

Building Permits. There was a building permit issued for a fence on Sylvan and another pending permit for a fence on Burlington Street. The permit issued to Helena for the water line project has been completed. Helena will be submitting a permit in the future for a storage tower.

Water. The recent water main break on Main Street resulted in the loss of approximately 100,000 gallons of water. The Village typically uses between 40,000 and 70,000 gallons of water per day. On the day of the water main break, the Village's water usage increased to approximately 170,000 gallons. The filter media and the filters in the water treatment plant need to be inspected and repaired or replaced. The water tower is also due for an inspection in the near future. The next water rate increase will take place on October 1, 2026. The Village will look into increasing the operations and maintenance fee.

The trustees discussed issuing another newsletter to remind residents of various issues, including the requirement for residents to install backflow prevention devices.

Police. No report other than the submitted written report.

Health/Storm Drains. No report.

Park. No report.

History. Trustee Hettel reported the committee would like to have the monument installed and completed by Veterans' Day -- November 11, 2026. A pancake breakfast fundraiser is planned and the committee will try to raise money during the Community Fest weekend. Zeke Simons made a donation of \$175.

Long-Range Planning Committee. The committee met and discussed the wastewater treatment plant, additional ways of increasing Village revenue and the Village's storm sewers. Mayor Simons advised the board the wastewater treatment plant is a long-term project as the specifics have not been laid out and the Village does not have the financial resources at this time to proceed. Trustee Olney expressed concern about losing potential grant money if the Village does not move forward in a timely manner. At this time, there is not enough information or support from the engineering firm to move forward.

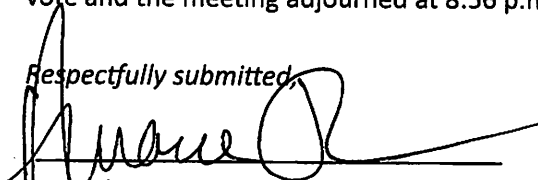
Attorney's Report. No report.

Mayor's Report. No report.

Correspondence. None.

Adjournment. Trustee Koetz made a motion to adjourn; second by Trustee Rockey. The motion carried on a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Jaegle, Village Clerk

Approved by the Board of Trustees on August 18, 2026



Amanda Jaegle, Village Clerk

address work needed in the Village and locate water lines. Mayor Simons will reach out to USIC for information on the cost of locating services. Trustee Koetz made a motion to hire Bob Buckley and Randy Thorp for Village maintenance and utility locate tasks at the rate of \$25 per hour; seconded by Trustee Hettel. Ayes: Olney, Rockey, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Absent: Hinterlong and Hill. Motion carried.

- C. **Water Extension Line on Washington St to O E Liberty St.** Mayor Simons reported the property has a prospective buyer who reached out about water service at the location. The property is currently zoned as residential. The Village is willing to extend the water line, contingent upon the zoning matching the use for the property. A contract purchaser can petition for a rezoning if they wish to do so.
- D. **Waste Management Fuel Surcharge.** Waste Management has asked the Village to approve a fuel surcharge for residents. The contract with Waste Management states there can be a request for extraordinary adjustments. Waste Management would need to prepare a rate adjustment request showing calculations, increased cost and lost revenues. The Village would then have 90 days to review the letter and make an informed decision.
- E. **Special Event Non-Highway Vehicle Registration for Community Fest Events.** Trustee Rockey made a motion to approve Special Event Non-Highway Vehicle Registration for Community Fest Events to be held August 21-23, 2026; seconded by Trustee Olney. Ayes: Olney, Rockey, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Absent: Hinterlong and Hill. Motion carried.
- F. **Donation to the Grand Ridge Community Fest.** Trustee Koetz made a motion to donate \$1,000 to the Grand Ridge Community Fest; seconded by Trustee Hettel. Ayes: Olney, Rockey, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Absent: Hinterlong and Hill. Motion carried.

Engineer's Report. No report.

Committee Reports.

Finance. The bills were paid this month, with a portion funded from the Motor Fuel Fund. Going forward, certain maintenance expenses for the water mains and storm sewers may be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Water Fund, or Motor Fuel Fund, as appropriate. Mayor Simons noted that the Village has not received any grants in the past few years and he noted that the Village should be able to meet its month-to-month financial obligations without relying on grant funding. Attorney Churney suggested the Village consider implementing utility taxes on gas and electric services, stating that the current revenue structure is not sustainable and that additional sources of revenue are needed. Attorney Churney will draft ordinances for the Board's consideration.

Insurance. Mayor Simons renewed the Risk Management Association policy for 2026-27; the Tahoe was removed from the policy and the Polaris was added.

Streets and Alleys. Trustee Rockey reported he noticed a couple potholes and he will patch those this week. He notified the county of the recent water main break on Main Street, as it includes the County's portion of the road. A sinkhole on Prospect Street was discussed. The area had previously been filled with gravel by Grand Rapids, but the ground has begun to settle again. The Village will continue to monitor the area for any future issues. A tree located at the corner of Main Street and Poundstone Street was also discussed. Following a recent limb failure, CMS Tree Service inspected the tree and determined that it was rotten and should be removed. The nearby residents objected to its removal and instead filled portions of the tree with spray foam and concrete. As the tree is located on Village property, the matter will continue to be addressed by the Village.

**Grand Ridge Village Board
Minutes of the July 21, 2026
Regular Meeting of the Village Board**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mayor Jared Simons at the Grand Ridge Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance. Trustees present: Kim Olney (arrived at 7:07 pm), Dennis Rockey, Cindi Koetz, and John Hettel. Trustees Hinterlong and Hill were absent. Also present: Village Attorney Sheryl Churney, Village Clerk Amanda Jaegle, Chief Josh Jabczynski, Wayne Cunningham, Officer Shayne Schueler, Megan Schueler, Scarlett Schueler, and Jordan Alderson.

Special Business. Chief Jabczynski introduced Shayne Schueler, the Village's newest police officer, to the Board. Officer Schueler was sworn in by Village Clerk Amanda Jaegle.

Minutes. Trustee Hettel made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2026 Village Board meeting; second by Trustee Koetz. 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 Olney. Ayes: Olney, Rockey, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Absent: Hinterlong and Hill. Motion carried.

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

Public Comment. Resident Wayne Cunningham spoke regarding concerns he has about drainage in his neighborhood.

Travel Request(s). None.

Old Business.

- A. **Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village and the Grade School District.** Both sides have agreed on the terms of the contract. Both boards will approve the agreement at their August board meetings.
- B. **2026-27 Appropriation Ordinance.** Trustee Koetz made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-02, the 26-27 Appropriation Ordinance; seconded by Trustee Rockey. Ayes: Olney, Rockey, Koetz, Hettel. Nays: None. Absent: Hinterlong and Hill. Motion carried.
- C. **Bulk Water Regulations.** Attorney Churney provided samples and made suggestions for guidelines. Mayor Simons would like the water committee to hold a meeting and make a recommendation to the board.

New Business.

- A. **NCICG (North Central Illinois Council of Government) Membership.** The Village will explore additional grant opportunities and funding sources for which it may be eligible. Trustee Rockey made a motion to renew the Village's membership with NCICG for 2026-27; seconded by Trustee Olney. Ayes: Olney, Rockey, Koetz and Hettel. Nays: None. Absent: Hinterlong and Hill. Motion carried.
- B. **Hiring Additional Village Maintenance Employees.** Bob Buckley and Randy Thorp are interested in helping with Village maintenance projects and utility locates. Mayor Simons would like to form a committee to