



MEETING MINUTES

GRAND RAPIDS COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION



Held: November 10, 2025

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The Council of The Village of Grand Rapids convened in regular session from 6:00 P.M. to 7:32 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: Tom Huth, Bob Clark and Shannon Sorosiak

MINUTES: Estep made a motion, seconded by Tolles to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 27, 2025.

Mayor stated if no questions the minutes are accepted as presented.

BILLS:

Smith made a motion, seconded by Frantz to approve the bills from October 24 – November 6, 2025 in the amount of \$25,038.21.

Frantz asked about the annual damage prevention, Administrator stated this is for Oups to notify us to mark water/sewer lines. Sylvain questioned the Perrysburg Pipe for \$3,759.90, Administrator stated they were stocking up on water parts since they were used from the water leaks. Sylvain asked the annual spend, Administrator stated it depends on how many water leaks and water taps we have.

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

MOTION APPROVED

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Tom Huth wanted to give an update on the Town Hall, he thanked Council for the painting and the curtains. Tom Huth stated we currently have Horizon Youth Theatre Events and the Town Hall events. The Horizon Youth Theatre gets to keep the money they make from the events. The Town Hall events are the events they put on and they receive the funding for those, some we make money and some we do not. Tom stated they have come up with an improvement list. Improvements to sound, lighting, purchasing stage curtains, improvements down in the dressing room whether that is a bathroom or better stair access to it, would like to see some sort of a permanent wall to attach sets to, they need a walkway across the back to get to one side to another. They understand this will either be a multi-year or multi decade list to get through. Estep asked if the Horizon Group pays anything to use the Town Hall, Tom stated not at this time.

Bob Clark came to update on the Hometown Hero banners, they will be removing them on Monday. They added 70 more last summer and at least 12 to 14 will be added next year. They will be asking Edison to use more poles. We will be installing before Memorial Day and removing after Veterans day. Estep stated when people noticed we went outside of the business district with the banners more people started reaching out.

Shannon Sorosiak came to discuss her daughter; she is the indoor Ohio State champion for weight throw. She wants to add her daughter for the state champion signs in the Village. Mayor stated we should design something so we can hold those names on it, so that it allows more people to be added. Smith agreed we need to find a way to honor these people. We may want to redesign it so we are encompassing all of it and allowing for future changes. Shannon stated someone mentioned possibly having the shop class or ag class do it since they do welding, Donsbach said possibly it could be an eagle scout project as well. Sylvain stated she made a request so what will happen with that, do we need to vote on it. Mayor stated he does not think it needs voted on, he stated this is something that will happen, it is just the matter of figuring out how it can be displayed and others being able to add to it. Administrator stated he can contact the sign shop in BG to see what they come up with.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor said a great job was done at the Town Hall performance this weekend. He hopes this continues for a long time. Mayor stated winter is here and asked people to be careful at intersections. After the first of the year, he will be scheduling a meeting with the Engineering Company so they can present their presentation to the new and current Council members.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator said they fixed another water leak on Bridge Street. He got ahold of Ohio Paving to see what they can do to fix the street before we start snow plowing. He talked with ODOT they will be installing the four way stop at Bridge Street and State Route 65 mid-December, they will be placing signs letting people know of the change in traffic pattern. The tree in front of the old Mason's building has those stinky fruits, he received a few complaints, we can take the tree down, if you want. He ordered 25 ton of salt today. Estep asked if that is the last one of those trees like that, he stated yes but they can change each year. Sylvain asked about the King Road master meter pit needing public bidding has that happened yet. Administrator said he has not heard from Kleinfelder on that yet. Sylvain asked about the kayak launch, Administrator stated he did bring it up at the finance meeting. Sylvain asked if it was budgeted for next year, Estep stated we have not done the budget for next year we did the temporary appropriations, the permanent appropriations are not finalized. Sylvain asked about the lock in this room, she feels it is a fire hazard, Mayor stated you have to turn it and then push the knob up to open the door.

