

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 21,2022**

**CALL TO ORDER** by Council President, Mary Kay Mattocks 7:00 pm

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PRAYER:** was offered by **Mary Kay Mattocks**

**MEETING ATTENDANCE / ROLL CALL**

<b>X if present</b>	<b>Council Member Name</b>	<b>X if present</b>	<b>Council Member Name</b>	<b>X if present</b>	<b>Other Name</b>
X	Mattocks, Mary Kay	X	Bonner, Timothy (Solicitor)	X	Oakes, Vance (Boro Manager)
X	Morley, Shawn	X	DiStasi, Vincent	X	Pokrant, Taylor (Boro Sec.)
X	Myers, Shawn	X	Riddle, Randy (Mayor)	X	Goncz, Dan (Engineer)
X	Henry, James	X	Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres)		
Absent	Hodge, Jeffrey	X	Zimmerman, William		
X	Gallagher, Amy	X	Oakes, Alex (Jr. Council)		
X	Jaillet, Scott	X	Messer, Mac (Jr. Council)		

**REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

- Ms. Cheri Heeter, 514 Jackson Center Polk Road, Jackson Center, PA, manager of the 2022 Farmer’s Market in the Park, spoke regarding moving the location of the Farmer’s Market. Last year the Farmer’s Market was in the parking lot adjacent to the Keystone Picnic Shelter in Memorial Park and Ms. Heeter requested that it be moved to the parking lot adjacent to the Monteleone Picnic Shelter, with some merchants in the shelter. Ms. Heeter stated that she will need to barricade the parking lot and also requested the installation of permanent signs in this area. Mr. Vance Oakes, Borough Manager, explained that he would look to the Chief of Police for guidance regarding blocking the parking area and when the barricades would go up. He further mentioned that there is funding within the Grow Grove City Budget for signage and it could be allocated towards these signs. Ms. Heeter mentioned that someone from her organization could be responsible for putting out the barricades and that they have two that they could reuse from when the Market was downtown. Ms. Heeter asked Council if she could store her barricades and other Farmer’s Market items somewhere in Memorial Park. Mr. Oakes stated that there would be storage available for these items. Ms. Heeter also asked that if that if this location did not work and they wished to return to their original location could they notify Mr. Oakes and not have to come back before Council. Councilwoman Mattocks asked Council if it was acceptable to move the location and if the location did not work out if it was acceptable for Mr. Oakes to allow them to move back to their original location. Council provided consensus that this was acceptable with no members objecting.
- Ms. Jennifer Shelley, 920 Sunset Ave, Grove City High School Volleyball Coach, shared with Council that she would like to plan some community events at the new grass volleyball courts at Hunter Farm Park. She explained that the first event that she would like to have is a ribbon cutting with the Volleyball Boosters present selling food and drinks to fundraise. She further inquired about naming the courts and suggested that they be named after the donors who funded the project. Mayor Riddle suggested that she come to the upcoming Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting that is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. Mayor Riddle asked that she be added to the agenda and Mr. Pokrant, Borough Secretary/ Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer, confirmed that he would add her to the agenda.

**CONSIDERATION OF ANY REQUESTS TO ADD ITEMS TO TONIGHT'S AGENDA**

- None

**OFFICER OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION, by Chief Dean Osborne**

- Chief Osborne recognized all of his officers for the overtime work that they had performed over the last year due to staffing shortages.
- Chief Osborne presented Patrolman Jason Bennett with the Officer of the Year Award. Chief Osborne explained that the selection process involves both a nomination process from all of the officers and an evaluation by Chief Osborne of performance throughout the year. Chief highlighted that Officer Bennett works hard every day, communicates well with the public, takes his job seriously and responds well to constructive criticism. Chief noted that Officer Bennett works on the afternoon shift and always takes the initiative. Mayor Riddle passed on his congratulations to Officer Bennett and thanked him for all of his work on behalf of the Borough of Grove City.

