

**GROVE CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
GROVE CITY, PENNSYLVANIA  
REGULAR MEETING JULY 21, 2014 7:00PM**

**CALL TO ORDER** by Council President George Pokrant at 7:20pm

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PRAYER** was offered by Council Member Jeffrey Hodge

**ROLL CALL** was answered by Council Members: Mattocks, Daley, Myers, Hodge, Gallagher, Solicitor Bonner, Pokrant, Black, Mayor Riddle, Coulter, Bigley and Wood.

07:25 Mayor Riddle left the meeting

07:35 Mayor Riddle returned to the meeting

**REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

- Mr. Barras of 912 Columbia Ave.- mentioned a letter received from the borough and voiced complaints regarding mosquito infestation in an alley behind property causing concern about standing water in neighbor's backyard and alleyway. Mosquitos are increasing and he is concerned about possible diseases they may carry affecting community. Borough will investigate the question of sanitation drainage issues vs. storm drainage to decide how best to handle.
- Mr. Shearer of 115 W. Poplar Ave. – Questioned the amount of offer for \$10 for easement for telephone pole in back yard. Mike Beatty will handle further discussion of easement issues.

Mr. Pokrant reported that Council met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss a matter of pole attachment contract negotiations and potential litigation matters.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS-TO-BE-PAID REPORT**

**Mr. Black moved to approve the bills to be paid. Mrs. Mattocks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS PAID REPORT**

**Mr. Black moved to approve the bills paid report. Dr. Coulter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Dr. Coulter moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2014 as presented. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**GROVE CITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY REPORT**

April Flynn Gillis reported on: a successful children's summer reading program (600 children participated); movie & pool party events overview; adult summer reading program info.

**CONSIDERATION OF EVENT REQUESTS** - Grove City College Homecoming Parade: Saturday, October 4, 2014 - **Dr. Coulter moved to approve the event request submitted by Grove City College for their homecoming parade to be held on Saturday, October 4, 2014. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER HARRISVILLE BOROUGH REQUEST** – Sewer Tap, H. Robert Hovis, 538 E. Prairie Street., 1 EDU. – **Mr. Black moved to approve the request from Harrisville Borough for a sanitary sewer extension to the H. Robert Hovis property located at 538 E. Prairie Street. Dr. Coulter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION # 2014-8** – Authorizing an Agility Agreement with Penn DOT. Renewing an authorization whereby the borough provides snowplowing services on Main and Broad Streets for Penn DOT and agrees to receive Penn DOT services in return for that. **Mr. Myers moved to approve Resolution # 2014-8, authorizing an Agility Agreement with PennDOT, as presented. Mr. Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**REVIEW OF STREET PAVING LIST FOR 2014**

Mr. Oakes reviewed the list of street paving for the Borough, after explaining that it had been expanded due to the recommendation by the Penn DOT municipal services representative that streets can be removed but not added at a later time. Priority listing was determined after having walked the streets and alleys on the listing. Recommendation is to pave rather than tarring and chipping, in agreement with prior consideration of the cost vs. effectiveness of various repair options available. **Mr. Black moved to approve the street paving list for 2014, as presented. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

7:50pm – Joel Bigley left the meeting.

7:55pm – Joel Bigley returned to the meeting.

**REJECT BIDS** – Airport Fuel Facility Contractor

Mr. Oakes reviewed information about bids received being well over the budget, recommends that all bids be rejected and re-advertise the project. Details were provided about the grant for this project as related to previous grants received.

**Mr. Black moved to reject the bids received for the airport fuel farm facility project. Mr. Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER RENEWAL OF MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING** – Grove City Area School District regarding policies and procedures for police service on school property.

Questions regarding school bus route change on Columbia Ave. Borough will note to look into the concern about road condition due to increased bus traffic.

**Mr. Hodge moved to approve the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding with Grove City Area School District for Police services, as presented. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER(S)** – Council member Gallagher reported on the interview process and presented the candidates that were selected for recommendation by the committee: Ethan Foley and Alaina Thomas.

**Mr. Wood moved to approve the appointment of Junior Council Members Ethan Foley and Alaina Thomas. Dr. Coulter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

Junior Council Members Thomas and Foley sworn in by Mayor Riddle.

**CONSIDER MENTOR PROGRAM FOR JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER(S)** – Council members Gallagher and Wood to serve as mentors for Junior Council Members. **Mr. Black moved to approve a mentoring program for Junior Council Members, as presented. Mr. Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**DISCUSSION ON MERCER COUNTY BOROUGH'S ASSOCIATION MEETING** – Grove City to host the meeting on September 25, 2014. Discussion of location and possible keynote speaker/topics for meeting led by Mrs. Mattocks and Mr. Oakes. "Save the Date" mailing to be sent. No action required.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT** – Mr. Dan Goncz reported:

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project-Phase II
    - Requisition No. II-B 17, \$8,320.27 (Phase II Supervision & Phase III Bid Advertisement)
- Mr. Hodge moved to approve Requisition No. II-B 17 in the amount of \$8,320.27 as presented. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

- Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project-Phase III
- **CONSIDER AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR PHASE III-**
  - Chivers Construction Co. \$510,000.00 (General Contractor)
- **Mr. Black moved to approve award of General Contactor bid for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project-Phase III to Chivers Construction Co. in the amount of \$510,000.00, as presented. Mr. Bigley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
  - John O'Brien Electric, Inc. \$34,600.00 (Electrical Contractor)

Low bid from John O'Brien Electric, Inc. was submitted with a bid bond of 5% rather than the required 10%, rendering the bid invalid. Recommendation made to reject the invalid bid, and after cost considerations, accept the next lowest bid for the electrical contract, which was \$45,800.00 submitted by University Electric.

