

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 18, 2024 7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER Regular Meeting by Council President, Mary Kay Mattocks 7:02PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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 (by phone)	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	X	Bigley, Joel (Vice-Pres)		
X	Hodge, Jeffrey	X	Zimmerman, William		
X	Hoffman, Jared	X	Riddle, Emmy (Jr. Council)		
X	Jaillet, Scott	Absent	Myford, Elle (Jr. Council)		

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

- None

REQUEST TO ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

- None

APPROVAL OF 'BILLS PAID' REPORT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 19, 2024 AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING ON MARCH 5, 2024

- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Pat Eakin 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 Friends of the Library will be hosting a bingo fundraiser on April 20th at the Masonic Hall. Ms. Baker detailed that the Soup Fundraiser was a success, with the Library selling out in a little over an hour. Ms. Baker reported that the Library has their Fandom Fest coming up on May 11th at the Masonic Hall and a bake sale on June 3rd at the Library.

CONSIDER REQUEST BY GROVE CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT TO APPLY FOR THE PIRATES FIELDS FOR KIDS GRANT PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD

- Mr. Brandon Jones, Grove City High School Baseball Coach, detailed improvements that the High School Baseball Boosters would like to make to the field including replacing the dugouts and lights. Mr. Jones explained that the Boosters would like to submit an application to the Pirates Fields for Kids Grant Program, but need permission from the Borough due to the fact that they are the facility owner. Mr. Jones explained that the grant program includes a fifty percent local match, but this would be provided by the Boosters.
- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the grant application with the High School Baseball Boosters providing the required matching funds. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF JARED HOFFMAN AS THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE VOTING DELEGATE FOR THE BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY

- Mr. Pokrant explained that Mayor Riddle and Mr. Hoffman have signed up for the conference and Mayor Riddle is already voting on behalf of PSAB as the Second Vice-President and as Mercer County's representative and is not permitted to vote a third time. Mr. Pokrant stated that Mr. Hoffman is willing to serve as the delegate since Mayor Riddle is not able to.
- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the appointment of Jared Hoffman. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2024-02 AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

- Mr. Pokrant reported that the Borough has two bicycles that have remained unclaimed and the Police Department would like to donate them to Grace Community Food Pantry.
- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to approve Resolution 2024-02. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER INTENT TO ADOPT AND ADVERTISEMENT OF ORDINANCE 1499 AMENDING THE BOROUGH'S ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Mr. Pokrant explained that the modifications would follow the National Electrical Code for electrical service installations.
- **Mr. Jeff Hodge moved to approve the intent to adopt and advertisement of Ordinance 1499. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: RELAY FOR LIFE TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK ON 7/26/25 FROM 10AM-10PM

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

CONSIDER REQUEST TO REFUND LIBERTY TOWNSHIP FOR SEWER SERVICE EXTENSION AT 575 NORTH LIBERTY ROAD, GROVE CITY, PA, OWNED BY RYAN AND ALON THOMAS DUE TO WITHDRAWAL OF SERVICE REQUEST

- Mr. Pokrant explained that Mr. and Mrs. Thomas sent a written request for this refund since they will no longer be building at the site. Mr. Pokrant explained that Liberty Township plans to provide this refund after the Borough approves it.
- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the refund request. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

ENGINEER'S REPORT, PRESENTED BY DANIEL GONCZ

- Mr. Goncz reported that work at the Water Treatment Plant is still behind about two to three months and that the contractor is having issues securing masons for the work. Mr. Goncz recommended that Council approve the attached payment requests.

- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve payment requests from Gannet Fleming for construction observation and management in the amounts of \$17,710 and \$6,515, from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$214,363.51 and McCurley-Houston Electric in the amount of \$138,916.60. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- Mr. Goncz reported that the Borough is still working with DCED regarding the H2O Grant award. Mr. Goncz explained that the Borough applied for the grant in 2022, but did not hear that the funds were awarded until the CFA met in December of 2023. By this time, due to cost increases that were to occur, the Borough had awarded contracts and started work. Due to the delay in grant awards, these items were not eligible for the grant any longer. Mr. Goncz explained that he is working on pricing for a capacity upgrade that was not part of the original work that may allow for use of some of the grant funds. Mr. Goncz stated that he would provide an update to Council once he has a cost estimate.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT PRESENTED BY ASSISTANT BOROUGH MANAGER, TAYLOR POKRANT

