

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 19, 2023 7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER by Council President, Mary Kay Mattocks 7:08 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER: was offered by **Mr. Shawn Myers**

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	Morley, Shawn	Absent	DiStasi, Vincent	X	Pokrant, Taylor (Secretary)
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		
X	Gallagher, Amy	Absent	Riddle, Emmy (Jr. Council)		
X	Jaillet, Scott				

ANNOUNCEMENT THAT AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD PRIOR TO THE MEETING TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER

- Councilwoman Mattocks announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

- Lee Myford, Grove City Rotary, was present and reported to Council that Grove City Rotary has been fundraising through a Disc Golf Event at Memorial Park the last few years and has committed to investing those funds back into Memorial Park. Most recently, they had provided new tee pads for nine of the disc golf holes and intend to use this year’s money to do the other nine holes. Ms. Myford stated that next year they will be holding another event and are looking for suggestions on where to invest those funds. Ms. Ellie Myford, Grove City High School Interact Club, discussed her involvement with the Rotary and discussed other opportunities for youth with the Rotary Club. Mr. Oakes mentioned that he felt that the pads were a good addition and also suggested working with the ice-skating group that had approached council several months ago for possible use of future funds.

REQUEST TO ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

- None

APPROVAL OF ‘BILLS PAID’ REPORT

- **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the ‘Bills Paid’ report. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF ‘BILLS-TO-BE-PAID’ REPORT

- **Ms. Amy Gallagher moved to approve the ‘Bills to be Paid’ report. Mr. Shawn Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 15, 2023 AND POLICE AND FIRE COMMITTEE MEETING ON MAY 31, 2023

- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the Regular Meeting and Police and Fire Committee Meeting Minutes. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

GROVE CITY LIBRARY REPORT

- Ms. Heather Baker presented the Library Report. Ms. Baker detailed that the Library continues to raise funds to keep the doors open. Ms. Baker reported that the Bake Sale was a success and another one is being planned due to the positive response. Ms. Baker reported that the next fundraiser is scheduled for 7/2 at Big Rail Brewing. Ms. Baker reported that the Summer Reading Program has started with strong community enrollment. Ms. Baker reported that since the campaign to keep the doors open, the Library has raised \$56,000 and the Library would like to express their thanks to the community. Ms. Baker also reported that the Library plans to approach some of the Member Townships to solicit additional support for the Library.

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY DISC GOLF CLUB GOLF IN THE GROVE EVENT TO BE HELD ON 11/4/23 AT MEMORIAL AND HUNTER FARM PARK

- **Mr. Jim Henry moved to approve the Golf in the Grove Event. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: RELAY FOR LIFE DUCK DERBY TO BE HELD AUGUST 13, 2023 AT THE FISHING DOCK ALONG GREENWOOD DRIVE FROM NOON TO 5PM

- Mr. Oakes explained that they would be launching ducks with varying numbers that people had purchased and then the ducks would go down the creek where they would be collected by volunteers and the winner would be determined.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the Duck Derby Event. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER INTENT TO ADOPT AND ADVERTISE ORDINANCE 1491 AMENDING THE FIRE PREVENTION AND FIRE PROTECTION CHAPTER OF THE BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES

- Mr. Oakes explained that this ordinance would limit recreational fires to natural firewood, contained within a pit or fire ring that was not bigger than 3' x 2', would prohibit burning from midnight to 11AM and would prohibit burn barrels.
- **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the intent to adopt and advertise Ordinance 1491. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER PINE TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR SANITARY SEWER SERVICE EXTENSION AT 1664 WEST MAIN STREET, GROVE CITY, PA OWNED BY 84 LUMBER

- Mr. Oakes confirmed that he had checked with Mr. Goncz and there was capacity for this request and the others on the agenda.
- **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the sanitary sewer service extension request. Ms. Amy Gallagher seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR WATER SANITARY SEWER SERVICE EXTENSION AT 32 SCHMIDT ROAD, GROVE CITY, PA OWNED BY MIKE AND CRYSTAL POPELLA

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

CONSIDER LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR WATER SANITARY SEWER SERVICE EXTENSION AT 317 NICKLAUS COURT, GROVE CITY, PA OWNED BY ANCO DEVELOPMENT LLC

- **Mr. Shawn Myers moved to approve the water and sanitary sewer service extension request. Ms. Amy Gallagher seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM HEATHER BLANCHARD TO ESTABLISH FUN FRIDAYS IN DOWNTOWN GROVE CITY AND ALLOW OPEN ALCOHOL CONTAINERS BETWEEN 5PM AND 7PM AND TO ALLOW ALCOHOL IN MONTELEONE YOUTH FESTIVAL PARK DURING THESE TIMES

