

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2025 at 7:00PM**

CALL TO ORDER by Council President, Mary K. Mattocks at 7:04PM

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	X	Bonner, Timothy (Solicitor)	X	Oakes, Vance (Boro Manager)
Phone	Morley, Shawn	X	DiStasi, Vincent	X	Pokrant, Taylor (Secretary)
X	Eakin, Patrick	X	Riddle, Randy (Mayor)	X	Gonc, 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)		

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

- Ms. Mary K. Mattocks announced that an executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss a matter of potential litigation.

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

- Students from Grove City High School presented their Trigonometree project. The students plan to plant a tree in Memorial Park to help offset the paper that they have used in their math class. The students indicated that they have been in touch with Mr. Chad Patterson, Public Works Supervisor, and have picked a spot near the pool.
- **Mr. Jeff Hodge moved to approve the Trigonometree project and planting. Mr. Jared Hoffman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

COUNCIL MEMBER REQUEST TO ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

- Mr. Oakes explained that there was one request that came in the last 24 hours that he would like added to the agenda and it is for a Book Sale event that Bookends would like to hold adjacent to their store downtown. Mr. Oakes explained that they are requesting that College Ave be closed from South Broad Street to Filer Alley.
- **Mr. Jim Henry moved to add the event to the agenda and approve it. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

SWEARING-IN OF POLICE OFFICER BRYCE FOREBACK

- Mayor Riddle swore-in Mr. Foreback.

APPROVAL OF 'BILLS PAID' REPORT

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 17, 2025 AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING ON APRIL 9, 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's switch to a new management software has gone well. Mr. Amon reported that on April 12th as a part of the United Way Day of Caring that a mulch project was completed in front of the Library. Mr. Amon thanked that volunteers and the Borough for providing the mulch. Mr. Amon reported that the Library will be closed on May 9th due to a building power outage to complete electrical improvements. Ms. Baker shared that the Library is beginning preparations for their Summer programming.

CONSIDER MEMORIAL PARK MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS PLAN

- Mr. Oakes introduced Mr. Michael Hopkins who has proposed a volunteer plan to improve the mountain bike trails at Memorial Park. Mr. Oakes reminded Council that Mr. Hopkins had presented his plan during a work session meeting and thanked Mr. Hopkins for his commitment to improve the trails.
- **Mr. Jim Henry moved to approve the trail plan. Mr. Jared Hoffman 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 INTENT TO ADOPT AND ADVERTISE ORDINANCE 1505 ANNULING AN ALLEY BETWEEN 114 S. BROAD STREET AND 112 S. BROAD STREET

- Mr. Oakes explained that this was also a topic of discussion during the most recent work session and this would be to annul the identified alley and would require a public hearing.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to advertise Ordinance 1505. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: VFW AUXILIARY VETERANS DAY PARADE TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2025

- Ms. Fran Reasch was present on behalf of the VFW Auxiliary in Springfield Township, Volant, PA and stated that the VFW Auxiliary Post 7465 plans to hold the Veterans Day Parade again this year. Ms. Mattocks and Mr. Bigley thanked the VFW for holding the parade again this year.
- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the event. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER VFW AUXILIARY REQUEST FOR THE PLACEMENT OF FLAGS AT MEMORIAL PARK FOR MEMORIAL DAY

- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve the placement of flags. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER ORDINANCE 1504 ESTABLISHING AN EMERGENCY SERVICES TAX REBATE PROGRAM

- Mr. Vance Oakes explained that this program would reward VFD members through the creation of a points system that would allow them to qualify for varying levels of property and local earned income tax relief. Mr. Jared Hoffman expressed that many departments have seen a steep decline in volunteers, especially with increased training requirements. Mr. Jaillet expressed his support for the program and commended the Fire Department for a response to a fire that occurred in his neighborhood recently.

- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve Ordinance 1504, Mr. Jared Hoffman and Mr. Jeff Hodge abstained due to the potential for direct financial benefit from the Ordinance. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried by majority with all other Council members voting for said ordinance.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY MARKET IN THE PARK TO BE HELD AT MEMORIAL PARK EVERY THURSDAY FROM JUNE 12, 2025 – OCTOBER 30, 2025

- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the event. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER MEMORIAL PARK ADA TRAIL IMPROVEMENT BIDS

- Mr. Vance Oakes explained that Youngblood Paving was the low bidder on this project for ADA improvements along the trail. Mr. Oakes informed Borough Council that the project has come in over budget and will require the modification of CDBG funds from other program years to cover the cost overage. Mr. Oakes stated that he has spoken with Mercer County Regional Planning and that this modification will require a public hearing, which will be scheduled. Mr. Oakes recommended that the bid be approved.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the bids, awarding the contract to Youngblood Paving. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY COLLEGE HOMECOMING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 11, 2025

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

CONSIDER BLACK RUN LIFT STATION PROJECT UPDATES:

- **CONSIDER RIGHT ELECTRIC PAY REQUEST NUMBER 2 FOR THE SEWER LIFT STATION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,600**
- **CONSIDER HECKMAN DIVERSIFIED PAYMENT REQUEST NUMBER 5 FOR THE SEWER LIFT STATION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,087.20**
- **CONSIDER SET INC. SCHEDULE REQUEST**
- Mr. Oakes reported that work on the forcemain has been completed, including the sewer interceptor replacement work with restoration work still remaining. Mr. Oakes reported that Heckman damaged a shed and carport of a resident during the project and is working with the resident to replace the shed and repair the carport. Mr. Oakes reported that Right Electric is seeking payment for stored material and recommended that both pay requests be approved.
- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the pay request for Heckman Diversified in the amount of \$70,087.20 and for Right Electric in the amount of \$12,600. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- Mr. Oakes explained that SET Inc has received a 40-week lead time from one of their vendors and has requested a contract extension due to this. Mr. Oakes explained that SET will mobilize twice to accomplish some work prior to the equipment being delivered.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the contract extension. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

DISCUSS MERCER COUNTY SEAL COAT BID RESULTS

- Mr. Oakes reported that the Borough is participating the Mercer County Seal Coat Bid program and that the Borough has received a price of \$1.36 per square yard with Youngblood Paving being the low bidder and the Borough expects to spend approximately \$15,000.
- **Mr. Jeff Hodge moved to approve the bid results. Mr. Jim Henry seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2025-08 APPOINTING CHASE BADGER AS THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

- Mr. Oakes detailed that Mr. Jim Thompson has resigned and that Mr. Badger has agreed to serve in this capacity.
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to approve the resolution. Mr. Jeff Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2025-09 AUTHORIZING A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2023 DODGE DURANGO POLICE CRUISER

- Mr. Oakes reported that this would be to purchase a police cruiser using the statewide contract.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the resolution. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR WATER AND SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION TO 306 NICKLAUS COURT, GROVE CITY, PA, OWNED BY ANCO DEVELOPMENT LLC

- Mr. Goncz reported that capacity existed for these requests.
- **Mr. William Zimmerman moved to approve the utility extensions. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S REQUEST FOR WATER AND SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION TO 552 RYDER COURT, GROVE CITY, PA FOR A 12 UNIT APARTMENT BUILDING, OWNED BY LEGENDS CAPITAL HOLDINGS LLC

- Mr. Goncz reported that capacity existed for these requests.
- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to approve the utility extensions. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER HARRISVILLE BOROUGH'S REQUEST FOR SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION TO 101 SUTTON STREET, HARRISVILLE, PA, OWNED BY MATT SHAFFER

- Mr. Goncz reported that capacity existed for this request.
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to approve the utility extension. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

