

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 15, 2022**

Public Hearing - 6:30PM

CALL TO ORDER by Council Present, Mary K. Mattocks at 6:30 pm

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) |
| Absent | Morley, Shawn | Absent | DiStasi, Vincent | Absent | Pokrant, Taylor (Boro Sec.) |
| X | Myers, Shawn | X | Riddle, Randy (Mayor) | Absent | Goncz, Dan (Engineer) |
| X | Henry, James | X | Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres) | | |
| Absent | Hodge, Jeffrey | X | Zimmerman, William | | |
| Absent | Gallagher, Amy | Absent | Messer, Mac (Jr. Council) | | |
| X | Jaillet, Scott | X | Riddle, Emmy | | |

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC HEARING

- Mr. Chis Conti, Mercer County Regional Planning, was present and discussed the Borough of Grove City’s 2022 Community Development Block Grant allocation and program requirements. Mr. Conti explained that allocations are determined via a formula by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Mr. Conti further specified the federal requirements for the program and what projects would qualify. Mr. Conti detailed the required plans that Mercer County passes on behalf of the Borough of Grove City. Mr. Vance Oakes, Borough Manager, clarified automatic qualifying classes for the purpose of certain projects. Mr. Oakes detailed that the 2021 funds had been allocated to sidewalk replacements and housing rehabilitation and expressed the continued need for sidewalk work within the Borough. Mr. Shawn Myers mentioned that the community pool may benefit from a project with these funds. Mr. Oakes stated that the pool needs a complete rehabilitation, including plumbing and liner. Mr. Conti stated that the pool would have to be used by a majority of low-income residents to qualify. Mr. Conti stated that the Grove City Area does not qualify as a community, but individual handicap projects could be undertaken. Mr. Oakes stated that he estimated that the cost to overhaul the pool would be about 1 million dollars and that it seems that CDBG funds would not qualify for this project.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49PM.

REGULAR MEETING - 7:00PM

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER: was offered by **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) |
| Absent | Morley, Shawn | Absent | DiStasi, Vincent | Absent | Pokrant, Taylor (Boro Sec.) |
| X | Myers, Shawn | X | Riddle, Randy (Mayor) | X | Goncuz, Dan (Engineer) |
| X | Henry, James | X | Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres) | | |
| Absent | Hodge, Jeffrey | X | Zimmerman, William | | |
| Absent | Gallagher, Amy | Absent | Messer, Mac (Jr. Council) | | |
| X | Jaillet, Scott | X | Riddle, Emmy | | |

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

- None

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

- None

APPROVAL OF 'BILLS PAID' REPORT

➤ **Mr. Scott Jaillet 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. Shawn Myers moved to approve the 'Bills to be Paid' report. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING ON JULY 18, 2022

➤ **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the minutes from the Work Session and Regular Meeting on July 18, 2022. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

GROVE CITY LIBRARY REPORT

- Ms. Mattocks indicated that the Library Report was attached to the Council Board Packet.

CONSIDER INTENT TO ADVERTISE AND ADOPT BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY DEBT ORDINANCE 1486

- Mr. Anthony Ditka, Bond Counsel, was present and introduced Ordinance 1486. Mr. Ditka highlighted that the debt ordinance draft was attached to the Board packet. Mr. Ditka explained that the goal of the general obligation sale was to raise about 5.6 million towards the funding of the water treatment plant and other water projects. Mr. Ditka explained that the ordinance included up to 8 million to provide some flexibility to ensure that the Borough stays within the 5.6 million and provides flexibility over the bond lifetime to stay within debt requirements. Mr. Ditka further highlighted that this ordinance provides full faith and credit of the Borough to pay their debt obligations. Mr. Ditka explained that this is the same as it has been done in the past for other bonds.

➤ **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the intent to adopt and advertise Ordinance 1486. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER INTENT TO ADVERTISE AND ADOPT BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY ORDINANCE 1487

- Mr. Vance Oakes explained that this ordinance is related to the water agreements that will be considered later in the agenda. Mr. Oakes explained that the total fees that customers are charged will not change, but the charges would be separated to split the readiness to serve charge and include a debt service charge. This split will add up to the same value, but will indicate where those funds are being allocated. Mr. Oakes asked Mr. Dan Goncuz, Borough Engineer, to explain why this is being done. Mr. Goncuz detailed

that the Borough's agreements with Pine and Liberty Township agreements do not charge for debt service currently and they are responsible for their own readiness to serve costs. The change allows Pine and Liberty to be charged for the debt service portion to cover the cost of the new water treatment plant. Mr. Goncz explained that this is similar to the rehabilitation fee that is charged for sewer.

➤ **Mr. Jim Henry moved to approve the intent to adopt and advertise Ordinance 1487. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION TOWARDS THE NON-UNIFORM AND POLICE PENSION PLANS

- Mr. Vance Oakes detailed that the costs for the non-uniform and police plan had slightly increased as compared to last year. These costs will be included in the 2023 budget.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2022-13 AUTHORIZING A LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH FNB BANK

- Mr. Vance Oakes explained that this was discussed several months ago and that the truck that was budgeted for has just arrived. This resolution would authorize Mr. Oakes and Ms. Mattocks to execute all necessary documents to execute the lease. Mr. Oakes stated that it would be a three-year lease with a one dollar buy-out at the end.

