

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President James Bracewell called the regular council meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. EST. Present in addition to Bracewell were Peter Doerr, Paul Leonard Jr., and Blake O'Halloran. Deborah Lindley was not in attendance.

ADOPT AGENDA

Bracewell moved, seconded by O'Halloran to adopt the September 21, 2022 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

APPROVE MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting Minutes – August 17, 2022
Special Council Meeting Minutes – August 31, 2022

Bracewell moved, seconded by Doerr to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes of August 17, 2022 and the Special Council Meeting minutes of August 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

HALL RENTAL REQUEST - Yvette Brandes (Winter Warriors)

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the hall rental request for Yvette Brandes as presented. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

PAY BILLS

Bracewell moved, seconded by Leonard to approve the payment of bills with written additions as presented. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Paul Jancha introduced himself and said he is running for Berrien County District Court Judge in the November election. He said Judge Dennis Wiley is retiring. He said he is a lifetime resident of Berrien County. Jancha said he is Berrien County's Chief Public Defender and has held that position since March of 2020.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

None

COMMISSION REPORTS

BUILDING & ZONING: Bracewell said that building is on the rise and will continue with 21 homes in the process of construction now. He said there is a 6-8 week wait for windows.

PARKS & BEACHES: Doerr said that the Village put in an indemnification process and is protected if something happens on the project that Arie Donkersloot is working on from the Village's beach access. He said they plan to hold a Parks & Recreation Committee meeting in November.

STREETS & WATER: Leonard said the normal fall activities are taking place, and Bob Dabbs has been taking water samples.

POLICE: Lindley was not in attendance.

Regular Council Meeting – September 21, 2022

PRO SHOP & COURSE: O'Halloran said August was a very good month, even better than August of 2020 and 2021. He said the mild weather was perfect for golf. He told Council members that people have been playing twilight golf (after 7:00 p.m.) and paying the ranger \$8, and he does not want to put the rangers in the situation of collecting cash from golfers so he would like to work out a season pass for twilight golf (after 7:00 p.m.) and suggested a fee of \$100. He will bring his suggestion back to the Council before the next golf season begins.

SERVISCAPE REPORT

Clay Putnam said seasonal maintenance is ongoing. He said the large oak tree that was rotting on #5 has been removed. He said they replaced five irrigation breaks in August and have had to have two satellite controllers replaced after a lightning strike.

PERSONNEL REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: In addition to his written report, Superintendent Bob Dabbs said they have completed three water taps. He said they installed a drywell on Lake View Avenue and will install one on Grand Beach Road where water sits.

POLICE CHIEF: In addition to his written report, Chief Ryan Layman said there were 46 complaints in August and nothing out of the ordinary happened over Labor Day.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Bill Lambert was not in attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINT POLICE CHIEF RYAN LAYMAN AS SHORT-TERM RENTAL CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL

Bracewell moved, seconded by Leonard to appoint Police Chief Ryan Layman as the Short-Term Rental Code Enforcement Official. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

SET FEES FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL

Bracewell moved, seconded by Leonard to pay the Short-Term Rental Code Enforcement Official \$200 for the inspection of each short-term rental property and \$150 per hour for billable court time. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROCESS – CHIEF RYAN LAYMAN

Chief Ryan Layman gave a slide presentation about the short-term rental process with the new short-term rental ordinance going into effect on January 1, 2023.

HIRE ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEE FOR MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Bracewell said that there are 21 homes being built, and an incredible increase in demand for Village services. He said the Village is having the maintenance department do more and more work without outsourcing projects. Bob Dabbs said that there is a lot to do in the Village, and they will now be maintaining the 42 Acres (Nature Preserve). He said the pro shop and hall need a lot of work. He said he has found someone who will be a good fit for the Village. Dabbs stated that they will need an additional vehicle which could be the old police car, but he would rather have a pick-up truck, even if it is used.

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell for the Village to hire an additional full-time employee for the maintenance department at \$21.00 per hour with benefits. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

INCREASE TRASH AND RECYCLE CHARGES ON UTILITY BILLINGS

Leonard moved, seconded by Doerr for the Village to pass through to residents any cost increases that the Village receives for water and trash and recycling. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – GENERAL

Richard Lindblade addressed the Council regarding construction of a home on SkyHi Road. He had several concerns with the plans, the location of the project on a fragile dune, and concern of construction of a bridge to the property from SkyHi causing the closure of SkyHi. Bracewell asked him to put this in writing and forward it to the clerk who will send it to the Council members.

David Nellans introduced himself to the Council and said that they bought their house on SkyHi and have enjoyed the community so far. He said he just got off of the town council in Munster, Indiana after 20 years and he appreciates what the Grand Beach Village Council does.

Michelle Hannon introduced herself and said that she is running for Berrien County Commissioner in the upcoming election. She said her main focus is workforce housing for teachers, police officers, firemen and service workers. She said that transportation is also very important to her.

CORRESPONDENCE

HARRY WALDER – SPECIAL MEETING NOTICES

Bracewell said the Council received two letters from Harry Walder. Bracewell said that the Council held two special meetings recently and the topics on the agenda were discussed at previous meetings.

HARRY WALDER – SHORT-TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE

Bracewell said the second letter from Harry Walder said that various participants of the “meet & greet” for those running for Council didn’t know anything about the short-term rental process. Bracewell said it has been discussed at various meetings of the Planning Commission and Council. Leonard said that the meetings are noticed ahead of time and the minutes are on the website. He said that residents have to take on responsibility to find out what is going on.

ADJOURNMENT

Bracewell moved, seconded by O’Halloran to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer