

Grand Ridge Village Board
Minutes of the September 19, 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, Kim Olney, Cindi Koetz and John Hettel. Trustee Dennis Rockey was absent. Village Attorney Sheryl Churney, Village Clerk Christy McGuire, Mike Harden, Buck Hill, Steve Fulkerson, Nick Hettel and Stephanie Wroblewski were also present.

Minutes. Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023 Board meeting as presented; second by Trustee Stricklin. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

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

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

Public Comment. Buck Hill followed up on comments discussed at a previous Board Meeting regarding drainage issues occurring at his residence at 9 Clover Court. He noted that multiple efforts have been made by professionals to diagnose and solve the issue and he is still awaiting results of these efforts. He met with Mayor Hines on September 12th to go over original blue prints for McBride Subdivision which is now known as Clover Court Subdivision. He asked that the village consider looking into USDA grants to solve the water issue and also requested access to village resources as he researches the issue to resolve the problem. Mr. Hill commented that he will attempt the process of "witching" for a tile. If a tile can be located, he would like to try to identify the condition of the tile. Mr. Hill will communicate his findings to the village for future discussion.

Old Business.

A. **Discussion of drainage issues.** The item was discussed during public comment.

New Business

A. **Approve and Place on File 2023 – 2024 Village Audit.** A motion was made by Trustee Hettel to approve and place the 2023 – 2024 Village Audit on file; second by Trustee Olney. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Olney, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

B. **Approve Halloween Trick or Treat Hours.** A motion for Halloween Trick or Treat Hours to be on October 31st from 6pm – 8pm was made by Trustee Stricklin; second by Trustee Koetz. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

C. **Resolution to Approve Authorizing Financial Commitment In the Safe Routes to school grant.** A motion was made by Trustee Stricklin to approve Resolution No. 2023-09-19, a resolution approving and authorizing financial commitment for the Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program; second by Trustee Koetz. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Olney, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

D. **Approve Agreement with Advanced Informational Mapping Systems, Inc. ("AIMS, Inc.") for lead line inventory services.** A motion was made by Trustee Olney to approve an agreement with Advanced Informational Mapping Systems, Inc. for lead line inventory services; second by Trustee Koetz. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Olney, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

E. **Refer Koetz Variance Petition to ZBA.** Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to refer a variance petition submitted by Jeffrey Koetz to the Zoning Board of Appeals; Second by Trustee Hettel. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Engineer's Report. Mayor Hines noted that Village Engineer Peter Faletti has resigned his position with IMEG. The vacancy will be filled by Jack Kusek. Mayor Hines reported the 2023 Sidewalk program has been approved by IDOT and the village can now solicit bids for the project. She also recommended calling a special meeting if bids are received in sufficient time before the October board meeting.

Committee Reports.

Finance. Attorney Churney noted that work will begin on the village tax levy in the last quarter of the year.

Insurance. Trustee Hinterlong noted that an insurance bill will be coming in November.

Streets and Alleys. No Report.

Building Permits. Trustee Hettel noted that he has received a request from Holly Koster for a permit to build a green house. He has not yet received completed information from Ms. Koster regarding her request.

Water. Trustee Hettel noted that the Village continues moving forward with its work on the Lead Line project.

Police. Trustee Koetz noted that the August 2023 monthly Police Chief's Report was submitted to Village Trustees. Recruiting efforts continue for a new part-time officer, but to date have been unsuccessful. Trustee Hettel noted concerns about golf cart use.

Health and Storm Drains. Trustee Koetz noted she will work with Trustee Rockey to further discuss drainage issues in Clover Court.

Park. Trustee Hinterlong reported the application for the OSLAD grant was turned in on Friday. The proposal for the grant request was submitted for \$612,000 of which the village would be responsible to raise \$306,000. Trustee Hinterlong noted that additional help would be needed to assist with fund raising efforts. It was also noted that two grills have been received for the park. Trustee Stricklin noted signs could be used in the park.

Attorney's Report. Ms. Churney noted that she will be attending the Illinois Municipal League conference this week and will share any information that would be useful to the board at the October meeting.

Mayor's Report. Mayor Hines reported she received a letter from the Grand Ridge PTO asking for donations to be used for a Halloween party for the school and families throughout the community. Trustee Koetz made a motion to match the amount donated last year; second by Trustee Hinterlong. Ayes: Stricklin, Hinterlong, Olney, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Trustee Koetz made a motion to adjourn; by Trustee Olney. Voice Vote: all ayes; no nays. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Christy McGuire, Village Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees on October 17, 2023


Christy McGuire, Village Clerk