

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING
March 17, 2025 at 6:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC HEARING by Council Vice-President, Joel Bigley at 6:34PM

MEETING ATTENDANCE / ROLL CALL

X if present	Council Member Name	X if present	Council Member Name	X if present	Other Name
Absent	Mattocks, Mary Kay	Absent	Bonner, Timothy (Solicitor)	X	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	X	Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres)		
X	Hodge, Jeffrey	X	Zimmerman, William		
X	Hoffman, Jared	X	Myford, Elle (Jr. Council)		
X	Jaillet, Scott	X	Smith, Alex (Jr. Council)		

HEARING FOR ORDINANCE 1504 ESTABLISHING A VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES TAX REBATE PROGRAM

- Mr. Joel Bigley asked Mr. Pokrant to provide a brief summary of the ordinance. Mr. Pokrant explained that this would be a tax rebate program for volunteer firefighters that has a points system that rewards training and service in the form of varying levels of tax rebate. Mr. Bigley requested comments on said ordinance. Mr. Michael Holes, 620 Superior Street, expressed his support for the ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT

- Mr. Bigley requested additional comments, hearing none, the hearing was adjourned at 6:40PM.

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING by Council President, Mary K. Mattocks at 7:05PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER: was offered by Ms. Mary K. Mattocks

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

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

- Mr. Paul Hamill, Mayor of Greenville, welcomed councilman Pat Eakin as the Grove City Borough representative for the Mercer County Regional Planning Commission.

COUNCIL MEMBER REQUEST TO ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

- Mr. Oakes explained that there were three requests that came in the last 24 hours that he would like added to the agenda:

- Consider Lease Renewal with Grove City Girls Fast Pitch Softball, without any changes
- Consider National Day of Prayer Event at Memorial Park on May 1, 2025
- Consider Grove City Disc Golf Huckfest to be held at Hunter Farm Park from June 14-15, 2025
- **Mr. Pat Eakin moved to add the Grove City Girls Fast Pitch Softball Lease Renewal to the agenda and approve it. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to add the National Day of Prayer event to the agenda and approve it. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to add the Grove City Disc Golf event to the agenda and approve it. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF 'BILLS PAID' REPORT

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM WORK SESSION/PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 17, 2025 AND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 24, 2025

- **Mr. Jeff Hodge moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Scott Jaillet 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 switching service providers for its Library software system to cut costs. Mr. Amon reported that as a part of this transition the Library will be closed on March 26th and 27th for staff training. Ms. Baker reported that the Harry Potter event was successful with over 40 children participating. Ms. Baker reported that the Library is beginning preparations for the Summer Reading Program. Ms. Baker also reported that a donation was made to the Library in honor of her late husband that allowed the Library to purchase furniture for the children's area.

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY LIBRARY CHARACTER FUN WALK/RUN 5K TO BE HELD AT HUNTER FARM PARK ON JUNE 28, 2025

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

CONSIDER CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION'S ELIGIBILITY LIST FOR HIRING FOR THE POSITION OF PATROLMAN

- Mr. Oakes informed Council that there are two vacancies within the Police Department that the Borough would like to fill as a part of this process. Mr. Oakes detailed that the Borough started with four applicants and ended with a list of two, John Melnik and Bryce Foreback. Chief Allias explained that he had done a thorough background on both candidates and recommended that Council move forward with hiring both of them. Mr. Oakes reminded Council that a retention incentive had been advertised with this hiring and that Council would need an agreement with each candidate for said incentive.
- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the Civil Service Commission List and extend offers of employment to Mr. John Melnik and Mr. Bryce Foreback contingent upon completing their required pre-employment physical and mental health evaluations. Mr. Jeff Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to approve the retention incentive agreements with Mr. John Melnik and Mr. Bryce Foreback. Mr. Jeff Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: ARSC FEDERAL FUN WALK TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK ON MAY 31, 2025 AT MEMORIAL PARK (WITHOUT STREET CLOSURES)

- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to approve the event request contingent upon receipt of an insurance certificate. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: RELAY FOR LIFE TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK ON JULY 25, 2026

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

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK ON MAY 3, 2025

- **Mr. Pat Eakin moved to approve the event request. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2025-06 AMERICA250PA

- Mr. Oakes explained that this was a resolution to support efforts for the America250PA celebration.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the resolution. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2025-07 UNCLAIMED PROPERTY DONATION

- Mr. Oakes explained that this donation is for unclaimed bicycles at the Police Department.
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to approve the resolution. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF PSAB ANNUAL CONFERENCE VOTING DELEGATE

- Mr. Jared Hoffman expressed his willingness to serve as the voting delegate and Mr. Scott Jaillet expressed his willingness to serve as the alternate delegate.
- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to appoint Jared Hoffman as the voting delegate and Mr. Scott Jaillet as the alternate delegate. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RECREATIONAL LAND USE LEASE RENEWALS WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

- GROVE CITY MIDGET FOOTBALL
- GROVE CITY LITTLE EAGLES FOOTBALL
- GROVE CITY PONY BASEBALL LEAGUE
- GROVE CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
- Mr. Oakes explained that these were the topic of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting and that all referenced organizations are requesting no change to their existing agreements.
- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approval the lease renewals. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER GROVE CITY YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION LEASE ADDENDUM

- Mr. Oakes explained that this was discussed at the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting as well. Mr. Oakes detailed that the Borough will be providing a \$200 per month bill credit due to the public restroom portion of the building, with this amount being determined by average cost of other municipal park restrooms. Mr. Oakes stated that the addendum reflects this and also reflects that the Borough will clean the restrooms during the week and the Soccer Association will clean them on the weekends.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the lease addendum. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

DISCUSS VACATING A BOROUGH ALLEY BETWEEN 112 AND 114-116 S. BROAD STREET

- Mr. Pokrant explained that there was an attached petition to vacate the alley. Mr. Pokrant explained that that this alley was currently blocked on S. Broad Street. Ms. Mattocks referred this matter to the Infrastructure Committee for further discussion.

