



# MEETING MINUTES

## GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION



Held: September 9, 2024

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 7:00 P.M. to 7:45 P.M. in the Town Hall. Mayor John Berry called the meeting to order with the following members and visitors present:

Rachel Smith – Present

Rick Tolles – Absent

Jody Donsbach – Present

Martha Frantz - Present

Lynn Sylvain – Present

Louise Estep – Present

Mayor stated Tolles is absent due to recovery from surgery.

Smith made a motion seconded by Frantz to approve Councilperson Rick Tolles absence.

Votes were: Donsbach – yes

Smith – yes

Estep – yes

Frantz – yes

Sylvain - abstained

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor stated Tolles absence is excused.

**EMPLOYEES:** Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

**VISITORS:** None

**MINUTES:** Estep made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 26, 2024.

Mayor stated if there are no corrections, the minutes are approved as presented.

**BILLS:**

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Estep to approve the bills from August 23 – September 5, 2024 in the amount of \$52,924.27.

Sylvain asked how much we spent on backhoe this year, Administrator believes \$6,688.08. Sylvain asked about the Duffy Concrete grinding for \$2,200 and in front what shops got grinded, Administrator stated by Snyders, the Purple Door and other areas on the northside. Sylvain asked if the Town Hall flood insurance was annual for \$1,602, Administrator stated yes.

Votes were: Sylvain – no

Donsbach – yes

Smith – yes

Estep – yes

Frantz – yes

**MOTION APPROVED**

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

Mayor said Rob Krain from Black Swamp Conservation will attend the next meeting.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Mayor asked Council if they had any questions for the Deputy. The Mayor thanked the Deputy for all that he does.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor gave a heartfelt thank you to all the residents and non-residents in helping with the cleanup after the storm. The hard work and unity have truly restored not just our village but also our spirits. It is moments like these that remind us how strong our community is when it comes together. Thank you for your dedication and your kindness, we could not have done it without you. With much gratitude! From Council, Village Staff and Mayor.

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

Administrator wanted to reiterate what the Mayor just said, Wood County sent a few trucks over for a few days and Springfield Township came to help as well and wants to thank them all. Administrator purchased a new flow meter, our other one died and we now have to replace it. Cost will be \$3,198 for parts and an additional \$1,500 for labor. Administrator got a few quotes for a company to come help chip brush. Envirocare \$325/hour for a 16-inch chipper, \$300/hour for a 12-inch chipper, Goliath \$250/hour 12-inch chipper, Battion \$1890/day. Administrator would like to bring a company in for two days and then see if we need more. They have already chipped 15 loads which is like two years of normal chipping. Sylvain asked Chad about the recertification for commercial pesticide license, she still does not have a copy of that. Sylvain asked when it is good through, Administrator stated it is good for three years but has a yearly renewal fee of \$35, his expires in 2026. Sylvain asked for a copy as a part of her outstanding public records request.

**FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT:** Fiscal Officer gave Council the Aug. Bank Rec. Fiscal Officer stated we have a first reading of an Ordinance tonight which would change our meeting times to 6 pm. We also have a first reading of a Resolution to establish a fund for the H2Ohio Grant, a Resolution to amend our appropriations to include this funding and a Resolution to support the Black Swamp Conservancy to preserve land in the Village. Finally, we have a third reading of a Resolution that can then have a motion for passage.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**COMMITTEES:** Smith stated the Buildings, Parks, Properties & Maintenance Committee met prior to this meeting; we discussed three topics. We have a gentleman that wants to put a cover on the existing bridge next to Bluebell, our recommendation is to approve Glen Baron to move forward on the drawings, that we are on board with the project but would like to see engineered drawings first. We will set aside funding in the 2025 budget after the project is done to maintain the bridge. The other item discussed was the Park Grant, we decided to ask the Administrator to obtain quotes on four items and then we will discuss what tiers we would like to apply for. We also discussed the Town Hall painting and we are in favor of allocating additional Arpa funds but want to get the quotes refined first.

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

Mayor gave first reading to Ordinance 2024-5: Ordinance Scheduling Regular Council Meetings. Mayor gave first reading to Resolution 2024-08: Resolution Establishing H2Ohio Grant Fund in the accounts of the Village of Grand Rapids, Ohio. Mayor gave first reading to Resolution 2024-09: Resolution amending Appropriation Ordinance 2024-1. Mayor gave first reading to Resolution 2024-10: Authorizing and Supporting the Black Swamp Conservancy to preserve land in the Village of Grand Rapids, Wood County Ohio. Mayor gave third reading to Resolution 2024-07: Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor. Estep made a motion seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2024-07. Sylvain asked if this happens the same time each year, Estep stated yes.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor stated Resolution 2024-07 has passed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Frantz thinks we really need to get doggie bags for the Towpath, she thinks we should at least offer the bags to the public in case they forget theirs. Smith believes we did have them before; the bags were placed all over but we could try again. Smith stated Kristel had mentioned that there was a request for a bench on the Towpath, Smith discussed with the Administrator on how many places are left. Administrator stated there is one spot left. Smith would like to fulfill that request, then we should have others placed in other areas of the Village.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Estep stated since the storm she has learned that the people in the trailer park do not get access to the brush pickup or unlimited pickup. Estep feels they should get the same service. Smith's only concern would be space, where would they put the unlimited pickup, maybe we provide an option for a drop-off. Administrator stated that they did pick up the brush at the trailer park this time. Smith suggested figuring out an alternative for these before the next spring pickups.

**COMMENTS:** Smith made a motion seconded by Donsbach to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation to include Council, Village Administrator and to exclude Councilmember Sylvain.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Estep made a motion seconded by Donsbach to return to regular Council session.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**


**ADJOURNMENT:**

Frantz made a motion seconded by Donsbach to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is September 23, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall.

Votes were: Frantz – yes                      Sylvain – yes                      Donsbach – yes  
                  Smith – yes                                      Estep – 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.

## August 23, 2024 - September 5, 2024

MASI	\$1,693.65	Water & Sewer Testing
Southeastern Equip	\$3,688.08	Backhoe Serviced
Treas of State	\$1,563.00	Quarterly UAN Fees & Financial Audit
K&K Construction	\$6,941.00	Town Hall header
Duffey Concrete Cutting	\$2,200.00	Grinded sidewalks in business district
Envirocare	\$452.00	Lawn Care Application Blue Bell & Howard Parks
OUPS	\$16.00	Manual Callout
Culligan	\$13.20	Water Testing Supplies
Strayer Concrete	\$1,000.00	Lincoln Street Bridge ramp
WC Sheriff	\$10,447.84	Contract Service
Mid-Wood	\$403.66	Fuel
NFIP Direct	\$1,602.00	Town Hall Flood Insurance
Municipal Utilities	\$18,275.98	Wholesale Water
Frontier	\$404.19	Landline Phone/Fax
Verizon	\$105.56	Cell phones
Toledo Edison	\$3,893.45	Electric bill
Huntington Credit Card	\$99.18	Threshold Ramp
Rumpke	\$125.48	Monthly Trash Pickup/Park Dumpster
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$52,924.27</b>	

Approved 4 - 1, Tolles Absent, Sylvain voting no