

Grand Ridge Village Board
Minutes of the June 18, 2024, 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, Dennis Rockey, Cindi Koetz and John Hettel. Village Attorney Sheryl Churney, Village Clerk Christy McGuire, Mike Harden, Martha Harden, Nick Hettel, Jack Kusek and Steve Fulkerson were also present.

Minutes. Trustee Hinterlong made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2024 Board meeting, the April 24th Historical Committee Meeting and the June 13, 2024 Park Committee Meeting as presented; second by Trustee Hettel. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

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

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

Public Comment. Martha Harden spoke regarding the opposition of OSF Healthcare's Plan for demolishing the hospital and decreasing services at OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa, IL and provided form letters for residents to submit to express their opinion. Trustee Hettel commented that with the 2025 election approaching the board may want to consider a pay increase for the Mayor, Village Clerk, Treasurer and Water Clerk. Attorney Churney suggested the Finance Committee meet and make a recommendation to the board to be voted on prior to the September Village Board Meeting. It was noted it has been approximately 12 years since the last pay increase for these positions.

Travel Request(s). Attorney Churney commented that the 2024 Illinois Municipal League Conference will be held in September and noted the Village has a policy which requires pre-approval on travel. She suggested placing this item on the July or August agenda so that travel expenses can be approved for anyone who wishes to attend.

Old Business.

- A. **Purchase of Welcome to Grand Ridge Sign.** Trustee Rockey noted he continues to work on finding a company to customize a sign and provide the Village with a cost estimate. Attorney Churney suggested contacting P & D Sign in Peru to see if they can assist.
- B. **Drainage in McBride Subdivision.** Mayor Hines spoke with Ted Sanders, from Grand Ridge Grade School and was informed this issue will be placed on next month's school board meeting agenda. Attorney Churney noted she has a draft form of the drainage easement and the only thing we would need to insert is a legal description and an easement plat. Once we know the school is onboard, we would need to incur the survey and plat expense.