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT: Fiscal Officer gave Council the October bank rec. Fiscal Officer stated we do have two resolutions on the agenda tonight, one is to make a transfer for current expenses and other expenditures, the other is the temporary appropriations. Both of these resolutions were discussed at the finance meeting and are reflected in those minutes. Sylvain questioned Resolution 2025-06 there are a dozen accounts moving money what is that for, Fiscal Officer stated that is her best estimate to get us through the end of the year for payroll, withholding and benefits. Fiscal Officer stated in the new handbook that was approved we can no longer receive one-week paid vacation without Council's approval, Fiscal Officer requested to get paid for one-week unused vacation. Estep asked how many hours do you have left, Fiscal Officer stated she has 80 hours of vacation, Estep stated then you would have 40 hours left to use or you lose it, Fiscal Officer stated yes. Sylvain asked if it is common to payout unused vacation, Estep stated yes she just requested from her work as well. Sylvain asked the Administrator if he still has unused vacation, Administrator said yes about 66 hours.

Estep made a motion seconded by Smith to approve the fulltime employees, Chad, Jeremy, David and Kristel get a 3% raise effective January 1, 2026.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Sylvain stated at the last meeting Estep stated she is working on making the Food truck policy an Ordinance, she asked if she took out the policy relative to people's personal property. Estep stated it is in the Solicitors hand.

NEW BUSINESS: Estep asked the other Council members if they would like the Solicitor to draft up an Airbnb tax Ordinance. Sylvain asked why target Airbnb's, Estep stated because we have no Motel/Hotels in town. Sylvain asked if she looked at taxation schedules to see what is a money maker, it seems we are shooting in a barrel just like the food truck policy. Estep stated if we would designate Grand Rapids as tourism and if people come to Grand Rapids to stay at an Airbnb why wouldn't we. Sylvain stated we should look at a taxation schedule to see what makes sense. Estep is not interested in taxing the residents more, for money to go into the Chamber. Sylvain said good. Estep stated when someone goes to a hotel/motel or Airbnb all the taxes are added in along with the state tax and she does not see it as a detriment. Estep received an email to request to sponsor the Christmas Open House and Light up the Night events, she shared with the office since they did not get one. They have the same tiered amounts like when we donated to the Rally by the River Event. Estep made a motion seconded by Donsbach to donate \$500 to help sponsor the Christmas Open House and Light up the Nights events.

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

MOTION APPROVED

Estep stated she thinks the Solicitor is working on the meeting schedule, Food truck Ordinance and the Amplex money for sidewalks.

Smith stated when we discussed the lights on Lincoln Street at the finance meeting, Doug Grey went by there in the evening. He said there are pole lights but they are dim to look like old gas lights, she thinks maybe changing the bulbs out would help. Administrator stated when there were people living up there we dimmed the lights for them.

Sylvain asked when the Dora meeting is scheduled for. Smith stated the Dora meeting is tentative for Monday November 17, 2025 at 6 pm in the Town Hall. Smith will supply a packet at the meeting.

Tolles stated we are going to have Breakfast with Santa sponsored by the Town Hall Committee and the Legion Auxiliary. It will be Dec 13th at 9 am and 10:30 am sit down times.

COMMENTS: Estep wanted to thank the community for supporting the Pool and the Fire Levy both of these are very important to the community and the Village. Donsbach wanted to formally recognize all the veterans in the Village and thank them for their service. Mayor thanked everyone that got out and voted since it is sort of a hassle to go to Tontogany. Smith stated it was very streamlined this year and they did a great job.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting is November 24, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall.

Votes were: Sylvain – yes
Donsbach – yes

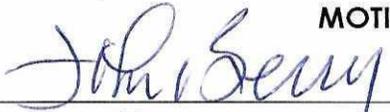
Smith – yes
Tolles - yes

Frantz - yes
Estep – yes

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.

October 24, 2025 - November 6, 2025

USA Bluebook	\$360.77	Sewer Supplies
MASI	\$1,494.50	Water & Sewer Testing
Culligan	\$116.20	Water Testing Supplies
PUCO	\$35.00	Annual Damage Prevention Fee (OUPS)
Treas State of Ohio	\$200.00	Annual Discharge Fee
McCabe Outdoor	\$59.98	Fuel for equipment
Perrysburg Pipe	\$3,759.90	Water Supplies
Casa Bella	\$240.00	Public Restroom Cleaning
Cindy Hofner	\$134.75	Record sorting/organizing per Record Retention
Rumpke	\$104.43	Monthly Trash
Gressley, Kaplin & Parker	\$4,575.00	Attorney Fees
WC Sheriff	\$13,957.68	Contract Service/Applebutter Fest
Total	\$25,038.21	

Approved 5 - 1, Sylvain voting no