- Mr. Pokrant shared with Council that the Route 58 Bridge Replacement Schedule was included within their board packet and would include a full closure from May to August of 2025.
- Mr. Pokrant updated Council regarding the property at 241-243 S. Broad Street that had a piece of the façade fall onto the sidewalk in January. Mr. Pokrant informed Council that the owner of the property has contracted with Thomas Construction to complete the repair work and that the project would take about 6 weeks.
- Mr. Pokrant reported to Council that a CDBG Public Hearing had been scheduled for April 15th prior to the regular meeting and that Chris Conti from Mercer County Regional Planning would be present. Mr. Pokrant detailed that this hearing would be to reallocate funds to complete curb cut improvements along Superior Street.
- Mr. Pokrant reminded Council that the Mercer County Boroughs Association Dinner is coming up on April 25th and asked for assistance obtaining door prizes from local businesses.
- Mr. Pokrant reported to Council that an electrical failure at the Black Run lift station this morning led to the lift station not working properly and this failure was coupled with a cellular outage that did not allow the auto-dialer to send out a call. Mr. Pokrant detailed that this issue was fixed quickly, but it led to two homes experiencing sewer backups. Mr. Pokrant explained that the Black Run Lift Station Renovation Project will include an emergency generator and pumps that would automatically turn on should an event similar to this occur in the future. Mr. Pokrant detailed that the Borough hopes to have bids ready for approval for that project in May.

JR. COUNCIL REPORT PRESENTED BY JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON, EMMY RIDDLE

- Ms. Riddle reported she was not able to attend last month’s meeting, but wanted to report that Winterfest was a success.
- Ms. Riddle detailed that Project Peers, a program that connects NHS members with 8th graders to help prepare them for high school, has had several meetings and will continue to do so throughout the spring.
- Ms. Riddle reported that the Interact Club attended a Climate Conference on March 15th and that it was very informative.
- Ms. Riddle shared that the Trigonometree project will occur again this year as preparations are being made.

MAYORS REPORT PRESENTED BY MAYOR RANDY RIDDLE

- Mayor Riddle reported that he had completed the Community Connection survey for the Fire Department and asked Councilman Hoffman to provide an update on the implementation. Councilman Hoffman reported that it is working well and that the Fire Department has also installed smoke detectors in several homes.
- Mayor Riddle encouraged attendance at the Mercer County Boroughs Association Dinner in April since it will be in Grove City.
- Mayor Riddle shared that over the last month he attended the following events:

- 2/20- PennNorthwest Sites Committee and discussion with Chief Allias regarding starting a neighborhood watch program
- 2/26 and 3/1- PSAB Conference Calls
- 3/12- Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner, where he awarded Adam Cook, Grove City YMCA, the Community Service Award
- Mayor Riddle noted that he has the following events upcoming:
 - 3/19- Grove City College Community Lunch
 - 3/20- COG Meeting
 - 3/25- Police and Fire Committee Meeting
 - 3/28- PennNorthwest Economic Development Summit
 - 4/15- Grove City Area Historical Society 25-year anniversary celebration
- Mayor Riddle reported that the Borough is still accepting applications for the position of patrolman.
- Mayor Riddle noted that the Police Department will be conducting an aggressive driving enforcement campaign from March 18th to April 28th.
- Mayor Riddle asked Chief Allias to detail information regarding signage within the Borough. Chief Allias stated that it had been reported to the Police Department that many non-profit signs within right of way areas have gone missing. After reviewing camera footage, Chief Allias discovered that PennDOT was removing these signs. After investigation and discussion with PennDOT, Chief Allias was informed that PennDOT has been tasked with enforcing the Highway Beautification Act of 1965, which prohibits signage within right of ways on state highways. Chief Allias reported that PennDOT is holding the signs for 30 days and encouraged anyone who has lost a sign to contact PennDOT to see if they have it.
- Mayor Riddle reported that the body and vehicle cameras for the Police Department are up and running and working well.
- Mayor Riddle shared that his granddaughter, Ella Stillwagon, set a school record for the 100 meter fly at the State Championships and came in 9th in the State.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Councilwoman Mattocks requested that a meeting be scheduled with the YMCA to discuss plans for the upcoming park pool season.

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 8:05PM.

Respectfully,

Taylor G. Pokrant, Assistant Borough Manager