

Grand Ridge Village Board
Minutes of the September 20, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Village Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Kay Hines at the Grand Ridge Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance. Trustees present: Jim Stricklin, Anne Hinterlong, Jack Tidaback, Dennis Rockey and Cindi Koetz. Trustee Buckley was absent. Attorney Sheryl Churney, Village Clerk Christy McGuire, Police Chief Josh Jabczynski, Mike Harden, Nick Hettel, John Hettel, and Joyce Miller were also present.

Minutes. Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 2022 board meeting and the August 24, 2022 village water committee meeting as presented; second by Trustee Stricklin. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report. Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to approve the August 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented; second by Trustee Rockey. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey and Koetz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Mayor Hines noted that the village would receive approximately \$35,000 next month which is the second payment of American Rescue Plan funds.

CD Renewal. A motion was made by Trustee Rockey to approve the renewal of Share Certificate #2005 from Streator Onized Credit Union on its date of renewal October 1, 2022 at the current interest rate; second by Trustee Koetz. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey and Koetz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills. Trustee Rockey made a motion to approve payment of monthly bills to include payment to Nick Hettel in the amount of \$637.50 from the General Fund; second by Trustee Hinterlong. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey and Koetz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Public Comment. None.

Old Business.

- A. **Report on County Grant Application.** Mayor Hines advised she received additional paperwork to be completed for the County ARPA Grant. A grant contract and ordinance were received late this afternoon and will need to be reviewed before approval.
- B. **Review short-term rentals unit ordinance.** Attorney Churney reported that last month this was presented to the board. Part of the ordinance will require the village to amend the zoning ordinance as the two go hand in hand. Attorney Churney noted that this project is still on her radar and encouraged trustees to contact her with any additional comments.
- C. **Report on Code Book Project.** Attorney Churney discussed an email that was sent with a list of recommendations for updates for the code book project. The board advised Ms. Churney on the various matters.

New Business.

- A. **Halloween Trick or Treat Hours.** It was announced Halloween Trick or Treat Hours will be on October 31st from 6pm – 8pm.
- B. **Advanced Informational Mapping Systems Inc.** Mayor Hines discussed a program previously presented to the Water Committee by Nick Harsted from Advanced Informational Mapping Systems Inc. The program uses GIS information to identify all shut off locations going into homes and the process would also eventually include locations of storm drains and catch basins. The estimated cost would be \$20,000. Mayor

Hines noted the system would be a great asset to the village and save a lot of time. The cost would be billed in installments as the process moved forward. Trustee Stricklin made a motion to approve the amount of \$10,000 to begin the GIS system process; second by Trustee Hinterlong. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey and Koetz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

- C. **Dumpster Service.** Mayor Hines reported that after numerous calls a dumpster previously ordered for the maintenance building from Republic Services never arrived. Mike Harden contacted Michael's Recycling who was able to deliver a dumpster next day. Trustee Koetz made a motion to retain Michael's Recycling for dumpster service at a cost of \$85 per month. Second by Trustee Rockey. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey and Koetz. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- D. **Main Street Lighting Project.** Mayor Hines reported that she had spoken to Pete Johnston about the Main Street lighting. Mr. Johnston made a recommendation to take down all lights on the north side before winter and noted the electrical lines underground would need to be replaced. Mr. Johnston has agreed to assist the village with the work. Mayor Hines suggested looking into the cost of new lights due to the expense involved in fixing the existing lights. Mayor Hines will contact the Cave family who donated the lights once they are removed to discuss returning them. She will also look into available grants for new lighting. Attorney Churney suggested presenting the project to Exelon or Invenergy who may be provide financial assistance. Nick Hettel commented the village could look into contacting the electricians' unions to see if electrician apprentices may be able to donate time to help with the project.