➤ **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve Resolution 2022-13. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2022-14 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A RACP GRANT ON BEHALF OF THE GROVE CITY YMCA

CONSIDER INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH THE YMCA OF GROVE CITY AND FRANKLIN AND THE BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY

- Mr. Vance Oakes highlighted that the resolution would formally signify that the Borough will sponsor the YMCA's RACP application and the indemnification agreement would hold the YMCA responsible if any grant funds had to be returned. Mayor Riddle requested explanation from Solicitor Bonner regarding indemnification. Solicitor Bonner explained that all liability would be shouldered by the YMCA.

➤ **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve Resolution 2022-14 and the Indemnification Agreement with the YMCA. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RECREATIONAL LAND LEASE WITH THE GROVE CITY YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

CONSIDER RECREATIONAL LAND LEASE WITH THE GROVE CITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

- Mr. Vance Oakes explained that these leases would formalize the agreements with the Youth Soccer Association and the Grove City Christian Academy. The Soccer Association Lease would allow them to build the concession stand/restroom with the Borough providing utility connections. If the lease would end, the concession stand/restroom would remain the property of the Borough. Mr. Oakes highlighted that the Association is still raising money for the building. Solicitor Bonner stated there is no obligation for them to build it, but the language is there in case they do. Mr. Oakes said that the grinder pump that was discussed had not been put into the lease. Liberty Township has indicated that they would provide the grinder pump for the facility. Solicitor Bonner stated that he could put it in the lease, but the Borough would need something in writing from Liberty Township. Mr. Oakes suggested that perhaps language be put in that the Borough would not be responsible for the grinder pump and then Liberty could donate it separately if they elected to do so. Mayor Riddle asked if the issues between the two groups had been resolved. Mr. Oakes stated that they have worked out their issue regarding maintenance and scheduling.

➤ **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the lease with the Grove City Youth Soccer Association with the language changes in regard to the grinder pump as discussed and the Grove City Christian Academy. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY BASEBALL BOOSTERS 5K TO BE HELD ON 10/22/22 AT MEMORIAL PARK FROM 12-5PM

➤ **Mr. William Zimmerman moved to approve the Baseball Boosters 5K contingent upon receipt of insurance. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY COLLEGE FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO BE HELD ON 9/24/22

• Mr. Oakes explained that the fireworks would be a part of a night football game. Mr. Oakes stated that he and Mayor Riddle attended a meeting at Grove City College to review events. Solicitor Bonner asked if the Grove City Volunteer Fire Department Live-in proposal was discussed. Mr. Oakes stated that it was and the College is committed to the program.

➤ **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the Grove City College Fireworks Display. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER GEORGE JUNIOR REPUBLIC SUICIDE PREVENTION DISPLAY REQUEST FROM 9/1/22 TO 9/30/22 AT MEMORIAL PARK

• Mr. Oakes stated that the display would be in the front of the park and would be a banner and several yard signs. Mr. Oakes stated that they want to raise awareness in the community.

➤ **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the George Junior Display. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: JOHN SAMPLE MEMORIAL INVITATIONAL TO BE HELD ON 10/1/22 FROM 8AM-3PM AT MEMORIAL PARK

• Mr. Oakes stated that this is annual event and they are expecting about 1800 attendees including participants and supporters.

➤ **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the John Sample Memorial Invitational. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER WATER AGREEMENT AMENDMENT WITH PINE TOWNSHIP

CONSIDER WATER AGREEMENT AMENDMENT WITH LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

• Mr. Oakes explained that the agreements hold the townships accountable for their share of the water debt as discussed earlier. Mr. Goncz clarified that they would be effective as of July 1, 2022.

➤ **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the water agreement amendments with Pine and Liberty Townships. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER PINE TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR WATER SERVICE EXTENSION at 123 Golf Club Lane, Grove City Owned by Crispin Anderson

CONSIDER PINE TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR SANITARY SEWER SERVICE EXTENSION AT 123 Golf Club Lane, Grove City, PA Owned by Crispin Anderson and 34 Dusty Lane, Grove City, PA Owned by Nathan Davis

• Mr. Goncz confirmed that capacity existed for these requests.

➤ **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve Pine Township's water and sewer service requests. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

ENGINEER'S REPORT, by Mr. Daniel Goncz

• Mr. Goncz reported that Groundwater Resources has begun work on the well houses at each well site. Mr. Goncz explained that in the schedule submitted to the Commonwealth as a part of the Borough's grant application that a notice of intent to award would be issued to the contractors this month for the water

treatment plant project. This would allow contractors to begin ordering materials and equipment for the project. Mr. Goncz stated that this was especially important with the current supply chain issues.

