

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2004**

President James Bracewell called the regular scheduled meeting of the Grand Beach Village Council to order at 7:30 PM EST. Present in addition to Bracewell were Debbie Lindley, John Boden Jr. and Robert Grim. Walter Carroll was absent.

Minutes of the regular council meeting of August 18, 2004 were approved unanimously 4-0 on a R. Grim/J. Boden motion.

There was nothing to report from the Building & Zoning Commissioner. Parks & Beaches had nothing to report as Walter Carroll was not in attendance.

Streets & Water Commissioner Robert Grim reported that the village is putting in a computerized instrumentation system in the water department. With this system Bob Dabbs will be able to check the system from his home and monitor water pressure and the water level in the water tower. This system is necessary so that the village can install a third booster pump, which is required by the DEQ. He also addressed a letter from Muriel Shapiro regarding the condition of Lake Park Avenue and Robin Lane in the Eiffel Towers. He stated that the village is aware of the condition of the streets, but with all of the construction in the area it would not be worth while to take care of it now. After construction slows down, the village will the issue.

Pro-shop and golf course commissioner James Bracewell reported that the number one challenge over the last nine weeks has been the problem with the irrigation system. He added that the new pump is being installed at the pump house on the lake. Nick Sinnott of ServiScape reported that he had a very extensive conversation with Merritt Engineering regarding the irrigation problem and Merritt suggested he do two things. The first is to install auto air release valves and the other is to fabricate a vortex braking system. This should resolve the problem.

Bracewell stated that there has been a movement started, a petition, phone calls and notes from one family in the village about children playing golf. The letters say that any child, any age, should be able to play golf at any time, unsupervised. There were new regulations put into effect this summer concerning children on the course. The rules basically state that children should be supervised unless 14 years old or older, or 12 years old and certified, or if they shot a 63 from the reds they can play unsupervised. Bracewell added that he has had a lot of pressure directed at him and he is not going to favor one group over another. At this time he can't see throwing away everything they've achieved over the summer.

There were no personnel reports other than the written reports from the superintendent, police chief and building inspector.

James Bracewell informed everyone that included in the monthly bills was a bill from ServiScape for over \$17,000.00. This bill is for the work that Bob Frame Plumbing has done on the irrigation system. He added that this was not budgeted for and there was not money set aside for this expense and there will have to be money transferred from the general fund to help pay for the irrigation system.

Bills to be paid with written additions were approved unanimously 4-0 on a R. Grim/J. Boden motion.

Brad Frey of Pagel & Frey addressed the council regarding a new bid involving the HVAC. When they bid on the hall renovation last winter, the HVAC contractor that they use most often was out of the country and could not bid on the job. Since then, he asked Frey if he could bid the job and he came and looked at the HVAC system currently in use and suggested that the village keep the air conditioning unit and furnace since it is only 9 years old. He believes that the problem is with the duct work and not the units. He would rework the existing system to serve the pro-shop and install a new system for the office and council meeting room. This approach would save the village \$4,995.00. The clerk stated that she has had problems recently with the air conditioning unit and was told there was more work necessary to keep it running. Frey asked her to fax the repair bills to him so that he could review them. The clerk also asked Brad Frey for a bid on removing the horizontal wood that separates the upper and lower windows in her office, because she can not see who is approaching the office. This would cost an additional \$975.00. Brad Frey will prepare a change order for the council to approve at the next meeting regarding these two changes.

James Bracewell addressed the issue of zoning board of appeals hearing fees. When there is a ZBA hearing, there is a lot of work and expenses involved, including legal fees. He feels that the cost of the hearing should be increased to help offset the costs incurred by the village. A motion by R. Grim/J. Boden to increase the cost of zoning appeals from \$200.00 to \$300.00 per appeal was approved unanimously 4-0.

The next item on the agenda was the snowmobile resolution to allow snowmobiles on the golf course. This issue was brought up by Pete Carroll two months ago. Bracewell stated that he has supported Pete's thrust towards snowmobiles. He listed the following items as concerns and stated that some of them have been addressed.

1. A resolution
2. A committee to meet and trouble shoot the issue
3. A safety plan in place
4. A trail plan in place
5. He wants to make sure that we don't put children in harms way
6. He wants to make sure that the snowmobiles do the least amount of damage to the golf course

He asked the clerk to send a draft of the resolution to the village attorney for his approval. The subject died due to a lack of a motion and will be added to the October agenda.

The item of beach clean-up wages was put on the agenda by Pete Carroll. He wants to pay a young man for helping clean up the beach. This will be added to the October agenda.

The item of golf course issues was put on the agenda by Pete Carroll. This will be added to October's agenda.

The item of volunteer committee issues was put on the agenda by Pete Carroll. This will be added to the October agenda. Jim Bracewell stated that he feels that this community functions on volunteer committees and he believes we need more volunteers.

A motion by R. Grim/J. Boden to approve the hall rentals was approved unanimously 4-0. The rentals are to New Buffalo High School on 10/15/04 and a rental to Robert Mueller on 11/27/04. Karen Johnson changed her rental date from 11/27/04 to 11/26/04.

The council received a thank you letter regarding the Pine Street beach stairs from Joyce Kelly and a letter from Murial Shapiro regarding the condition of Lake Park Avenue and Robin Lane.

President Bracewell reminded the audience that any letters to the council must be received by the village clerk on the Wednesday prior to the council meeting to become part of the agenda.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk/Treasurer