

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 16, 2017 7:00pm**

CALL TO ORDER by Council President, George Pokrant at 7:00 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER: was offered by Council Member Scott Jaillet

MEETING ATTENDANCE / ROLL CALL

X if present	Council Member Name	X if present	Council Member Name	X if present	Other Name
X	Mattocks, Mary Kay	X	Bonner, Timothy (Solicitor)	X	Oakes, Vance (Boro Manager)
X	Daley, Kathleen	X	Pokrant, George (President)	X	Pollard, Tanya (Boro Secretary)
X	Myers, Shawn	X	Riddle, Randy (Mayor)	Absent	Goncz, Dan (Engineer)
X	Henry, James	X	Bigley, Joel (V-President)		
X	Hodge, Jeffrey	X	Wood, Todd		
X	Gallagher, Amy	Absent	Messer, Cammie (Jr Member)		
X	Jaillet, Scott	X	Boshaw, Maxwell (Jr Member)		

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

- None

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

- Mrs. Amy Gallagher moved to approve the 'Bills to be Paid' report. Mrs. Mary Kay Mattocks seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF 'BILLS PAID' REPORT

- Mr. Todd Wood moved to approve the 'Bills Paid' report. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from Regular Meeting on December 16, 2016

- Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 16, 2016 as presented. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

GROVE CITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY REPORT

Mrs. Kimberly Barbara presented a report on the different programs and activities planned for the month of January.

CONSIDER MCGILL, POWER, BELL & ASSOCIATES ENGAGEMENT LETTER

- Mr. Todd Wood moved to approve signing the Engagement Letter to use the services of McGill, Power, Bell & Associates. Ms. Kathleen Daley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDER MERCER TOWNSHIP REQUEST FOR SEWER CONNECTIONS

- Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the connection of three properties upon the receipt of a proposal on how to handle the metering of the flow for those three properties from Mercer Township. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

CONSIDER PARTNERING WITH SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF A BIKE/PEDESTRIAN STUDY

- Mr. Todd Wood moved to approve partnering with Springfield Township for a feasibility study on bike/pedestrian improvements. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Gannett Fleming, Inc.:

Dan Goncz was unable to attend but did supply Council with an Engineering Report. There were no action items in the report.

Mr. Vance Oakes noted that he and Mr. Dan Goncz has a conversation with Springfield Township last month regarding their interest to buy bulk water from the Borough. This month Mr. Oakes and Mr. Goncz met with Pennsylvania American Water. They are creating a proposal for Springfield Township and may be interested in purchasing bulk water from us as the middle man for Springfield Township. Mr. Oakes noted that there was a recent article in the Allied News that Springfield Township is looking at all their options including building their own treatment plant. Solicitor Bonner cautioned the Borough Council to keep in mind the liability when considering to sell water to other communities.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT – Mr. Vance Oakes:

- Mr. Vance Oakes reminded Council that the Wolf Creek Slippery Rock Creek Council Of Governments will meet on Wednesday, January 25th. Mr. Anthony Ditka plans to attend the COG meeting in January to discuss the financing for the next phase of work at the wastewater treatment plant and the possibility of refinancing the existing debt to take advantage of lower interest rates. He asked Solicitor Bonner to attend.
- Mr. Oakes noted that the Hunting Ordinance has not been advertised yet and that it would be carried over to the February meeting.
- Mr. Oakes reported that the Borough has closed on the “Bailey Property” that adjoins the Grove City Airport and thanked Solicitor Bonner for handling the transaction. The paperwork has been submitted to begin the grant drawdown process with PennDOT. The Bailey’s now have six months to vacate the property. Mr. Oakes will notify Council once the funds have been received.
- The Borough’s CDBG application that was submitted in November has been rejected by the PA DCED because HUD has determined that it will no longer allow the practice of using “pre-award” funds for projects. They cited stipulations found in the CDBG program rules that say a waiver can be obtained to use funds for up to two years beyond the date of application for a project but not more. Mr. Chris Conti from Mercer County Regional Planning suggests that we approve an alternative project as a place holder until another project is identified for use of the funds. He suggests to designate the funds as part of our housing rehabilitation program. Mr. Oakes noted that he inquired with Representative Nesbit about the possibility of obtaining additional waivers from the PA DCED to allow the application to be approved as originally submitted. Mr. Oakes recommended proceeding with the alternative project application in case the waiver is not obtained. Mr. Pokrant asked for a motion to approve amending the CDBG Application to designate the funds as part of the Borough’s housing rehabilitation program.

➤ **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve amending the CDBG Application to designate the funds as part of the Borough’s housing rehabilitation program in case the PA DCED will not approve a waiver. Mr. Todd Wood seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

- There are 36 of the old Christmas Decorations left. We have sold approximately 15 at \$5.00 apiece. Mr. Oakes suggests donating the rest to the Chamber of Commerce. Council agreed.
- Mr. Oakes suggested that the Infrastructure Committee meet again sometime in early 2017 to further discuss the S. Center Street parking lot. It has been full or nearly full every business day with employees that do not move their vehicle all day. This is leaving very limited parking for customers or visitors downtown.

JR. COUNCIL MEMBER’S REPORT

- Mr. Maxwell Boshaw reported that the Jr. Council Committee has added a monthly news briefing to include any events that transpired in the previous month so that Mr. Boshaw or Ms. Cammie Messer can relay those events to Council. The events will include school events, church events, fund raisers and community service events.
- Mr. Boshaw announced that Jr. Council Committee member Erica Filer is part of the High School Yearbook Staff and is including the Jr. Council Committee as an out of school activity club.

MAYOR’S REPORT - Mayor Randy Riddle (with information from Chief Osborne):

- Chief Osborne submitted his 2016 Annual Police Report and January 2017 Report for Council review.
- Mayor Randy Riddle presented his Weddings Report for the 4th Quarter of 2016.
- Mayor Riddle has had many resident Inquiries about vehicles parked to close to stop signs. He has researched and concluded that parked vehicles must be at least 30 feet from stop sign.
- The Mayor noted that the new PSAB Magazine is out and includes his article as the President of the Mayor’s Association. He also pointed out that Mr. Todd Wood appears in the issue.
- The Mercer County Borough’s Association Winter Meeting is January 26th at The Tara. RSVP’s can be taken up to January 20th.
- The Mayor and Mr. Todd Wood attended the School Board Meeting on January 9th.

- The PSAB Annual Conference will be in Hershey, PA on May 7-10th. There will be an Awards Banquet during the conference and three Grove City Officials will be recognized.

OTHER BUSINESS

- After further discussion on the S. Center Street parking lot, Mr. Oakes will follow up with Mr. Alex DeGroff to see if he would be able to reach out to the merchants to help alleviate employees parking in the lot all day.
- Mrs. Mary Kay Mattocks asked Mr. Oakes on where we stand with the new Nuisance Ordinance that Council approved last month. Mr. Oakes noted that the Borough must wait 30 days after approval before beginning enforcement in case any registered electors of the Borough wanted to challenge the validity of the Ordinance. Now that a month has passed the Borough can proceed to enforce the Ordinance.
- Mrs. Mary Kay Mattocks displayed a "Blessing Bag" which is prepared for the homeless. It contains essential personal care items and some snacks. She recommends carrying a Blessing Bag in your car so that if you see a homeless person you are able to offer it to them. She is going to speak with Chief Osborne about having the officers carry these bags with them.
- The Parks & Recreation Committee will need to schedule a meeting to talk about girl's softball field usage.

NEWS MEDIA

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for Council's consideration, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tanya M. Pollard,
Borough Secretary