- E./F. **Trustee Disclosure.** Pursuant to the requirements of Section 3.1-55-10(b) of the Ill. Mun. Code, Trustee Stricklin disclosed to the Village Board that if the Board awarded him the work for the water shut-off – water line locating project in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 in a fiscal year and/or awarded him the work for removal and disposal of unneeded water department equipment, materials, and miscellaneous items in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 in a fiscal year that he would financially benefit from the award of both or either project and all moneys paid would be received by him for his benefit. Trustee Stricklin then left the meeting room and was not present in the meeting for the discussion or vote on these matters. A motion was made by Trustee Rockey to approve Jim Stricklin to work for the water shut-off – water line locating project in an amount not to exceed \$2000 in a fiscal year; second by Trustee Koetz. Ayes: Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey and Koetz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Koetz to award Trustee Stricklin the work for removal and disposal of unneeded water department equipment, materials, and miscellaneous items in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 in a fiscal year; second by Trustee Rockey. Ayes: Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey and Koetz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Trustee Stricklin returned to the meeting room following the votes on these matters.

- G. **Water Rate Increase.** Mayor Hines discussed current water rates. Attorney Churney noted that the last water rate increase was in 2016. Mayor Hines noted that she will look into current rates to see if the village should consider an increase and will provide additional information at the next board meeting.

Engineer's Report. Engineer Peter Faletti noted that the sidewalk project began on Friday with the last sidewalk being poured today. There was one spot of concern on the corner of Sylvan and Liberty as the spot was not next to grass turf. Concrete was poured to fill in the area and Trustee Rockey will contact the asphalt company to discuss additional patching needed for the area and at a location on Parkway in the area of a previous watermain break. Trustee Rockey also noted that CMJ Tree Service was contacted to re-grind a stump from a tree that had previously been taken down on Main Street so that it would not interfere with the sidewalk being poured by the home of Judy and Jerry Rowe.

Committee Reports.

Finance. Attorney Churney noted that the tax levy will be presented at the October or November meeting.

Insurance. Mayor Hines noted an insurance bill should be coming next month.

Streets and Alleys. Trustee Rockey reported that Nick Hettel has completed work on alleys and cleaning up a corner near the Vogel residence. An issue will need to be addressed with a resident who is continuously putting a garbage can in the alley making it difficult for cars to go through.

Water. Trustee Stricklin discussed clean-up projects that he and Mike Harden have been working on. The board discussed locations for the placement of snow fences prior to winter.

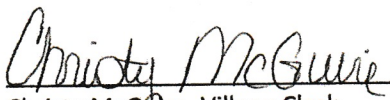
Police. Chief Jabczynski reported that Troy Technologies installed the Main Street security camera which is now fully functional. He would like to look into faster internet service once Mediacom is in place so the cameras can be available to officers inside squad car. Trustee Stricklin will speak to Pete Johnston about putting in a new circuit breaker for the camera. Chief Jabczynski noted he also spoke with Troy Technologies who recently acquired Technology Made Easy (TME) about an estimate for the cost of a new computer for the Police Department and giving the village an estimate on a printer for the village office. Chief Jabczynski also commended Mike Harden who recently did some work to fix the police truck.

Park. Trustee Koetz reported Mike Harden cleaned out the park pavilion maintenance building. She noted she was also approached by Nick Jaegle who let her know he would be removing one of his yard lights in the near future which will cause the corner of the park by the baseball diamond to be dark. He noted there is an electric pole available should the village decide to put up a street light. Trustee Koetz will contact ComEd to see if the company would be willing to put a light in this location.

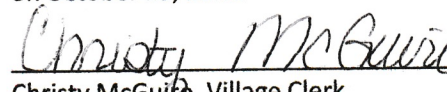
Mayor's Report. Mayor Hines noted she received a card from Sarah Over on behalf of the Community Fest Committee to thank the village for their assistance and support for a smooth Community Fest Celebration. She also reported she has received an email from the Illinois EPA saying it is aware of more than 200 communities that have non-existent waste water collection and treatment facilities, and the agency is offering a grant for unsewered communities and will be accepting applications through November 15th. IMEG is currently doing a study for construction funding. Mayor Hines will contact Shug Grosenbach at NCICG for further insight.

Adjournment. Trustee Koetz made a motion to adjourn; second by Trustee Tidaback. Voice Vote. All ayes; no nays. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Christy McGuire, Village Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees
on October 18, 2022.


Christy McGuire, Village Clerk