



# MEETING MINUTES

## GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION



Held: January 8, 2024

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. in the Town Hall. Mayor John Berry called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Mayor Berry gave the Oath of Office to Rachel Smith and Rick Tolles.

Council Drew Seats:	Rachel Smith – Present	Martha Frantz - Present
1. Estep	Lynn Sylvain – Absent	Rick Tolles – Present
2. Tolles	Jody Donsbach – Present	
3. Smith		
4. Frantz		
5. Donsbach		
6. Sylvain		

Mayor explained to Council that a President of Council needs to be nominated. Estep nominated Rachel Smith for President of Council, seconded by Frantz. Mayor said if there are no other nominations we will take a vote.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

2024 President of Council is Rachel Smith.

**EMPLOYEES:** Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

**VISITORS:** Robert Stickley

**MINUTES:** Smith made a motion seconded by Tolles to approve the minutes from the regular scheduled meeting held on Decemeber 11, 2023 and the special meeting held on December 19, 2023. Mayor said the minutes are approved as written.

**BILLS:**

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Estep to approve the bills from December 8, 2023 – December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$57,985.82 and January 1, 2024 - January 4, 2024 in the amount of \$29,923.20 total of \$87,909.02.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor Berry stated approval of bills have passed.

Estep asked about the American Legal bill was this the second installment, yes.

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

Robert Stickley asked if the ordinance to request auditor to assess street lights has been sent through. Mayor said yes. Robert Stickley asked if anyone got quotes on street lights from Toledo Edison to get grants. Robert had Edison out fixing his pole and told him that villages were getting grants from Toledo Edison and told council it could be something the village should look into. Mayor thanked him for that information and we will see what we can find out.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** None

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor submitted the 2024 committee assignments to council members. Mayor said last year we got some projects done and started. We will continue on the sidewalks this year, roads and will need to reschedule the Town Hall committee meeting. Mayor stated he hopes we have a great year and work together well. Mayor thanked the committees that put on all the Christmas items, the volunteers did a tremendous job.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Administrator said the carpeting is supposed to start the week of the 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Administration Office. He received one quote for the header in the Town Hall still waiting on two more. Ordered two baby changing stations for the Lincoln Street restrooms, they will be painting the restrooms before installing them. Asked council on choice of color, he was thinking a light grey to brighten in up. The Village was notified that the sheriff's office is having a rate increase for 2024 from \$46.44/hr to \$50.23/hr. Guardian Alarm did come in and installed a camera pointing towards the recycling bin and a camera/buzzer for people to buzz into the office. Estep asked if there was a sign making people aware, Chad said one will be placed on the door.

**FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT:** None

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**COMMITTEES:** None

**ORDINANCES:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Estep stated she read in the paper that the Village will be awarded the park grant from the Wood County Parks District \$1,390 for bike racks. Estep would like to discuss the American Rescue Funds, she would like to recommend council to consider offering some of it to the non-profits in the area and allowing them to apply for it in a way of a grant. Estep would like to give back to the organizations that give back to us. Estep asked council to think about it and she will be preparing the paperwork if council chooses to go this way. Frantz asked about the bronze tree and what costs it would entail once a location is decided on, possibly this would qualify. Estep stated most of the items are for what did you lose during covid. Estep said if looking at utilities, we could use it if something broke. Estep said if council decides to pursue this, we will send letters

out to the non-profits to make them aware.

Donsbach said at the last meeting we discussed appointing a representative to the Ambulance District. Mayor stated he did not find anyone to take this on, he feels he should stick with it. Donsbach asked if he is willing to serve again. Mayor said yes. Donsbach made a motion seconded by Smith to appoint John Berry as the Villages representative on the Ambulance District Board.

Votes were: Donsbach – yes Frantz – yes Tolles – yes  
Smith – yes Estep – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor stated he found someone to appoint to the Planning Commission to take Mike Fatzingers place, his name is Bill Hutchison. This would require councils approval. Frantz made a motion seconded by Tolles to appoint Bill Hutchison to the open seat on the Planning Commission.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor recommended having a finance committee to discuss replenishing the sidewalk fund. Estep asked if that can take place at the permanent appropriations meeting, Mayor said yes that would be fine.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**COMMENTS:** Frantz asked if anyone had strange objects in their mailboxes. Frantz had a few things and wondered if it was happening to other people, she will contact the Sheriff. Robert Sticklely said he has been receiving scam phone calls from Grand Rapids phone numbers. Smith said thank you for the opportunity to serve on Village Council again and she is looking forward to a productive and prosperous 2024. Mayor thanked Kristel and Chad for taking care of things in the village.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

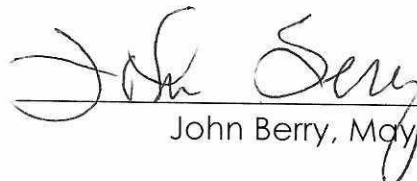
Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Estep, to adjourn.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is January 22, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town 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.

To: Village Council  
Date: January 8, 2024

RE: Council Meeting –

1. The carpet installation should start the week of the 22<sup>nd</sup>.
2. Received one quote for fixing the header beam over the garage door at Town Hall; waiting on two more.
3. We ordered two baby changing stations for the public restrooms at Lincoln Street, we will paint the bathrooms first and then install them.
4. The Sheriff's Office notified the village of a rate increase for 2024.  
Increase from \$46.44/hr. to \$50.23/hr.

## January 5 - January 18, 2024

Verizon	\$105.56	Cell Phones
Frontier	\$334.25	Landline Phone/ Fax
Rumpke	\$79.56	Trash Pickup
Municipal Utilities	\$13,920.12	Wholesale Water
Craun Liebing Company	\$3,185.00	2 - 50' transducers for Lift Stations
Guardian Alarm	\$169.13	Alarm Service
Sherwin Williams	\$265.71	Paint & Supplies for Lincoln Street Restrooms
Perrysburg Pipe	\$1,538.20	Water Supplies
Gearhart	\$255.00	Backflow Preventer Testing
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,852.53</b>	

\*Council Approved 5-1, Sylvain voting no.