- **Mr. Black moved to reject the invalid bid from John O'Brien Electric, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project-Phase III Electrical Contractor. Mr. Bigley seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.**
- **Mr. Myers moved to approve award of Electrical Contractor bid for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project-Phase III to University Electric in the amount of \$45,800.00, as presented. Mrs. Daley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- Proposal for construction management and construction observation services. Construction management in the amount of \$69,850.00 and construction observation services cost not to exceed amount of \$42,000.00, which is an increase of original amount approved by council in 2012. Respectfully requesting an increase of \$1.50 per hour (to \$84/hour) for construction observation services cost increase over the last 2 years.

**Mr. Bigley moved to approve rate increase for construction management and construction observation services by Gannett Fleming to \$84 per hour as presented. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

- Pine Street Streetscape Project – Penn DOT is requesting a utility clearance, specifically relocating one utility line before completion.
- Water Distribution System Modeling Project – Data has been collected and is project should be completed within the next couple months.

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT** - Mr. Vance Oakes reported:

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION # 2014-9 - REQUEST FOR STREET BANNER** – Olde Town Grove City; Art Walk event banner to be displayed across S. Center St.; August 25, 2014 – September 5, 2014.

**Dr. Coulter moved to approve Resolution # 2014-9 as requested. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

Olde Town Grove City is planning a rummage sale event, for local businesses, to be held at Grace Church on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, with the potential for this being an annual event.

Todd from Custom Signs, on behalf of Rite Aid, asked for reconsideration of permission for them to have a pole sign at their new location, in addition to an electronic message board. Rite Aid is concerned that the current monument sign ordinance doesn't allow for best visibility. After consideration, council expressed their appreciation for the concern, but determined that conforming to the current sign ordinance is required.

- Details about property located at 526 Craig Street (this is the property which Mr. Wise commented about during our June meeting) – Mr. Oakes determined that property is for sale due to tax delinquency. The county has a process in place for potential buyers, which can include the borough. Mr. Oakes spoke to Mr. Wise about the process for purchasing this property, though he is not certain what Mr. Wise decided

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (continued)** - Mr. Vance Oakes reported:

regarding that information. Legal ownership is difficult to determine and must be clear before any condemnation process is recommended. It is currently under its second tax sale.

- Terrace Ave sewer repairs complete – Mr. Oakes provided an update on the repair process as completed.
- Update on State Street water/sewer repairs – Mr. Oakes provided an update on the planned repairs that will occur in the next 30-60 days.
- Update on Pension Review Committee work to date – Mr. Oakes provided an update on the candidates for managing of the employee pension funds. All proposals were uniquely impressive. Price, cost and rate of return comparison was difficult; however, a spreadsheet analysis will be created to assist with further review. The finance committee will hopefully have more information available at the August meeting.
- Update on cell tower construction at Pinchalong Road – Mr. Oakes spoke briefly with the representative of Pyramid Communications. They have obtained building permits, and they intend to begin work in the next 30-45 days.
- Grant application submitted for stream bank stabilization along Greenwood Dr.- Working with the Conservancy to help with this concern. Fish and boat commission would also like to be a part of this cooperative effort.

8:30pm - Solicitor Tim Bonner left meeting

- Hometown Community Properties – Re: building on the corner of Lincoln and S. Broad St. After having met with the owners, where they were asked to provide a schedule of when repairs would be completed, there has been no response to date from the owners. Suggestion is to establish a deadline for response by those owners by next month's meeting. Mr. Oakes will contact the owners to notify them of the timeframe for response required by next month's meeting.

8:33pm - Solicitor Bonner returned to meeting

**MAYOR'S REPORT** - Mayor Riddle (along with Chief Osborne's information) reported:

- Hiring process for police officer continues – polygraph exams for top candidates is next step in process. Scheduling with examiner is causing a slight delay.
- Thefts continue within borough. Especially from vehicles. Recently, a couple arrests have been made. It has been suggested to residents to be diligent in locking their vehicles to deter this activity.
- Continued participation in the Aggressive Driving Enforcement program, which will be in place through the end of August.
- Reminder for residents to use 9-1-1 to report any suspicious activity, as a means of assisting the local police in their efforts.
- Mayor Riddle attended a welcoming ribbon-cutting ceremony for Tractor Supply on July 10, 2014.
- Mayor Riddle, in response to being asked by State Association of Boroughs, presented the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary recognition plaque to Mercer Borough on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- From June meeting, asked that Mr. Oakes direct a letter to the owners of the building on Broad Street regarding the sub-standard condition of their building, which is causing safety concerns. A contractor has been hired to inspect the broken windows and façade and report is due to back to Mr. Beatty by the end of July.
- In regard to the listing of dead cars: 6 of the 7 had already been removed, and the last of those was to be removed that week. He asked that they be notified of any others to be able to continue the process.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- Airport lights are in and operating well.
- Mary Kay Mattocks and Mr. Oakes attended the Mercer County MPO meeting on Tuesday, July 15, 2014. Mrs. Mattocks reported on the following items of interest to Grove City Borough: Intersection of Routes

58 and 173, which is under construction, has gone over budget. Vance said that the inspector indicated that the project will most likely be delayed to a September start.

- Amy Gallagher prompted discussion regarding utilizing college level interns in the Borough offices, as a means to help in the borough office, as well as to possibly improve community communications via a newsletter about meetings, events, etc. Chair of the Library Board mentioned their use of interns. The idea is well supported.

### **NEWS MEDIA**

Council members answered questions from members of the news media that were present.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting was adjourned to Executive Session to discuss potential litigation matters.

Christine Miller  
Borough Secretary