

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 16, 2008**

President Jim Bracewell called the regular council meeting to order at 7:40 PM EDT. Present in addition to Bracewell were Pete Carroll and Kaye Moriarty. Bob Grim and Debbie Lindley were not in attendance.

Pete Carroll moved, with support from Jim Bracewell to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 19, 2008. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Pete Carroll moved, with support from Jim Bracewell to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of April 5, 2008. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Commission reports:

**Building & Zoning:** Kaye Moriarty moved, with support from Jim Bracewell to allocate \$230 for Kaye Moriarty and Bill Owens to attend a meeting in Benton Harbor in regards to new building requirements and a master plan. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Parks & Beaches had nothing to report.

**Streets & Water:** Jim Bracewell told the council that the water project is underway and that they were fortunate to have voted to allow Bob Dabbs to approve change orders of up to \$20,000. Bob Dabbs told the council that there is a change order to install a valve at the base of SkyHi at a cost of \$4,500, which is necessary in order to isolate problems in that area by shutting off the valve rather than shutting off the water to the entire Village. Bob also told the council that there were three water lines that were broken and repaired on Friday. He told the council that while repairing the lines, the pump that they use to pump water out stopped working and that they are in need of another pump in case of an emergency.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Pete Carroll to authorize Bob Dabbs to buy a replacement water pump not to exceed a cost of \$2,200. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

**Pro-Shop & Golf Course:** Pete Carroll stated that the course has been open for two weeks and looks good. He also told the council that he included a blurb in the upcoming newsletter asking people to support the golf course and to join the Michigan Golf Association.

Nick Sinnott of ServiScape told the council that the new (used) fairway mower is in use and the second mower should arrive in the next couple of weeks. Greens aerification will begin on Monday, weather permitting.

**Superintendent:** Jim Bracewell asked Bob Dabbs if something could be done on Lake View where Howard's Excavating installed a dry well to alleviate a flooding problem. There is now a dip in the road that needs to be approached with caution so that the bottom of your car does not hit the road. Dabbs told the council that he has a plan to put an extension ring on the drain with holes in it to allow the water to drain into the drywell and to raise the road in that area to take care of the problem. Dabbs will contact Mrs. Green concerning her driveway in relation to the raised road.

**Police Chief:** Chief Schroeder told the council that the new squad car is in use. He also told the council that he attached an ordinance to his report regarding house numbering. He explained that there are residents who do not want to put address numbers on their house and this causes safety issues. Jim Bracewell asked that this be added to the May agenda.

Building Inspector: Nothing to report.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Pete Carroll to approve the bills as presented with written additions. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Pete Carroll to approve pay requests #1 & #2 for the DWRF water project as presented. Motion carried unanimously 3-0. Pay request #1 was in the amount of \$76,675 and #2 was in the amount of \$195,220.21.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Kaye Moriarty to approve the temporary use of funds set aside for a plow truck and contingency funds to help pay for the clubhouse patio beautification project. Motion carried unanimously 3-0. There has been \$8,000 set aside for a plow truck purchase and \$800 in the contingency fund will be used until the entire Pokagon Fund Grant is paid in full, at which time the funds will be returned to the various accounts.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Pete Carroll to approve budget amendments for 07/08 for the Building Inspection Fund, Water Fund, Local Street Fund, Major Street Fund, General Fund and Capital Projects Fund as presented. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Pete Carroll to transfer \$4,000 to the Capital Projects Fund for the Plow Truck. Motion carried unanimously 3-0. Clerk Mary Robertson explained that the \$4,000 transfer will be a part of the \$8,000 that will be temporarily used for the clubhouse patio beautification project as discussed earlier in the meeting.

The council reviewed the proposed budgets for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2009 as presented by the budget and finance committee. Jim Bracewell explained that there was a lot of time and thought put into the proposed budgets. He told the audience that it is important to get the golf fund to a break even point, and he hopes that the weather will be favorable for golf this year in order to increase revenue. He added that the council would like to keep the excellent employees that work for the Village. He thanked community members John Boden Jr. and Mrs. Deaner for their help with the budgets.

Kaye Moriarty expressed concern over the anticipated fund balance in the building inspection fund at the end of the next fiscal year. She was concerned that there would not be enough money in the account to cover legal expenses regarding building department issues. Jim Bracewell explained to her that the Village had to reduce the building permit fees in order to meet state requirements that require that the Village only collect enough money in permit fees to cover the building inspection fund. Clerk Mary Robertson told Moriarty that she will continue to monitor the funds available in the building inspection fund and if the funds became too low there will be an adjustment made to the permit fees or the rent that the general fund charges to the building inspection fund, which covers rent and the clerk's wages associated with that fund.

Mary Robertson told the council that there will be a budget hearing for public comments on May 21<sup>st</sup> prior to the regular meeting and a special meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> to adopt the budget and the millage rate.

Pete Carroll addressed the council concerning the Beach Ordinance #2005-66 that was previously adopted. In September of 2007 council member Kaye Moriarty asked that the council amend the ordinance to say that dogs are not allowed at any time on any beach in Grand Beach, but President Jim Bracewell suggested that this issue be discussed in the spring when there were more people in the Village. After discussion between council members and an audience member, the issue was tabled until the May meeting when the full council is expected to attend the meeting. Jim Bracewell hoped that more people in the Village would be made aware of the issue prior to the May meeting.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Pete Carroll to approve the letter of agreement with Comcast to collect 3% of franchise fees as previously approved by resolution. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

Jim Bracewell spoke about an increase in the Able Disposal monthly billing to cover additional diesel fuel expenses. When the Village negotiated the contract with Able Disposal, it was noted that if the price of diesel exceeded \$3.00 per gallon the Village would be charged an additional .5% for every ten cent change in diesel prices. The increase means an additional \$119 on the monthly trash and recycle bill to the Village.

Kaye Moriarty moved, with support from Pete Carroll to approve hall rental requests for New Buffalo Elementary School on May 31, 2008, Lisa Werner on June 8, 2008 and Laura & Mike Tarwater on July 26, 2008. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

During audience recognition Bruce Hipshear spoke to the audience and let them know that he would be running for State Representative to fill Neal Nitz's seat as he has termed out and is no longer able to run for office.

Jim Bracewell moved, with support from Kaye Moriarty to close the meeting. Motion approved unanimously 3-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM EDT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary J. Robertson  
Clerk/Treasurer