Village of Grantfork

May 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Village Hall

Prepared by Theresa Levora, Village Clerk

**Pledge of Allegiance**

# **Roll Call**

Carla Crawford, Wendy Reinacher-Heilig, Nancy Schoen, Ron Wildhaber, Katy Scott, Lucas Haller, DeDe Lohman, Phil Decker, Brett Bruhn, Justin Rottmann, Steve Brendel, and Theresa Levora in attendance.

# Brian Kuick with Juneau Associates was here to discuss the STP-S grant for a Main Street improvement project which would run from Rte. 160 to Elm Street. The project includes reconstruction of the road pavements and the addition of sidewalks and curbs on both sides of the streets. This grant is administered federally and comes from the federal portion of Motor Fuel Tax. We were in competition with all of St. Clair and Madison counties. We scored well because we didn’t ask for the moon. The funds should be available in July of 2028. It will not be officially approved until August or September. The next step is to develop the plan and acquire the easements. The grant total is $1,052,000. It will not pick up Design Engineering but it will match 20% of the construction costs and engineering. The Planning Commission will be involved in this process. We next want Brian to review a high risk rural road grant for Rte. 160 which could include a speed reduction and crossing improvement.

New Board Members and Mayor were sworn in.

Kent Mettler wanted to discuss the business license applications that were sent out. He doesn’t think the “solicitors” language should apply to business owners. He feels that the code should be changed and exclusions should be added to clear up any confusion. He was told this would be taken under advisement.

# **Minutes from the Previous meeting**

The question regarding culverts maintenance was referring to Village owned property not private property. The new street signs are not 6 foot tall they are six inches tall. Under new business, it was reported that the county needs to appoint a new Floodplain administrator. The Village appoints that position. Carla motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections. Ron seconds. All in favor.

# **Treasurer's Report**

We ended the fiscal year April 30th. A spreadsheet was created to show a comparison between 2024 actuals and the 2025 appropriations.

The CD’s are due now and rates are down. We need to renegotiate our rate. The tax levy has been certified. Brett is getting audit materials ready.

We received a $600 invoice for rock material for Lagoon Road. It was ordered by Schwarz and the split is to be 45/55 between Schwarz and the Village. They were told to get bids. In the future they will not order anything without prior approval. Phil thinks the agreement needs to be updated to allow for 3 shares, their home, their business and the Village.

Carla motioned to approve the Treasurers report, seconded by Katy. All in favor.

# **Authorization of Bills**

Connie Frank is cleaning the Hall once a month. Carla motioned to pay the bills, seconded by Katy. All in favor.

Ordinance 2025.05.01 Adoption of the Appropriations. Carla motioned to approve 2025.05.01, Katy seconded. Roll call. All in favor.

The Gazebo Park is a new line item. Nancy expressed disappointment at the undecorated park during the Christmas season. The decorations were in bad shape and need to be replaced.

# **Public Safety**

Relief Center primary is Carla, secondary is Katy. Justin passed around the sign-up sheet for 2025.

Fulford completed the Academy and is starting his field training. Officer raises need to be considered in May. Social Security cost of living increase is 3.9%. Carla suggests a 5% raise and motioned to increase the police rate by 5%. Ron seconded. All in favor.

Chicken warning letters were delivered.

# **Public Works**

After 4 months, the Department of Labor report has been received. Phil responded to their findings. We should be in good standing.

Two new tap ons and culverts installed. Neither house has been sold yet.

Anderson Oil coming out next week to evaluate the roads. They need to send us a letter saying that Cherokee Road is ok.

Doing ditch work at the school. Working on the pumps at the Lagoon, repairing sprinkler heads, etc. Will start getting the bills in soon.

Will be cleaning the “Welcome to Grantfork” sign using the appropriate cleaning products.

**Old Business**

The first chicken letter was sent out on March 31st, however no mention was made of this at the April meeting. Question was asked, “Why weren’t the letters sent to everyone in the Village?” Our ordinance is the most liberal of the surrounding communities. Nancy suggested a quarterly newsletter.

Board to revisit the chicken ordinance and develop a clear enforcement plan including appointing a chicken checker.

# **New Business**

Resolution 2025.05.01R Reappoint Rottmann as Chief of Police. Carla made motion, Katy seconded. Roll call. All in favor.

Resolution 2025.05.02R Reappoint Phil Decker as Public Works Supervisor. Carla made motion, Katy seconded. Roll call. All in favor.

Resolution 2025.05.03R Reappoint CJ Schlosser as Village Auditors. Carla made motion, Katy seconded. Roll call. All in favor.

Resolution 2025.05.04R Reappoint Levora as Village Clerk. Ron made motion, seconded by Katy. Roll call. All in favor.

Resolution 2025.05.05R Reappoint Kulick as Village Engineer. Carla made motion, seconded by Katy. Roll call. All in favor except Nancy who abstained.

Resolution 2025.05.06R Reappoint Lohman as Water Billing Clerk. Carla made motion, Katy seconded. Roll call. All in favor.

Resolution 2025.05.07R Reappoint Nissen as Water Billing Clerk . Nancy wants to make sure that this reappointment does not include being paid to work at the Gazebo. Ron made motion, Katy seconded. Roll call. All in favor.

Resolution 2025.05.08R Reappoint Daugherty as Zoning Officer. Carla made motion, Katy seconded. Roll call. All I favor.

Resolution 2025.05.08R Reappoint Lading as Village Attorney. Carla motioned to approve, Katy seconded. Roll call. Nancy NO, Ron NO, Wendy, ABSTAIN. Mayor breaks tie. Mayor ABSTAINS. This reappointment will be tabled until the next meeting.

Christmas ornament sale right now. Do we want pole décor, cut-outs or nativity?

Kent Mettler will think about becoming a Trustee.

 Carla motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ron. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 .