- Ms. Heather Blanchard, Delicious Bouquets, proposed that the Borough consider “Fun Fridays” to help encourage people to come downtown. Ms. Blanchard stated that she spoke with the Chief of Police of Zelenople and they have had success with a similar event. Ms. Blanchard stated that she envisioned that restaurants could offer drinks and grab and go items and other businesses could participate with games and activities. Ms. Blanchard stated that she has not worked out all of the details yet as insurance and entertainment would need to be worked out, but she wanted to reach out and see if it was even possible.
- Councilman Morley asked how the Wine Walk Event worked. Mr. Oakes stated that the alcohol for the Wine Walk is consumed indoors and the Chamber of Commerce receives an event license from the LCB.
- Mr. Oakes stated that there are two ordinances that would have to be modified to allow this event, the Borough’s prohibition on open containers and the ban on alcohol in Borough Parks as Monteleone Festival Park is included as one. Councilman Jaillet asked who would organize the bands. Ms. Blanchard stated that she would get a group of business owners together to organize them. Councilwoman Mattocks asked if this would just be in the summer. Ms. Blanchard stated that the intent was to try it in the summer and see if it was successful. Mr. Oakes asked about previous events that the Chamber of Commerce had organized downtown and if this could be done in coordination with the Chamber. Ms. Blanchard stated that she has pitched this idea to the Chamber in the past and they have not been interested. Solicitor Bonner suggested that the Chamber at least be approached to ensure that they do not oppose it.
- Councilwoman Mattocks asked for Interim Chief Taggart’s opinion and he stated that he felt that the crowd would be similar to that of the Wine Walk and they have not had issues with that. Councilwoman Mattocks referred this issue to the Parks and Recreation Committee for further discussion.

REPORT FROM THE POLICE AND FIRE COMMITTEE

- Mr. Oakes provided the report as Councilman Hodge was absent. Mr. Oakes stated that Ordinance 1491 was discussed as presented earlier. Mr. Oakes stated that in addition to the discussion regarding Ordinance 1491 that the Police and Fire Committee met with the Fire Department and that Grove City College has provided their full support for the Live-in Program. They plan to have two students in the fall, but some insurance issues need to be worked out and labor laws that may apply to the arrangement need to be explored.

ENGINEER’S REPORT, presented by Daniel Goncz

- Mr. Oakes presented the Engineer’s Report as Mr. Goncz was not present. Mr. Oakes updated Council that the work for the clear well continues and rough grading for the site is expected by the fall. Mr. Oakes stated the he spoke with Mr. Goncz and Mr. Goncz recommended the approval of all payment requests as submitted.
- **Ms. Amy Gallagher moved to approve payment requests from Gannet Fleming for construction observation in the amounts of \$3,257.50 and \$8,510.00, from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$466,905.27, from McCurley Houston-Electric in the amount of \$9,794.13 and from Renick Brothers in the amount of \$3,150.00. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

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

- Mr. Oakes shared that he had included information that was provided to the Borough regarding paving on 79 within Council’s Board Packet. Mr. Oakes stated a thank you note from the Bennett family was also included.
- Mr. Oakes reported that DCED has been in contact with him and they are willing to allow the LSA Grant allocation project scope to be modified to include demolition of the old water plant, which will allow the Borough to use the funds.
- Mr. Oakes informed Council that the former Perkins building had been sold to Montgomery Truss and Montgomery was still evaluating what they will be doing with the site.

- Mr. Oakes reported that at a special COG Meeting on 6/8 was held to discuss the Sewer Lateral Inspection Program and that Jason Stanton from Lennon Smith Souleret had been there and presented the program to the upstream communities. Mr. Oakes stated that he expected that the ordinance and policy manual would be ready for Council to act on at the July Meeting.
- Mr. Oakes reported that Monica Pryts had resigned from the Allied News to take a position at Whole Life Services and that he did not have any information on who would be replacing her.

MAYORS REPORT presented by Mayor Randy Riddle

- Mayor Riddle reported that he attended the following events over the last month:
 - 5/25- Judge for Scouts Baking Competition,
 - 5/30- Proclamation presented to Chase Karenbauer, a distinguished middle school wrestler and attended the High School Awards Ceremony where he presented the distinguished Junior Councilperson Award with a \$200 scholarship to Mac Messer and announced the AMP Ohio scholarship that Mac received for \$3,000.
 - 5/31- Attended the Police and Fire Committee Meeting.
 - 6/2-6/7- Attended the PSAB Conference and was elected Second Vice-President for the Association.
 - 6/8- Attended the Special COG Meeting on the Sewer Lateral Inspection Program.
 - 6/10- Attended the GJR Water Exhibition, which featured the Grove City Water Plant Project
- Mayor Riddle reported that Corporal Alias and Officer Benner had visited two police academies to try to recruit candidates for the patrol officer opening. Interim Chief Taggart stated that some agencies are paying individuals to go to the academy due to the difficulty in finding viable candidates.
- Mayor Riddle reported that the Police Department had used proceeds from a drug seizure case to upgrade the entry door system for the Police Department. Interim Chief Taggart explained that if funds are seized that can be tied to criminal operations that the arresting agency is entitled to a portion of those funds as a penalty for the illegal activity.
- Mayor Riddle detailed that the Police Department is testing a new router for the patrol cars and is switching their wireless service provider to AT&T due to outage issues with Verizon.
- Mayor Riddle reported that Corporal Rand returns today from medical leave.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Ms. Mattocks announced that the July 4th fireworks will be setoff from the High School Practice Field.

NEWS MEDIA

- None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24PM.

Respectfully,

Taylor G. Pokrant, Borough Secretary