**APPROVAL OF 'BILLS PAID' REPORT**

- Ms. Amy Gallagher moved to approve the 'Bills Paid' report. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

- Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the 'Bills to be Paid' report. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING AND REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 21,2022 AND WORK SESSION MEETING FEBRUARY 28,2022**

- Mr. Jim Henry moved to approve the minutes from the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting and Regular Meeting February 21,2022 and Work Session Meeting February 28,2022. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**GROVE CITY LIBRARY REPORT**

- Ms. Heather Baker reported that the drywall cracks had been fixed from the auto accident. The painting still needs to be completed, but should be completed soon. Ms. Baker stated that the Library has seen an increase in patrons recently and is busy planning adult and children's programs. She noted that the adult programs have seen increased participation lately. The Library will be accepting donations for their easter egg hunt which will be a part of their lunch with the Easter Bunny event and will be held at the Library this year. Ms. Heather further detailed that the Library is also planning for summer reading. Councilwoman Mattocks thanked Ms. Heather and encouraged Council to read the Library Newsletter that lists all of the events at the Library.

**CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF RANDY L. RIDDLE AS THE VOTING DELEGATE FOR THE BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES 2022 CONFERENCE AND MARY K. MATTOCKS AS THE ALTERNATE VOTING DELEGATE**

- Ms. Amy Gallagher moved to approve the PSAB Delegate Appointments. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER INTENT TO ADVERTISE AND ADOPT ORDINANCE 1484 AMENDING CHAPTER 95 STREETS AND SIDEWALKS OF THE BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

Mr. Vance Oakes explained that this Ordinance and Ordinance 1485 had been the subject of the Work Session Meeting on 2/28/22. Mr. Oakes asked if Solicitor Bonner had a chance to review this ordinance. Solicitor Bonner stated that he had. Solicitor Bonner suggested that Council provide an explicit exemption for private driveways unless they wanted to require permitting for work within private driveways contained within the street right of way.

- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to advertise Borough Council's Intent to Adopt Ordinance 1484 with an exemption for work in private driveways. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER INTENT TO ADVERTISE AND ADOPT ORDINANCE 1485 AMENDING CHAPTER 92 HEALTH AND SANITATION; NUISANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

Solicitor Bonner explained that he had reviewed this ordinance and recommended that in Section 92.06 that an exclusion for keeping vehicles within garages be included. This would be consistent with other portions of the Ordinance.

- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to advertise Borough Council's Intent to Adopt Ordinance 1485 with an exclusion for keeping vehicles within garages. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: FIRST RESPONDER DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK ON 5/7/22 FROM 10:00AM-2:00PM**

Mr. Vance Oakes explained that this was not a fundraiser and that liability insurance for the event had been submitted.

- **Mr. Jim Henry moved to approve the First Responder Dodgeball Tournament. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH EASTER SERVICE AT THE MONTELEONE PICNIC SHELTER AT MEMORIAL PARK ON 4/16/22**

Mr. Vance Oakes explained Councilwoman Mattocks had requested that this be put on the agenda after last month's meeting. Councilwoman Mattocks explained that this event would start at 6:30AM and asked that it be approved contingent on her submitting a letter of request.

- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the Grace United Methodist Church Easter Service contingent upon the submittal of a request letter. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER Event Request: Relay for Life at Memorial Park on 7/29/23 from 10AM-11PM**

- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to approve the Relay for Life Event. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR WATER AND SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION AT 310 NICKLAUS COURT, GROVE CITY, PA 16127 OWNED BY CRISPIN ANDERSON**

Mr. Daniel Goncz, Borough Engineer, confirmed that there was capacity for this request.

- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve Liberty Township's request for water and sewer service extension. Ms. Amy Gallagher seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER PINE TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION AT 159 TCI PARK DRIVE, GROVE CITY, PA 16127 OWNED BY TRI-COUNTY INDUSTRIES**

Mr. Vance Oakes explained that this request would be for the offices at Tri-County only. Mr. Daniel Goncz stated that the capacity was present and that a 2016 agreement allowed for this connection. Mr. Oakes asked that Council approve this request with the condition that it can be domestic waste only.

