



MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION



Held: August 11, 2025

Page 1 of 3

The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 6:46 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: Chad Beyer and Kristel Beyer

VISITORS: Dick Keifer and Joe Schroeder

MINUTES:

Estep made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 28, 2025.

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

BILLS:

Donsbach made a motion, seconded by Tolles to approve the bills from July 26 – August 7, 2025 in the amount of \$35,863.47.

Sylvain questioned the Cindy Hofner Invoice for record sorting and organizing, isn't she also determining the records to be destroyed. Fiscal Officer stated yes she is creating the list that currently gets sent in to the Ohio History Connection for approval. Sylvain asked about the records retention schedule, Fiscal Officer stated it is available on the website. Frantz stated if Cindy is on the bill list and she is doing the job then we are paying her for it, Fiscal Officer stated yes for record sorting and organization per the records retention schedule.

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

MOTION APPROVED

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Dick Keifer wanted to address the council, is it true that you are not allowed to have a trailer in Grand Rapids, Administrator asked if he was asking about house trailers, Dick stated yes. Administrator said he can look into that for zoning purposes but does not think house trailers are allowed. Dick Keifer stated there is a house trailer on the corner of Second & Wapakoneta Rd and another one in the alley behind his residence that are both unlicensed. Dick Keifer stated the one on Wapakoneta is being used as a cat house, there are cat ramps and he does not believe that is healthy for the little kids. Sylvain stated that is her trailer and it's not a house trailer it is a camper and there are no ramps for cats. Sylvain stated it is licensed.

Joe Schroeder was here to address any questions on the proposed joint advertising project. Joe wanted to clarify that they would like to advertise like Pure Michigan not for the businesses. He understands that there are certain things to go through to approve funds. Joe wanted to bring back the recommendation to pass a resolution recognizing tourism as the chief industry in town. Sylvain asked the next time they would request money; Joe does not know that. Tolles asked if the current advertising is for a 6-month period, Joe said yes as far as advertising, the Chamber is still working through ARPA stuff.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Estep let the deputy know that she received calls about people going door to door and they did not have a permit from the Village. Estep did contact the Sheriff's Office to let them know.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor said it is good to see what is happening to the Town Hall. The painting has started and hopes a lot of plays will come. Mayor asked about the curtains, Tom Huth stated they are in the information stage. Mayor attended the 150th year Celebration for Tontogany it was very nice. Mayor stated the engineering firm would like to meet with Council to discuss what they can offer for the Village.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: The Administrator stated the Town Hall painting project has started. He received another quote on the tennis/basketball courts, \$26,240 but this company will grind 3/4 inch off and then lay over. He is waiting on one more. Sportscape came back with a quote at \$16,650, if Village takes up the plastic squares that would be a savings. Rowe Tree Service took a tree down today by the tennis courts it had a split in it, he also trimmed up some other trees in the area. Our summer help is done and going off to college next week. Administrator would like to hire our parttime guy into fulltime, he would like him to start the beginning of September. Administrator received quotes for the doors at the Town Hall, he will look for another company for another quote. Administrator wanted to remind everyone that political signs cannot be put up until 30 days before the election and need to be removed 10 days after. Estep asked if we are on the schedule for the survey at Rte 65 and 295, Administrator will contact them for a date. Mayor asked about the quote for the canal bank, Administrator stated yes we received it, about \$6,200.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer gave Council the July bank rec. Also, reminded everyone to request the applebutter parking passes. Estep asked for an update of where we are at with our appropriations.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None

COMMITTEES: Estep stated by the next meeting we should have the new pay scale Ordinance; the Solicitor is working on that and hopefully can have the first reading at the next meeting.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:
Mayor gave the second reading to Resolution 2025-04: Resolution Amending Appropriation Ordinance 2025-1.

Estep made a motion seconded by Donsbach to waive the third reading and declare Resolution 2025-04 an emergency.

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

Estep made a motion seconded by Donsbach for passage of Resolution 2025-04.

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

Mayor stated Resolution 2025-04 has passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Estep stated we received information from Joe on the request for advertising. Estep asked Joe for a breakdown, he came back with Arts Council would not be participating , the cost would be \$3,380 for each, Historical Society, Chamber and the Village. Estep made a motion seconded by Donsbach that the Village contribute \$3,380 for the commercial on the Village of Grand Rapids.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Sylvain asked Smith if she had a date for Dora. Sylvain stated the Mayor can request a special meeting on Dora. The Mayor stated he will be scheduling a special meeting with the engineers but can do so after that. Smith will hold a Council of the Whole after the busy summer months. Sylvain said if Council does not want to meet about Dora she can go around and get signatures from residents to get Dora on the ballot. Smith stated we have met on this topic and Village Council is not opposed to Dora but our sticking point has been the park. Smith stated at the last meeting she said the Rapid Rally Days has been a good example of how Dora would work but if we are going to do it we need to do it right, by keeping people out of the park and in the designated area. Estep said if we do have a meeting we need to make sure we have the sheriff or his representative there because they are going to be involved as well. Donsbach stated along with the business owners. Sylvain stated we discussed benches and thought everyone had the map. Estep stated you were going to give the map last meeting to the Fiscal Officer to share. Sylvain compared the Waterville pool to the Grand Rapids pool. Smith stated it is up to the taxpayers to see if they would like to support the pool. Sylvain sent information on kayak docks to the fiscal officer. Sylvain stated the Mayor read definitions of transparency and honesty at the last meeting. Sylvain asked if we are now discussing the lawsuit in Council, the Mayor stated no he only wondered why Sylvain requested the non-disclosure agreement. Smith asked for a point of order to get back to the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COUNCIL COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Smith made a motion seconded by Tolles to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is August 25, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall.

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

July 25, 2025 - August 7, 2025

Suburban	\$162.68	Natural Gas
Culligan	\$13.20	Water Testing Supplies
Masi	\$1,637.20	Water & Sewer Testing
Thermal-Tec	\$322.40	Annual Roof Inspection for Maintenance Building
Casa Bella	\$480.00	Public Restroom Cleaning
Cindy Hofner	\$129.25	Record sorting/organizing per Record Retention
Perrysburg Pipe	\$1,037.85	Meter Setters
WC Sheriff	\$10,996.96	Contract Service
Huntington Credit Card	\$486.52	Toner cartridges, envelopes, rubber bands, copy paper, postage, bottled water, air freshener
Rumpke	\$140.54	Monthly Trash Pickup/Park Dumpster
Luckey Farmers	\$310.25	Fuel
Municipal Utilities	\$20,146.62	Wholesale Water
Total	\$35,863.47	

Approved 5 - 1, Sylvain voting no