



# MEETING MINUTES

## GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION



Held: June 23, 2025

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 6:48 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 – Present  
Jody Donsbach – Present

Martha Frantz - Present  
Lynn Sylvain – Present  
Louise Estep – Present

**EMPLOYEES:** Kristel Beyer

**VISITORS:** Doug Grey

**MINUTES:**

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Estep to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 9, 2025.

Mayor stated if there are no questions, the minutes will be approved as presented.

**BILLS:**

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Estep to approve the bills from June 6 – June 19, 2025 in the amount of \$63,802.06.

Sylvain questioned the attorney fees for \$2,450 and asked what those are for. Mayor stated litigation. Sylvain asked who the participants are, Mayor stated it is litigation for the property to the west of the Town Hall. Sylvain stated so the Village vs Sylvain. Sylvain asked the total for this, Mayor stated approximately \$32,450.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

Doug Grey wanted to give an update on the canal cleanup. They had about 10 people and they got a lot of stuff out. Doug Grey stated there is more to be done but feels boats could now get through. Doug Grey stated there is one big tree they could not move. He thought the tree company may have dropped it, and possibly could remove it. Sylvain said Doug, Jeff, Janet, Bob, Angie, Mario, Becky and herself helped out. Sylvain stated she did not see anyone else or even the Administrator there. Doug mentioned Terry was also there and that the Administrator, Jeremy and a couple guys at the kayak shop did some work earlier in the week to help remove debris as well. Mayor thanked Doug and the other volunteers for their work.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** None

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor has been in contact with an engineering firm for an estimate to give the Village some ideas on sidewalks, walking paths, signage and many other different things. Mayor thinks this will be a good start to help guide us to enhance our Village.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** The Administrator report stated the sidewalks are done and the pool chemicals purchased by the pool are listed. The Administrator wanted to thank Doug

Grey and the other volunteers for helping cleanup the canal, the plan is to install the boat docks this week.

**FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT:** Fiscal Officer stated we have two third readings of resolutions and a first reading of an Ordinance tonight. Fiscal Officer also presented the first mobile food truck permit requested. After discussion, Sylvain made a motion seconded by Donsbach to approve the mobile food truck application from July 11 – 13, 2025 for Rapid Rally Days.

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

Estep stated with the understanding that all other event permits must list food trucks, if they are having them.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**COMMITTEES:** Frantz stated we have received some information from Suburban and First Energy and she would like to schedule a meeting this week to discuss the information that has been given. A Utilities, Sewers & Streetlights Committee scheduled a meeting on Thursday June 26, 2025 at 3:00 pm in the Town Hall to discuss Suburban and First Energy.

**ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:**

Mayor gave the first reading to Ordinance 2025-2: An Ordinance to Request Auditor to Assess Lots and Lands of the Village of Grand Rapids for the Lighting of Streets, Alleys, Ways and other Public Places.

Mayor gave third reading to Resolution 2025-02: Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Prepare and Submit a 2026 Application to Participate in the Wood County Park Grant Program and Execute Contracts as Required.

Mayor gave third reading to Resolution 2025-03: Resolution Encouraging the Ohio Department of Transportation to Make Changes to the Traffic Pattern at the Intersection of State Route 65 and State Route 295.

Smith made a motion seconded by Donsbach for passage of Resolution 2025-2: Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Prepare and Submit a 2026 Application to Participate in the Wood County Park Grant Program and Execute Contracts as Required.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor stated Resolution 2025-02 has passed.

Donsbach made a motion seconded by Tolles for passage of Resolution 2023-03: Resolution Encouraging the Ohio Department of Transportation to Make Changes to the Traffic Pattern at the Intersection of State Route 65 and State Route 295.

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

**MOTION APPROVED**

Mayor stated Resolution 2025-03 has passed.

Sylvain stated a resident mentioned to request ODOT to install a sign that states "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop", she thought that was a very good suggestion.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Frantz would like to motion to take DORA off the table since we cannot come to a resolution to make everyone happy. Sylvain stated she went to the

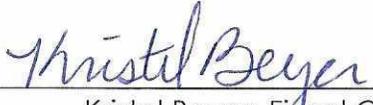
businesses to ask them about benches and also asked them if they wanted to participate in DORA. Sylvain stated out of the businesses she talked to only three said no. Sylvain stated the majority of the businesses want DORA but she does not know how the residents feel. Sylvain stated there is data that supports that DORA helps communities. Mayor stated we have a motion on the floor, motion fails due to lack of a second. Estep stated she has been in contact with ODOT on the intersection at RT295 and RT65, she has also been in contact with an engineering firm CESO concerning a traffic study at this intersection. Estep forwarded the proposal to the Administration, and stated there was another accident there yesterday. Sylvain said maybe we should talk to the Whitehouse Village Administrator on RT 295 they went from a two way to a four way stop. Estep stated that is what the engineering firm is looking into is a four way stop. Sylvain stated she sent the fiscal officer a map today on benches, the majority of the businesses would like standardized benches, 6 feet but not permanent. Estep thought Sylvain was going to contact her to help with this. Estep said she had some help in looking at the benches and measurements outside the businesses and 6 feet doesn't fit in all locations. Jody & Chad Donsbach, Rick Tolles and Matthew Snyder helped with the measuring. Estep asked Sylvain to share her information. Sylvain will send in her results later. Mayor suggested for Sylvain to share these items in a committee first and not at council. Sylvain requested a meeting on DORA and a meeting on benches. Sylvain stated the Administrator asked for ideas on the Park Grant, she has some ideas like a dog park, lights on the Tow Path and to restore the canal. Estep stated she already asked for a Park Committee meeting to discuss park grant options. Sylvain asked if we hired someone, Mayor stated yes, we hired a parttime individual. Sylvain asked if he had a resume, Mayor stated no. Sylvain asked for a copy of his application. Sylvain stated there is a lot of debris on the canal and asked Kristel to take it to her husband. Estep asked Sylvain to stop referring to him as that, he is our Village Administrator. Mayor has already talked with a person to chop the stuff down. Sylvain stated the Village is not mowing behind the coffee shop and it is village property. Sylvain has requested for a tv in this room so the participants can see what we are displaying. Donsbach stated it will not matter if we are not given the items in a timely fashion for anyone or even all of council to see. Mayor stated we have been discussing making the room bigger as well, he mentioned after that we can discuss how we can fix the room up. Estep said let's have a comprehensive plan first. Sylvain stated there was a community dinner in May and it was not recognized. The Rapid Rally Days is coming up as well. Sylvain stated that Rachel parks illegally against councils Ordinance. Sylvain states the Ordinance reads from Front Street to Second Street, Smith stated that is for the public parking by the coffee shop. Sylvain asked if the Council is going to address Kevin Olman using the alley for his personal use. Donsbach asked for a point of order.

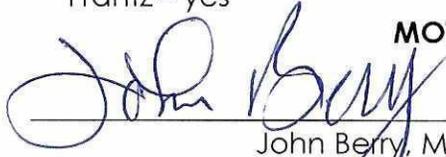
**ADJOURNMENT:**

Smith made a motion seconded by Donsbach to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is July 14, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall.

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

**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.

## June 6, 2025 - June 19, 2025

Casa Bella	\$240.00	Public Restroom Cleaning
Strayer Concrete	\$54,500.00	Sidewalks
Verizon	\$105.68	Cell Phones
Frontier	\$502.70	Landline Phones/Fax
Buckeye Hydraulics	\$207.88	Salt Spreader Hose
Treas of State	\$948.00	Quarterly UAN Fees
Toledo Edison	\$4,158.80	Electric Bill
Gressley, Kaplin & Parker	\$2,450.00	Attorney Fees
McCabe Outdoor	\$42.29	Weedeater repair
Luckey Farms	\$306.71	Fuel
C & L Sanitation	\$340.00	Ball Park Portable Restrooms
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$63,802.06</b>	

Approved 5 - 1, Sylvain voting no