

**GROVE CITY BOROUGH COUNCIL
GROVE CITY, PENNSYLVANIA
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER by Council President George Pokrant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER was offered by Council Member Rich Talbert

ROLL CALL was answered by Council Members Chapman, Pisano, Hodge, Folkertsma, Pokrant, Black, Coulter, Bigley, Talbert and Mayor Riddle and Solicitor Bonner. Mr. Slagle was absent.

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD - None

APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

Mrs. Folkertsma moved to approve the bills to be paid report with a second by Dr. Coulter. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAID REPORT

Mrs. Folkertsma moved to approve the bills paid report with a second by Mr. Hodge. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Talbert and seconded by Mrs. Folkertsma to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2008 and Special Meetings of August 28, 2008 and September 8, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT – Full-time police officer

Mr. Black moved to approve hiring Nathan Spiker as a full-time Police Officer, effective 6:00 a.m. on September 16, 2008. Mrs. Folkertsma seconded the motion and it carried with one abstention, by Dr. Coulter, as he is related to Mr. Spiker.

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS –Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project

Mr. Pokrant requested a motion to table a decision on the bids, as there are concerns within the townships as to how to handle the issues of capacity and financing.

Dr. Coulter noted that we have received an extension on loan funding from the state, therefore delaying a decision until the next meeting of Council will not jeopardize that funding.

Dr. Coulter moved to table action on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project bids until the next meeting of Borough Council, as we are still working with

the municipalities to adopt agreements. Mr. Bigley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL – Agency Agreement Creating and Forming the Pennsylvania Municipal Power Agency (previously approved by Resolution 2008-10, reconfirms participation)

Mr. Oakes reported that this agreement was previously approved, by Ordinance, authorizing the Council President and Borough Secretary to sign the agreement.

Mr. Bigley moved to approve the Agency Agreement Creating and Forming the Pennsylvania Municipal Power Agency. Mrs. Folkertsma seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Talbert asked for clarification that this agreement allows the Borough to participate in the creation of a power facility built by any of the participating boroughs in Pennsylvania. Mr. Oakes responded affirmatively.

CONSIDERATION OF LETTER OF INTENT WITH EAST RESOURCES, INC., WARRENDALE PA – Solicitor to draft and Borough Manager to execute, intent to sell raw (non-potable) water

Mr. Oakes reported that East Resources, Inc. will be drilling approximately 50 wells in the area and hope to find natural gas reserves. They are looking for a water supply for “fracking” the wells, requiring approximately 200,000 gallons per day. Mr. Oakes noted that the Borough could provide effluent water from the Wastewater Treatment Plant or water from the well on Park Street, that is not currently in use. He requested that Council allow him and Solicitor Bonner to explore the possibility of providing this water supply.

Mr. Chapman moved to authorize exploration of providing raw water to East Resources, Inc. Mrs. Folkertsma seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF PIGGYBACK PURCHASE – 2009 Dodge Charger Police Cruiser

Mr. Oakes reported that the 2009 model Dodge Chargers have not been listed on the state piggyback contract yet. The State Department of General Services reported that the Dodge Charger, not the patrol car model, is currently available on the piggyback contract. The police cruiser model will not be available on the state contract until October 1, 2008. The base price of a 2009 Dodge Charger is \$20,325 with an additional few hundred dollars for some of the upgrades for police use. The cost of the Charger is expected to be under \$21,000, with the price of a Ford Crown Victoria exceeding \$22,400.

Chief Osborne reported that he had received correspondence from a police department that is having braking issues with the Charger.

Dr. Coulter moved to table a decision until the next Council meeting, further data being collected. Dr. Pisano seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS – Nuisance and Junk Vehicles

Mr. Oakes reported that there is a resident who buys junk vehicles and is apparently dismantling the vehicle and selling the parts. Neighbors have issued complaints, resulting in citations and fines. However, the resident continues to bring in the junk vehicles. Other residents have asked that we review the ordinance and perhaps strengthening it to prevent this continued activity. Mr. Oakes requested a committee meet with Solicitor Bonner to review and discuss legal options.

Council referred this issue to the Police and Fire Committee for consideration.

CONSIDERATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT – Mercer Borough

Mr. Oakes reported that he was contacted by the Mercer Borough Secretary concerning an agreement for traffic signal maintenance. Mercer Borough had been receiving traffic signal maintenance by the City of Meadville, however, due to the cost of travel from Meadville, Mercer has inquired if there is any possibility that Grove City could provide this maintenance service. We currently provide this service for Pine Township.

There was discussion concerning the time involved, the costs associated with this service and the liability incurred. Solicitor Bonner noted that this has the potential to carry a significant amount of liability, due to the time required to travel to Mercer and the potential accidents that could occur before arrival of maintenance crew. He also noted that this would be an inter-municipal agreement and would require acceptance by ordinance.

Members requested more information and discussion.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION – Naming Superior Ambulance Service as official provider of EMS services for Grove City Borough

Mr. Oakes reported that Superior Ambulance is requesting that the Borough designate them as the official provider of services in the Borough. He assumes that means sole provider. He stated that they made reference to recent House Bills that have been enacted.

The issue was referred to discussion at a work session, when further information is obtained.

CONSIDERATION OF BID – Public Works Garage Addition

Mr. Oakes reported that a single bid of \$15,887 was received from Flexospan of Sandy Lake for a shed addition to the Public Works garage. This bid is for materials only, the Borough will provide the labor.

Mr. Talbert moved to accept the single bid of \$15,887 from Flexospan for materials for an addition to the Public Works garage. Mr. Bigley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS

Dr. Pisano moved to approve the following requests:

- **Grove City High School Student Council – Homecoming parade, October 3, 2008**
- **Olde Town Grove City – Christmas Extravaganza parade, December 6, 2008**
- **Grove City College – Homecoming parade, October 18, 2008**
- **Grove City Area Pet Rescue – Fundraising Yard Sale, Memorial Park, September 26, 2008**

Mr. Talbert seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2008-28 – Banner request, Grove City College

Mrs. Folkertsma moved to approve Resolution 2008-28 for a banner to be placed for Grove City College. Mr. Chapman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Oakes reported that:

- Due to high winds last night, electric lines were damaged. He believes all service in the Borough is back on. Debris has been cleared and thanks were expressed to Public Works, Police Fire and Electric departments.
- He has received an update from PennDOT on the intersection improvement project. They are back on track, during the week of September 23rd additional blacktop will be placed, as will preparations for final paving and striping.
- Borough street paving – milling has started, we should be ready to pave next week.
- The ordinance for a recycling fee is still in process.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Riddle reported:

- The Police Department is currently in the final phase of the Smooth Operator program.
- A laser device, NRAD, was used in Grove City in the past week. One is available for all of Mercer County to use.
- Part-time officer Mazzanti has resigned, another part-time officer is currently being processed.
- Regarding Mr. Reeher’s request for information on citations issued for vehicles not stopping for pedestrians in crosswalks, he reported that no citations have been issued for that offense.
- The downtown dedication celebration is this Saturday.
- He attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the YMCA Teen Center last week.
- The Historical Society held an open house last week and honored Don Beightol.
- Any questions regarding the monthly police report may be directed to him or Chief Osborne.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Talbert reported that a Bureau of Aviation meeting regarding the four-year plan was held on September 10, 2008.

NEWS MEDIA

Council offered clarification for members of the news media that were present.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Paris L. Weiland
Borough Secretary