

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION/PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING  
February 17, 2025 at 5:30PM**

**CALL TO ORDER WORK SESSION MEETING** by Ms. Mary K. Mattocks at 5:36PM

**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)	Absent	Oakes, Vance (Boro Manager)
Absent	Morley, Shawn	X	DiStasi, Vincent	X	Pokrant, Taylor (Asst. Man)
X	Eakin, Patrick	X	Riddle, Randy (Mayor)	Absent	Goncz, Dan (Engineer)
X	Henry, James	Absent	Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres)		
X	Hodge, Jeffrey	X	Zimmerman, William		
X	Hoffman, Jared	Absent	Myford, Elle (Jr. Council)		
X	Jaillet, Scott	X	Smith, Alex (Jr. Council)		

**DISCUSS MELLON FOUNDATION PLANNING GRANT**

- Mr. Brian Powell, Grove City College, was present and Mr. Tom Hardy and Amy Murdocks from Altar Consulting Group were also present. Mr. Hardy and Ms. Murdocks discussed past experience with Mellon Foundation planning grants that they have been a part of. Council members discussed their respective vision for downtown redevelopment. Mr. Powell indicated that this was a preliminary meeting and he would expect to hear within a month of so if the Borough is awarded a grant from the Mellon Foundation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM.

**CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC HEARING** by Council President, Mary K. Mattocks at 6:45PM

**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)	Absent	Oakes, Vance (Boro Manager)
X	Morley, Shawn	X	DiStasi, Vincent	X	Pokrant, Taylor (Asst. Man)
X	Eakin, Patrick	X	Riddle, Randy (Mayor)	Absent	Goncz, Dan (Engineer)
X	Henry, James	Absent	Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres)		
X	Hodge, Jeffrey	X	Zimmerman, William		
X	Hoffman, Jared	Absent	Myford, Elle (Jr. Council)		
X	Jaillet, Scott	X	Smith, Alex (Jr. Council)		

**HEARING FOR 2022 BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY CDBG PROGRAM MODIFICATION**

- Ms. Doniele Russell, Mercer County Regional Planning, explained that this public hearing was to modify the Borough of Grove City’s 2022 program allocation from housing rehabilitation/ Superior Street Sidewalk improvements to sidewalk improvements along Edgewood Ave. Ms. Russell explained that the Superior Street work had come in under the projected budget and therefore needed to be reallocated. Ms. Mattocks requested public comments on this modification and no public comments were received.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- There being no further business, the hearing was adjourned at 6:55PM.

**CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING** by Council President, Mary K. Mattocks at 7:02PM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PRAYER:** was offered by **Mr. William Zimmerman**

**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)	Absent	Oakes, Vance (Boro Manager)
X	Morley, Shawn	X	DiStasi, Vincent	X	Pokrant, Taylor (Secretary)
X	Eakin, Patrick	X	Riddle, Randy (Mayor)	X	Goncz, Dan (Engineer)
X	Henry, James	Absent	Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres)		
X	Hodge, Jeffrey	X	Zimmerman, William		
X	Hoffman, Jared	Absent	Myford, Elle (Jr. Council)		
X	Jaillet, Scott	X	Smith, Alex (Jr. Council)		

**REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

- None

**COUNCIL MEMBER REQUEST TO ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA**

- None

**APPROVAL OF 'BILLS PAID' REPORT**

- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the 'Bills Paid' report. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING ON JANUARY 22, 2025 AND POLICE AND FIRE COMMITTEE MEETING ON JANUARY 27, 2025**

- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**GROVE CITY LIBRARY REPORT**

- Mr. Scott Amon and Ms. Heather Baker presented the library report. Mr. Amon reported that the Library is working with the United Way for assistance with fundraising activities. Mr. Amon also reported that annual reporting is being completed as required to receive state aid. Ms. Baker shared that the Library will have a Harry Potter event on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Baker also invited everyone to a celebration of life for her husband on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**CONSIDER 2021 CDBG FUNDS REVISION OF \$16,080 FROM SUPERIOR STREET CURB RAMP PROJECT TO THE MEMORIAL PARK ADA TRAIL PROJECT**

- Mr. Pokrant explained that much like the subject of the public hearing, that due to the Superior Street project coming in under budget, there were also 2021 funds unexpended. Mr. Pokrant explained that the balance for 2021 will go towards the Memorial Park Trail project that will be put out to bid next month.
- **Mr. Shawn Morley moved to reallocate the 2021 funds. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 205**

- Mr. Pokrant thanked Ms. Mattocks, Mr. Hodge, Mr. Bigley and Mr. Hoffman for their work to achieve a tentative agreement. Mr. Pokrant explained that the agreement is for a three-year period, retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup> and includes pay increases of 4%, 4% and 3.5% for 2025, 2026 and 2027 respectively. Mr. Pokrant detailed that in addition to these increases, the pay progression will be shrunk to 7 years from the current 12 year progression. Finally, Mr. Pokrant explained that on December 1, 2025, the employee health plan will switch from a PPO plan to an EPO plan that will provide cost savings to the Borough and the officer share for health insurance will increase by 1%. Mr. Hodge thanked Mr. Oakes and Mr. Pokrant for their assistance in reaching an agreement.
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to approve the agreement. Mr. Jeff Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GRACE CHURCH SUNRISE SERVICE TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK ON 4/20/25**

- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the event request contingent upon receipt of an insurance certificate. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TRADE SHOW TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK ON 9/20/25**

- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to approve the event request. Mr. Jeff Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER A 3 YEAR LEASE RENEWAL WITH THE CENTER FOR EMERGENCY MEDICINE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA (STAT MEDEVAC)**

- Mr. Pokrant explained that this lease renewal would feature a \$50 per month increase in the rent that is being paid to the Borough.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the lease renewal. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER CONDUCTING A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ORDINANCE 1504 ESTABLISHING A VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES TAX REBATE PROGRAM**

- Mr. Pokrant detailed to Borough Council that this was the subject of their work session last month. Mr. Pokrant explained that a draft ordinance had been created in collaboration with Solicitor Bonner and was attached for Council's review. Mr. Pokrant explained that after discussion with Solicitor Bonner that it would be best for the rebate program to start in 2026 since the 2025 tax year has already started. Mr. Bonner mentioned that it was important to discuss this program with the neighboring townships and suggested that it be discussed at the next COG meeting. Mr. Pokrant detailed that a public hearing was a required step for the adoption of this program. Mr. Bonner suggested that the Borough conduct a public hearing and then make any modifications that Council deemed appropriate after the hearing.
- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to conduct a public hearing regarding adoption of Ordinance 1504. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: ENGINEERS WITH A MISSION 5K FUNDRAISER TO BE HELD ON 3/29/25 AT HUNTER FARM PARK**

- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to approve the event request. Mr. Jared Hoffman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

**ENGINEER'S REPORT, PRESENTED BY DANIEL GONCZ**

- Mr. Goncz reported that start-up of several components at the Water Treatment Plant has started with the ability to begin making water expected in March. Mr. Goncz explained that the water will be wasted until

all equipment is calibrated, the water has been properly tested, and DEP has inspected the plant. Mr. Goncz recommended approval of all payment requests.

- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve payment requests from Gannet Fleming for construction observation, management and design in the amounts of \$7,590, \$3,750, and \$6,940, from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$277,485.50, from McCurley-Houston in the amount of \$96,650.75 and Renick Brothers in the amount of \$12,654.45. Mr. Jared Hoffman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- Mr. Goncz detailed that Gannet Fleming is working to complete the Wasteload Management Report for submission, but has calculated the respective flows for each municipality with those being attached in the Engineer's report.
- Mr. Goncz reported that he has been working with Mr. Patterson on a water main replacement project on East Main Street due to the anticipated PennDOT paving project in 2027. Mr. Goncz stated that this project is eligible for the Pennsylvania Small Water and Sewer Grant program and recommended that the Borough Council approve the attached resolution at an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for this project.
- **Mr. William Zimmerman moved to approve Resolution 2025-04 authorizing application to the Pennsylvania Small Water and Sewer Grant Program at an amount not to exceed \$500,000. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

#### **BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT PRESENTED BY ASSISTANT BOROUGH MANAGER, TAYLOR POKRANT**

- Mr. Pokrant detailed that the Memorial Park Trail Project would be going out to bid next month and reminded Borough Council that this would feature ADA improvements along the walking trail.
- Mr. Pokrant reported that Mr. Oakes attended a Mercer County Commissioner's meeting to advocate for the issuance of debt to pay for the new county-wide radio system.
- Mr. Pokrant noted that the Jeremiah Sturgeon Chapel at George Junior Republic has been nominated for consideration to the national register of historic places.
- Mr. Pokrant reminded Council that a Parks and Recreation Committee meeting is scheduled for next Monday to review recreational land use leases.
- Mr. Pokrant reminded Council of the PSAB conference that is upcoming in June and the Chamber of Commerce Dinner that will be occurring next month.

#### **JR. COUNCIL REPORT PRESENTED BY JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON, ALEX SMITH**

- Mr. Smith detailed that the Interact Club had completed a successful Bingo Fundraiser.
- Mr. Smith reported that several High School athletes have broken records including Nathan Greer and Cody Hamilton. Mr. Smith also detailed that Izzy Gamble has reached 1,000 points scored in girls basketball.
- Mr. Smith shared that the boys swim team are region champions and that 10 boys and 8 girls have qualified to compete in the District 10 Championships.

#### **MAYORS REPORT PRESENTED BY MAYOR RANDY RIDDLE**

- Mayor Riddle shared that over the last month he attended the following events:
  - 1/27- Police and Fire Committee Meeting
  - 2/6- PSAB Conference call regarding the Municipal Retirement Trust program
- Mayor Riddle reported that he has PennNorthwest Sites Committee Meeting upcoming on 2/18.
- Mayor Riddle reported that he has solicited a quote for an update of the Borough's website and asked if Mr. Distasi would look it over. Mr. DiStasi indicated that he would.
- Mayor Riddle with Chief Allias reported that Officer Bennett is still out on injury and that Officer Phipps is also out on injury. Mayor Riddle detailed that Officer Phipps is expected to be back within the next week or so. Mayor Riddle detailed that Chief Allias is working on background checks for the two police applicants and should have them completed by next month.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- None

**NEWS MEDIA**

- Borough Council was available for questions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM.

Respectfully,

Taylor G. Pokrant, Assistant Borough Manager