➤ **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the notice of intent to award Water Treatment Plant General Construction Contract, Electrical Contract and HVAC Contract. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

- Mr. Goncz stated that an amendment to the Engineering services contract with Gannet Fleming had been attached. This amendment would cover construction management services now that the project was transitioning out of the design phase.

➤ **Mr. Shwan Myers moved to approve the Amendment to the Agreement for consulting engineering services with Gannet Fleming, Inc. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

- Mr. Goncz stated that NPDES permit for the wastewater treatment plant was continuing to progress.

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

- Mr. Oakes updated Council on the results of the EMS Task Force meeting. Mr. Oakes stated that Mr. Doug Dick, Superior Ambulance, has requested a 1 mill tax of each municipality. Mr. Oakes stated that there have been discussion among the task force members and that any questions of Mr. Dick were to be sent to Mr. Oakes or Ms. Mattocks. Mr. Oakes stated that no questions have been received. Solicitor Bonner stated that it would be appropriate to request tax and financial details from Mr. Dick before any taxation proposal is considered. Mr. Oakes questioned if Mr. Dick may be operating multiple companies under the Superior Ambulance umbrella. Solicitor Bonner stated that the Borough would want financial and tax records for all business that Mr. Dick has ownership in. Mr. Oakes stated that the next task force meeting has not been set. Solicitor Bonner mentioned that a per capita task could also be considered. Solicitor Bonner stated that the task force should ask Mr. Dick to have financial documents prepared for the next meeting. Solicitor Bonner stated that any public monies that may be given to Superior Ambulance should be fully accounted for, with reporting on the function that they were used for.

❖ **Council President Mary Kay Mattocks had to leave the meeting and Council Vice-President Joel Bigley took over the meeting**

- Mr. Oakes reported to Council that the Mercer County Conservation District has detected West Nile Virus at the Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Sharon Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Conservation District collected this sample in July and are just now reporting it. Mr. Oakes stated that follow-up testing was negative. Mr. Oakes stated that materials were attached to the Council Packet on how to prevent West Nile Virus that were provided by the Mercer County Conservation District.
- Mr. Oakes informed Council that work continues on the Emergency Operations Plan for an electrical outage and he expects that will be wrapped up soon. Mayor Riddle questioned if Mr. Oakes had heard anything more on the Old Presbyterian Cemetery. Mr. Oakes stated that he has not heard anything further and that it is being maintained.
- Mr. Oakes informed Council that milling would start this week on the Borough streets that will be paved and that paving will start next week.

JUNIOR COUNCIL REPORT by Emmy Riddle

- Ms. Riddle reported that fall sports have begun practicing and scrimmaging, with the home opener for the Grove City High School Football team being on 9/2. Ms. Riddle stated that the fall sports calendar is available on the Grove City High School website. Ms. Riddle highlighted that homecoming will occur on 9/24, with student council meeting in the subsequent days to begin planning for the homecoming dance. Councilman Bigley suggested that sports boosters consider raking leaves in the fall for the elderly to raise money. Mayor Riddle mentioned that the United Way also offers programs that assist with this.

MAYORS REPORT presented by Mayor Randy Riddle

- Mayor Riddle reported that the Eagle Scout Horseshoe pit project has been completed.
- Mayor Riddle detailed that over the past month he attended the following events/completed the following activities:

- 7/20-attended the COG Meeting
- 7/28 – attended the EMS Task Force Meeting
- 7/29- attended the CESERA Meeting that provided an update regarding the appeal progress
- 8/3 - submitted a letter to Glenn Saunders with George Junior Republic in support of their NEA Our Town Grant Application
- 8/9- provided a tour to the Mayor of Somerset Borough of the Borough of Grove City
- 8/11 and 8/12- attended the PSAB Trustee Meeting
- Mayor Riddle detailed that on 8/20, he will be attending a Saturday Science Reunion with Homer Christy.
- Mayor Riddle reported that Transformation Church had come to Council last month and requested use of Memorial Park for a recovery event, but there were some issues due to the Borough's amplification policy and the church's desired activities. Mayor Riddle reported that they have changed their event location to one that allows amplification.
- Mayor Riddle reported that Ruthella Jaskol, a Borough resident, is having her 100th Birthday and that he will be taking a proclamation to her.
- Mayor Riddle reported that the Grove City United Way will be holding a meeting on 9/13 that he plans to attend.
- Mayor Riddle informed Council that the Police Department is continuing to work with the Commonwealth through a grant program that covers the cost for traffic and DUI enforcement. Mayor Riddle further reported that the police department is on track for the firearm replacements that were budgeted for.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. Jim Henry reported that he spoke with Mr. Ken Frenchak, Grove City Valvoline, that they held a fundraiser with the Grove City YMCA this past Saturday that donated the proceeds of every oil change to the YMCA. Mr. Henry explained that they serviced about 70 cars and would be donating about \$5,000 to the YMCA. Mr. Frenchak wanted to express his thanks to the Borough for lending barricades to help facilitate this event.
- Mr. Joel Bigley reported that Camp Maxwell will be held in Memorial Park on 8/27 and 8/28.

NEWS MEDIA

- Council was available to answer questions from the media.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully,

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