

Grand Ridge Village Board
Minutes of the March 21, 2023, 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, Cindi Koetz and Julene Buckley. Village Attorney Sheryl Churney, Village Clerk Christy McGuire, Mike Harden, John Hettel, Michael Jaegle, Teirra Fulkerson, Timothy Koster and Holly Koster were also present.

Minutes. Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2023 board meeting as presented; second by Trustee Tidaback. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report. Trustee Buckley made a motion to approve the February 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented; second by Trustee Rockey. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey, Koetz and Buckley. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Payment of Bills. Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to approve payment of the monthly bills; second by Trustee Koetz. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey, Koetz and Buckley. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Public Comment. Tim Koster commented that Ohms Sanctuary was a finalist chosen by Down at the Farms along with Valley Fresh Harvest online farmers market to facilitate access to locally produced foods across the Illinois Valley. Mr. Koster provided information about the program and efforts to distribute fresh food boxes at a significantly reduced or no cost to 650+ households in north central Illinois beginning in October. Mr. Koster passed out a survey to fill out and a letter to village board members.

Holly Koster commented on volunteer projects currently being worked on in the community through Let Growth Unite Us. She also advised she would be interviewing candidates via the web for a question and answer session with the public for anyone on the ballot who would be interested in participating.

Tierra Fulkerson had questions regarding burn barrels and stationery firepits. Attorney Churney noted that she would need to review the Village's open burning ordinance. Ms. Fulkerson asked about a well located on her property and if it could be used. It was noted the water was not usable. The property owner could fill-in the well if they wished to do so, however it as the owner's expense. Ms. Fulkerson asked about putting up a fence. She will follow-up with Trustee Tidaback for further information.

Old Business.

- A. **Intergovernmental agreement concerning speed warning signs.** Mayor Hines reported that she has received information about a grant through North Central Illinois Council of Governments that the village could apply for which includes speed warning signs. Attorney Churney noted that she has not heard back from Grand Ridge Grade School regarding its inquiry to the Township board about potentially sharing costs of a speed warning sign with the village. Mayor Hines will forward information received from the School at the March board meeting pertaining to a sign to NCICG. The village will wait to hear back on a decision from the Township before discussing further.
- B. **Ordinance to adopt demolition regulation.** Attorney Churney presented Ordinance 2023-02, an ordinance amending Title XV (Land Use), Chapter 150 (Buildings and Structures; Construction) of the Village Code to adopt demolition regulations; amending Section 150.99 (b) (Penalties) of the Village Code; Section 33.32 (Fee Schedule) of the Village Code and repealing Section 150.01 (n) of the Village Code. Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to approve Ordinance number 2023-02 as presented; second by Trustee Stricklin. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Tidaback, Rockey, Koetz and Buckley. Nays: None. Motion carried.