CONSIDER INTENT TO ADVERTISE AND ADOPT ORDINANCE 1504 ESTABLISHING A VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES TAX REBATE PROGRAM

- Mr. Oakes explained that this was the topic of the public hearing that was held prior to the regular meeting. Mr. Hoffman shared that he has learned that Pine Township will be moving forward with this ordinance and that Springfield is waiting to see if the Borough is going to pass it.
- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the advertisement of the ordinance. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion. Mr. Jared Hoffman and Mr. Jeff Hodge abstained due to potential financial benefit from said ordinance and it carried by majority with all other members voting in favor of it.**

CONSIDER PINE TOWNSHIP’S REQUEST FOR SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION TO 99 CRANBERRY ROAD, GROVE CITY, PA, OWNED BY RICHARD BOUCH

- Mr. Oakes reported that capacity existed for this request.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the sewer extension. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

ENGINEER’S REPORT, PRESENTED BY VANCE OAKES

- Mr. Oakes reported that Borough Staff is currently being trained at the new water treatment plant on the various processes and that it is expected that the plant will be making water in April. Mr. Oakes explained that this water would be wasted until everything is approved by DEP and everything is calibrated properly. Mr. Oakes reported that Mr. Goncz recommended approval of all attached payment requests.
- **Mr. Jim Henry moved to approve payment requests from Gannet Fleming for construction observation, management and design in the amounts of \$9,200, \$6,515, and \$13,880, from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$136,933.30, from McCurley-Houston in the amount of \$55,218.75 and Renick Brothers in the amount of \$11,512.50. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT PRESENTED BY VANCE OAKES

- Mr. Oakes reported that he has recently completed a webinar from PSAB regarding police department supervision and that it was very informative. Mr. Oakes detailed that he has attached some of the relevant materials and would like to further discuss some potential action items at a future meeting.
- Mr. Oakes reported that the Borough is working on a grant application to the T-Mobile Hometown Grant program for a landscaping project at the Borough Office with a grant request of \$50,000. Mr. Oakes reported that Grove City Revitalization Inc. will be leading this project and has submitted an application to Visit Mercer County for funding to assist with this project as well.
- Mr. Oakes detailed that the Borough was originally slated to open bids earlier this month for the Memorial Park Walking Trail project, but has extended the deadline to allow additional time for more contractors to bid on the project.
- Mr. Oakes reminded Borough Council to submit their required Statement of Financial Interests form.

JR. COUNCIL REPORT PRESENTED BY JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON, ELLE MYFORD

- Ms. Myford noted that winter sports has wrapped up with some notable achievements by Grove City High School athletes. Izzy Gamble reached 1,000 career points as a member of the girls basketball team, Nathan Greer became the all-time leading scorer for boys basketball and Cody Hamilton set the record for the most individual wins for the boys wrestling team. Ms. Myford detailed that a blood drive is upcoming at the high school on April 11th. Ms. Myford reported that the school play will be Newsies and that prom will be held on May 3, 2025. Ms. Myford reported that High School graduation will occur on May 30th. Ms. Myford also detailed that Grove City College will replace President McNulty with Bradely Lingo.

MAYORS REPORT PRESENTED BY MAYOR RANDY RIDDLE

- Mayor Riddle shared that over the last month he attended the following events:
 - 2/18- PennNorthwest SITES Committee meeting
 - 2/22- Grove City Library Open House
 - 3/11- Grove City Chamber of Commerce Dinner
 - 3/16 -Presented proclamations to Logan Osterwise and Ella Stillwagon for swim team records.
- Mayor Riddle reported that he has the following events upcoming:
 - 3/18- COG meeting
 - 3/20- PSAB conference call
 - 3/26- Mayors of the Boroughs of Pennsylvania conference call
- Mayor Riddle shared that his wife will be having surgery on April 10th and thanked everyone for their support.
- Mayor Riddle reported that Moxietec plans to add an 8.9-million-dollar addition onto their building that will allow them to add 9 jobs.
- Mayor Riddle with Chief Allias reported that the radar speed sign has been moved to George Junior Road, which will help with data collection as well as slowing motorists down. Mayor Riddle reported that Officer Phipps and DePietro are set to return at the end of the month and that Officer Bennett is out indefinitely with his injury. Mayor Riddle recognized Chief Allias for covering shifts during the manpower shortage.

OTHER BUSINESS

- None

NEWS MEDIA

- Borough Council was available for questions.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mary K. Mattocks announced that following adjournment that an executive session will be held to discuss a personnel matter. There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM.

Respectfully,

Taylor G. Pokrant, Assistant Borough Manager