- **Ms. Amy Gallagher moved approve to Pine Township's request for sewer service extension contingent upon the waste being domestic in nature. Mr. Shwan Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**ENGINEER'S REPORT, by Mr. Daniel Goncz**

- Mr. Goncz informed Borough Council that the Local Share Account Grant had been submitted on behalf of the Borough of Grove City. He has been informed that there are numerous applicants this year and the Borough should expect a decision in about 60 days.
  - Mr. Goncz explained that he is wrapping up some outstanding DEP Comments in regard to permitting for the Water Treatment Plant Project and that it should be ready to go out for bid around the April Meeting.
  - Mr. Goncz stated that he was looking for direction from Council regarding the bathroom at Memorial Park that was planned to be bid with the Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Goncz stated that the project could be bid at the same time as the Water Treatment Plant Project or be bid at a later date. However, if the Borough wants to finance the project with the Water Treatment Plant, the bidding and the work will have to occur during the Water Treatment Plant Project, otherwise general funds would have to be used to support the Bathroom Project. Mr. Vance Oakes reminded Borough Council that they had agreed to provide utility connections as a part of the Grove City Youth Soccer Association project, but had not yet made a decision regarding the bathroom at Memorial Park. Councilman Morley inquired as to how long the building permit was good for and Mr. Pokrant answered that it was good for five years. Councilwoman Gallagher expressed her support for the bathroom project, especially since it could be financed as a part of the Water Treatment Plant Project. Mayor Riddle detailed that he believed that an additional bathroom was not needed at Memorial Park and that the funds could be better spent elsewhere. Councilman DiStasi asked Mr. Goncz how long Council would have to include the bathroom in the borrowing. Mr. Goncz stated that the project would take about two years. Mr. Oakes asked Mr. Goncz about separating the bids for the two projects. Mr. Goncz stated that they could be separated and bid at different times. Councilman Jaillet suggested that the Borough bid the Water Treatment Plant one month, see where the bids come in and then bid the restroom project the next month. Borough Council tabled the issue for further discussion as a decision did not have to be made at this time.
  - Mr. Goncz informed Borough Council that the annual Wasteload Management Report had been submitted to DEP.
  - Mr. Goncz informed Council that it was time for the Borough of Grove City to renew its NPDES Permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Goncz included a proposal for Gannet Fleming to complete the engineering services as a part of this renewal. Mr. Goncz stated that Gannet Fleming has also received quotes for the analytical work related to the submission and Fairway Laboratories has submitted the lowest quote for these services. Councilwoman Mattocks suggested that approval of these items been taken together.
- **Ms. Amy Gallagher moved to approve Gannet Fleming's proposal in the amount of \$7,000 for engineering services related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES Permit Renewal Application and Fairway Laboratories quotation in the amount of \$4,276 for analytical work related to the Borough's Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES Permit Renewal. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT presented by Borough Manager, Vance Oakes**

- Mr. Oakes explained that a letter called the G-17 Letter had been included with Council's Packet. This letter allowed RBC Capital Markets LLC to solicit quotations for bond financing for the Borough of Grove City.
- **Ms. Amy Gallagher moved approve the Bond Underwriter Disclosures as required by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- Mr. Oakes detailed that at the most recent COG Meeting on 3/16/22, Doug Dick from Superior Ambulance Service had been present and detailed the state-wide crisis regarding ambulance services. Mr. Oakes stated that Mr. Dick had explained that the industry is seeing staff shortages and fewer and fewer providers of ambulance services and warned that some day a resident may call and an ambulance may not be available to come. Mr. Oakes explained that Representative Tim Bonner was present at the COG

Meeting and had informed COG that the State Legislature may not be able to help with these issues or may not be able to help quickly enough. Representative Bonner had suggested at the COG meeting that a task force be established that could look at these issues and try to come up with solutions. Representative Bonner suggested that the task force be made up of one representative from each municipality that Superior Ambulance serves and that the Borough of Grove City take the lead by sending out invites to each of these municipalities. Councilman Jaillet stated that he was present at the COG Meeting and that Mr. Dick highlighted that there were about 1900 calls last year that the ambulance service did not get paid for because the caller did not end up going to the hospital. Mr. Oakes stated that he was looking for approval from Borough Council to send out a letter to each of these municipalities to start this task force and begin meeting twice a month at the Borough Office.