ENGINEER'S REPORT, PRESENTED BY DAN GONCZ

- Mr. Goncz reported that each individual component has been tested at the new water plant and that they will be making water over the next few weeks and wasting it until everything is properly calibrated. Mr. Goncz stated that he would be scheduling a tour for Council soon. Mr. Goncz reported that he has advertised for bids for phase two and will be opening bids next month. 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 \$11,270, \$3,257.50, and \$13,880, from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$34,069.03 and from McCurley-Houston in the amount of \$8,360. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- Mr. Goncz detailed that he has finalized two proposals for the design and bidding of water line replacement work on East Main Street and West Main Street in preparation for paving of the street next year by PennDOT. Mr. Goncz stated that the Borough is going to work to accomplish this work prior to the paving project.
- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the proposals. Mr. Jeff Hodge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT PRESENTED BY VANCE OAKES

- Mr. Oakes reminded Borough Council that the Route 58 Bridge closure will begin on May 12th.

- Mr. Oakes reported that the Borough's Safety Committee had been audited by the state and passed with no findings.
- Mr. Oakes detailed that the Borough Office will be closed on May 9th due to planned electrical work.
- Mr. Oakes reported that Grove City Revitalization Inc. has received a grant from Visit Mercer County and a small grant from Walmart to assist with the Borough Office landscaping project.
- Mr. Oakes detailed that the Borough has advertised an RFP following the purchase of Mockenhaupt by Acrisure, the Borough's non-uniform actuarial/administrative service provider. Mr. Oakes stated that he has discussed this with Mr. Jim Henry, Borough Council Finance Chairman, and he will be assisting in reviewing these proposals.
- Mr. Oakes reported that Tri-County has requested early pickup on several streets near the Route 58 Bridge due to expected difficulties due to the work. Pickup on these streets would begin at 3AM, which is currently when state routes are permitted to be collected. Borough Council expressed their acceptance with this proposal, but only during the duration of the bridge closure. Mr. Oakes stated that he would convey this to Tri-County.

JR. COUNCIL REPORT PRESENTED BY JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON, ELLE MYFORD AND ALEX SMITH

- Mr. Smith reported that the High School Musical was well-received, with the production being Newsies this year. Mr. Smith reported that the School Board approved a plan to update the High School's fitness center. Mr. Smith reported that High School Graduation is on May 30th.
- Ms. Myford detailed that a blood drive was held at the High School on April 11th with 23 donors. Ms. Myford reported that Grove City Rotary Club has their disc golf fundraiser upcoming on April 26th and the High School's Prom is upcoming on May 3rd.

MAYORS REPORT PRESENTED BY MAYOR RANDY RIDDLE

- Mayor Riddle shared that over the last month he attended the following events:
 - 3/18- PennNorthwest SITES Committee meeting
 - 3/19- COG Meeting
 - 3/20- Swearing-in of Officer John Melnik
 - 3/24 – Swearing-in of Officer Bryce Foreback
 - 4/1- United Way Luncheon
 - 4/13- Grove City Boys Wrestling Team banquet, with proclamations presented.
 - 4/19- Councilwoman Mattocks attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony for Deven Flick and presented him a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Riddle.
- Mayor Riddle reported that he has the following events upcoming:
 - 4/22- PennNorthwest SITES Committee meeting
 - 4/24- MCBA Dinner
 - 4/24- PSAB meeting to review resolutions for the annual conference
- Mayor Riddle with Chief Allias reported that the radar speed sign will be relocated to East Pine Street in preparation for the bridge closure as this will be a popular alternative route. Mayor Riddle shared that Officer Melnik and Foreback will complete their field training in May and that Officer Bennett will be returning on May 5th and that this will bring the department to full staff.
- Mayor Riddle reminded Borough Council that the PSAB Conference is upcoming in June.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Ms. Mattocks reported that Harlowe Mattocks, a Mercer Borough Councilman, has passed away and asked that his family be kept in everyone's thoughts and prayers.

NEWS MEDIA

- Borough Council was available for questions.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully, Taylor G. Pokrant, Assistant Borough Manager