without the sheriff office catching them first. Sylvain asked for a list of ordinances he is in violation and draft a letter to them on that then Gary can collect evidence supporting those ordinance violations. Solicitor Rothenbuhler said he would share the letter sent to the neighbor with ordinances attached to it.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor said the drugstore building may not be done before the Applebutter Fest. He contacted a barricade company to barricade off the drugstore, to help with safety for visitors and residents. Mayor stated a wedding happened at the Town Hall, he heard great things from it and thinks people had a wonderful time. Mayor stated we still have things to get corrected for the applebutter fest on the canal like trimming trees on the tow path. Mayor said Chad is working to get that completed. Mayor said we have the fan needing fixed in restroom, Chad said it is ordered. Mayor said the Little Stir is this Saturday and the applebutter fest is coming up. Mayor thanked Peggy for mowing and thinks the letter crossed when she mowed at the same time. Peggy said it is a wildflower patch not a lawn, Mayor said we send the letter to others as well when things get too high. Mayor asked Angie Studer if she still plans on decorating the Christmas tree, she said yes Joe Schroeder talked to the company decorating the town and they will be decorating the tree as well. Angie stated Julie from Angelwood Gallery is donating ornaments that people that come into town can decorate and they will then be hung on the tree. Frantz asked when the tree will be lighted, Angie said before Christmas Open House. Mayor said Angie mentioned about trimming the tree and asked how she would like it trimmed. Angie said just around the base there is an area that sticks out 4 or 5 feet, Chad said just show him where she would like it trimmed. Mayor stated when he made the appointment for Chad to be the Administrator it needed council approval. Frantz asked if that just needs a motion for approval, Mayor said yes. Frantz made a motion seconded by Tolles to finalize the process for Chad Beyer becoming the Village Administrator. Sylvain asked what the qualifications for the job are. Frantz has seen Chad fill the requirements. Sylvain stated he does not fit the minimum qualifications for the job, we should have advertised and did interviews. Mayor said it is an appointment by the mayor

and approved by Council. Sylvain questioned why do we not discuss it. Donsbach asked the Mayor to move on to the vote.

Votes were: Donsbach - yes Frantz - yes Tolles - yes
 Estep - yes Smith - yes Sylvain - no vote

MOTION APPROVED

Frantz stated congratulations to Chad. Tolles stated he thinks Chad does a great job; Mayor agreed. Sylvain reiterated again that he is not qualified. Mayor said to Sylvain that she is not qualified either, she plants trees on village property you did not own, where she should have asked. Sylvain asked the Mayor to stick to the agenda.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator stated we are getting ready for Applebutter Fest with trimming, jetting sewers and setting up barricades. He got new tires for the F250 at \$794.32. He had to order a bezel for the lift station cost \$473.80. He is working on pricing for the new administration building carpet. Sylvain asked when the questions Peggy asked will be answered, Chad said he will present the answers when he gets them. Sylvain stated Peggy asked if the hydrants are flushed twice a year. Chad said we do flush hydrants twice a year. Sylvain asked if it is required, Chad will check. Peggy talked with Northwest Water & Sewer District and they do theirs annually but the EPA recommends twice a year but they have a scheduled plan that is filed so they only do it once. Peggy stated it could be something we could save money on. Chad said we normally do the ones at the end of town to move the old water out, Chad said they open them up leave on for a minute and then close them back up. Sylvain asked Chad for a copy of the MSDS on the chemicals he sprayed. Chad has the document.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: None

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEES: None

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS: Mayor gave third reading to Resolution 2023-05: A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to prepare and submit a 2024 application to participate in the Wood County Park Grant Program(s) and to execute contracts as required.

Donsbach made a motion seconded by Smith for passage of Resolution 2023-05: A Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to prepare and submit a 2024 application to participate in the Wood County Park Grant Program(s) and to execute contracts as required.

Votes were: Frantz - yes Tolles - yes Estep - yes
 Sylvain - refrained from voting because we have not agreed on what is being submitted
 Smith - yes Donsbach - yes

MOTION APPROVED

Mayor stated Resolution 2023-05 has passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Sylvain asked the Mayor what letter he was referencing that was sent to Peggy. Mayor said it is in regards to mowing her grass, the same letter we send to others. Mayor said Sylvain should probably receive one for her place next to Fernando's. Administrator said someone complained about it. Smith stated if it becomes a nuisance and it is identifiable then they get a letter. Smith asked if Chad sent a letter to the property on second, he said yes.

Sylvain asked Peggy if the handout she gave council was different than prior. Peggy said there is more information there than before. Sylvain said the reason we have not met is because we do not have a committee chair and asked the Mayor if he appointed

someone yet. Mayor said not yet. Sylvain asked Smith if she received the power point for the DORA. Smith said not yet and asked Sylvain if she would like the list the Sylvain would like her to do. Smith said the vision statement, Smith feels the vision is simple it is a place where all generations can live, work and play. Sylvain asked when she would like to meet on that, Smith said not at this time. Smith said the needs assessment and stated Sylvain was the one holding this up because she refused to take things off the list. Smith stated she is working on the DORA and she wants to make sure the research and everything else is done correctly, her goal is to have it started up in the Spring. Mayor asked Sylvain if she got the information on the garbage that she was going to provide, Sylvain stated she is still working on that. Sylvain asked everyone about working on the pool, Mayor stated he thinks the pool has issues that needs worked out.

NEW BUSINESS: Sylvain asked Tolles if he would like to work on the American Rescue Funds. Donsbach expressed she feels like we are be badgered and she would like to move on.

COMMENTS: Tolles said to Chad he did notice he put the thresholds on the bridge and he did a nice job.

ADJOURNMENT:

Smith made a motion seconded by Donsbach to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is October 23, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the Old Fire Hall.

Votes were: Tolles - yes
Donsbach - yes

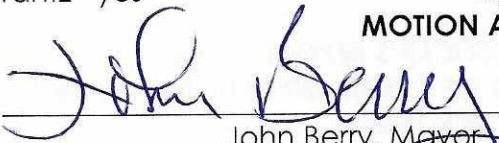
Estep - yes
Frantz - yes

Smith - 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.

September 8 - September 21, 2023 Bills

Vasko	\$347.16	Public Restroom Toilet Paper
Binkelman	\$47.47	Gas hose
Ameican Legal Publish	\$4,400.00	40% of Codification of Ordinances
McKenzie's Flowers	\$100.00	Funeral Flowers Raymond Wright
Northwest Tire	\$794.32	New tires for F-250
Casa Bela	\$530.00	Public Restroom Cleaning & Town Hall Cleaning
Guardian Alarm	\$331.80	Quarterly Alarm Service
Total	\$6,550.75	

*Council Approved 5-1, Sylvain voting no, not without receipts