➤ **Ms. Amy Gallagher moved approve the drafting and mailing of a letter establishing an EMS Task Force that is represented by all municipalities within the Superior Ambulance Service Area. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

- Mr. Oakes provided an update regarding the possibility of student live-ins at the Grove City Volunteer Fired Department to help increase manpower. Mr. Oakes stated that he has requested to be put on Solicitor Bonner's Calendar to discuss the legal implications of this. Mr. Oakes explained that he had reached out to the Borough's Insurance Agent and the Insurance Agent had reached out to the carrier to get a more definitive answer, but his initial reaction was that they would probably be covered due to the Borough and the Volunteer Fire Department having separate policies. Mr. Oakes stated that the biggest question that still needed answered was whether this program would allow both males and females. Solicitor Bonner stated that he believed that this could be Grove City College's decision since it would be their students.
- Mr. Oakes informed Council that PennDOT is in the design phase of a bridge replacement project on East Main Street. PennDOT does not expect work on this project until 2023.
- Mr. Oakes reminded Council that there is a Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting scheduled for 4/6 at 6PM.

#### **JUNIOR COUNCIL REPORT – Junior Council Member, Alex Oakes**

- Mr. Alex Oakes reported to Council that for the first time in two years Grove City High School will be hosting prom. Prom will be at Coolspring Corn Maze on 5/14. Previous proms had been canceled due to COVID concerns.
- Mr. Oakes explained that the walkway project between Grove City High School and Memorial Park is continuing to progress. The students leading the project have retained an engineer and are working on a design.
- Mr. Oakes asked Mr. Mac Messer to talk a little bit about the upcoming musical at the High School since he will be performing in it. Mr. Messer explained that the musical is Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and it will be next Thursday-Saturday at 7PM each night. Mr. Messer encouraged the community to attend.

#### **MAYORS REPORT presented by Mayor Randy Riddle**

- Mayor Riddle detailed that he met with DuraEdge on 2/24 and they want to meet again at the Grove City Baseball Fields to discuss further improvements that can be made.
- Mayor Riddle reported that on 3/8 he signed a letter of support for the LSA Grant Application. He was not able to get a letter of support from Moxietec in time for the application submission, but he did tour the facility. He reported that Moxietec currently employs 16 people and plans to employ 40-50 when they are fully up and running. They estimate that they have about 2-3 months left of work before their renovations are complete. Mayor Riddle commented on the extensive renovations that they have completed and stated that he will follow-up with Moxietec once their construction is complete and work on scheduling a tour for Council.
- Mayor Riddle explained that he attended the COG Meeting on 3/16/22. He stated that in addition to the discussion regarding EMS Services, there was a discussion regarding emergency preparedness.

Mayor Riddle suggested that the Borough of Grove City Safety Committee review the Borough's emergency preparedness plans.

- Mayor Riddle explained that he had invited Mr. Alex Holmes, Boy Scout Troop 76, to attend the meeting to provide an update regarding his Eagle Scout Project, but he was unable to attend. He did update Mayor Riddle that he has acquired donations for use of equipment for the project and was working on securing additional donations for supplies to complete the project.
- Mayor Riddle informed Council that the Police Department has completed many hours of training this month and has completed the DARE Program. The Awards Ceremony for the DARE Program will be held in May. Additionally, the Police Department has been completing an aggressive driving enforcement campaign. Finally, Officer Cooke has completed his field training and is now out on patrol on his own.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- None

**NEWS MEDIA**

- None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully,

Taylor G. Pokrant  
Borough Secretary/Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer