

**BOROUGH OF GROVE CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR MEETING
September 16, 2024 at 6PM**

CALL TO ORDER POLICE AND FIRE COMMITTEE MEETING by Mr. Jared Hoffman at 6:00PM

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

2024 REPORT FROM SUPERIOR AMBULANCE SERVICE

- Mr. Doug Dick, Superior Ambulance Service, was present and discussed his call volume in 2023 and thus far in 2024 for the Borough. Mr. Dick discussed the various calls and challenges that the ambulance service is facing. Mr. Dick noted that three new part-time employees and two new full-time employees have been hired in the last year. Mr. Dick also noted the increase in call volume from 2023 to 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business to come before the Police and Fire Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45PM.

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING by Council President, Mary K. Mattocks at 7:19 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER: was offered by **Mr. Scott Jaillet**

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

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

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

REQUEST FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

- None

REQUEST TO ADD ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

- Mr. Oakes stated that the Borough has received a request from the Grove City Christian Academy to establish a school zone for their Mill Street location and would like the Borough's permission to pursue approval with PennDOT. Chief Allias explained that they would need to submit an engineered drawing and establish the parameters for when this school zone would be.
- **Mr. William Zimmerman moved to add the Christian Academy's Mill Street School Zone request to the agenda and approve the request contingent upon PennDOT approval. Mr. Shawn Morley 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 PUBLIC HEARINGS AND REGULAR MEETING ON AUGUST 19, 2024

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

GROVE CITY LIBRARY REPORT

- Mr. Scott Amon presented the library report. Mr. Amon detailed that the Library is struggling financially and only has sufficient funds to last until the end of October. Mr. Amon reported that the Library has made cuts to their staff and hours to save money. Mr. Amon detailed several upcoming fundraisers. Mr. Amon also introduced Library Board President, Carla Ligo, who was present.

CONSIDER BID FROM MAKER CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR CONTRACT 24-SW1 2024 SUPERIOR STREET ADA IMPROVEMENTS

- Mr. Oakes stated that a Borough employee would serve as an inspector for the project. Mr. Oakes also stated that Lennon Smith Souleret Engineering has recommended that the bid be accepted.
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to approve the bid from Maker Construction. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY CROSS COUNTRY INVITATIONAL ON 10/05/2024 AT MEMORIAL PARK

- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the event request. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER 2025 GASOLINE AND FUEL OIL PRODUCTS BIDS

- Mr. Oakes reported that the Borough only received one bid, and it is from the current supplier, Reed Oil. Mr. Oakes stated that the cost is a slight decrease from this year.
- **Mr. William Zimmerman moved to approve the bid from Reed Oil Company. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER 2025 WATER TREATMENT CHEMICAL BIDS

- Mr. Oakes stated that CitCo water was the low bidder on all chemicals except for Sodium Hypochlorite and that SAL Chemical was the low bidder for this product. Mr. Oakes stated that all of the specifications and safety data sheets for the products had been reviewed and that they meet the requirements.
- **Mr. William Zimmerman moved to approve the bids. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: 9TH ANNUAL GRATEFUL GALLOP 5K TO BE HELD ON 11/30/24 (INCLUDING GREENWOOD DRIVE CLOSURE)

- Mr. Oakes reported that this was the same event that they have had the last few years and that there is a \$100 fee to close Greenwood Drive instead of using the Hunter Farm Park route that does not require a street closure.
- **Mr. William Zimmerman moved to approve the event request contingent upon payment of the \$100 fee and receipt of insurance. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER EVENT REQUEST: GROVE CITY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE “CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK”

- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the event request. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER ARMSTRONG POLE ATTACHMENT AGREEMENT EXTENSION

- Mr. Oakes detailed that the Armstrong Pole Attachment Agreement was up for renewal and the terms of the agreement would increase the pole attachment fees to \$25 per pole by the end of the agreement, which is the rate that other providers are paying.
- **Mr. Vince DiStasi moved to approve the agreement. Mr. Patrick Eakin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER 2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ITEMS:

CONSIDER DCED LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN CERTIFICATION

CONSIDER AGREEMENT “B” WITH MERCER COUNTY FOR CDBG ADMINISTRATION

CONSIDER CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2024-04 AUTHORIZING CDBG GRANT APPLICATION

- Mr. Oakes reported that these items were the required documents for the 2024 CDBG application and are the same documents as were completed with last year’s application. Mr. Oakes also discussed the intention of the Borough to replace sidewalks and pave Flower Ave due to its location in the Low-Moderate Income Census Block Group.
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to approve the CDBG documents and resolution. Mr. Shawn Morley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER 2024-05 AUTHORIZING LSA GRANT APPLICATION

- Mr. Oakes detailed that the Commonwealth Financing Authority has not determined if the Borough’s 2023 application has been funded yet, but Mr. Oakes recommended that the Borough apply for the stormwater project again as there are multiple phases.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the resolution. Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER PAYMENT REQUEST HI-LITE AIRFIELD SERVICES LLC FOR AIRPORT RUNWAY CRACK SEALING AND REMARKING PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,446.88

- Mr. Oakes reported that this work had been completed and that the engineer has recommended payment.
- **Mr. Patrick Eakin moved to approve the payment request. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

CONSIDER AGREEMENT WITH MCGILL POWER, BELL AND ASSOCIATES, LLP FOR AUDIT OF 2024 FINANCIALS AND 2024 DCED FINANCIALS

- Mr. Oakes recommended that Borough Council approve both agreements as McGill, Power and Bell has been providing services to the Borough for a number of years.
- **Mr. Scott Jaillet moved to approve the agreement. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

ENGINEER'S REPORT, PRESENTED BY DANIEL GONCZ

- Mr. Goncz detailed that Global Heavy will not be able to make their contract deadline and have requested this be extended to January 21, 2025. Mr. Goncz explained that this extension would qualify for up to \$74,000 in liquidated damages but recommended against imposing that. Mr. Goncz stated that most arbiters would award actual damages, which would equate to approximately \$49,000 for the Borough and the Borough is also requesting a change order to install a control panel for the additional filtration unit that takes 8-12 weeks to be delivered and this would negate about \$30,000 of the liquidated damages, making the \$20,000 credit that Global Heavy is offering the best option for the Borough to avoid litigation.
- Mr. Goncz explained that the additional change orders that are included are for the components needed to add the additional filtration unit and for some lighting changes.
- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve following changes orders:**
 - **Change Order Number Two to Global Heavy Corporation Contract extending the project completion date to January 21, 2025 and accepting a credit (decrease in contract costs) of \$20,000.00 from Global Heavy Corp. for the delay.**
 - **Amendment to the Consulting Engineering Services Agreement with Gannett Fleming, Inc. to add 430 hours of additional construction observation and construction management services at a cost not to exceed \$49,450.**
 - **Change Order Number 3 to Global Heavy Corp. contract in the amount of \$8,501.52 to add a 20" core and concrete pad for the third high service pump that will be installed in the phase 2 construction project.**
 - **Change Order Number 4 to Global Heavy Corp. contract in the amount of \$61,197.00 to provide modifications of the supplied Westech Pressure Filter Control Panel to accommodate the proposed fourth filtration unit being added in the Phase 2 project.**
 - **Change Order Number 1 to the McCurley-Houston Electric contract in the amount of \$8,713.00 for the addition of 40 recessed can soffit lighting fixtures with photocell control to the exterior of the building.**

Mr. Vince DiStasi seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- **Mr. Joel Bigley moved to approve payment requests from Gannett Fleming for construction observation and management in the amounts of \$13,030 and \$12,247.50, from Global Heavy Corporation in the amount of \$143,212.50 and from McCurley-Houston in the amount of \$101,050.20. Mr. Scott Jaillet seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT PRESENTED BY BOROUGH MANAGER, VANCE OAKES

- Mr. Oakes informed Borough Council that Rob Steese will be retiring after 25 years with the Borough. Mr. Oakes commended Officer Steese on his years of service to the Borough. Mr. Oakes requested that Borough Council start the civil service process and recommended that the Borough offer a \$7,000 incentive to help recruit quality candidates.
- **Mr. Jared Hoffman moved to request the Civil Service Commission to begin the hiring process for a new patrolman and to include a \$7,000 incentive that is paid out over the first two years. Mr. William Zimmerman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**
- Mr. Oakes reported that PJM had recently held a capacity auction and that capacity costs are projected to increase for the average customer 10-15%. Mr. Oakes informed Borough Council that NextEra, the Borough's

electrical energy supplier, has a proposal to smooth this cost over a longer period of time. Mr. Oakes stated that the NextEra representative will be at the Borough Office for a presentation on September 24th at 10AM and invited Borough Council to attend.

- Mr. Oakes detailed that Public Works has begun work to investigate the water leak at the Memorial Park Pool. Public Works suspects that it may be in the transition box, but has further work to do to determine if this is the case.
- Mr. Oakes reported that the leaf collection schedule has been included in Borough utility bills this month.

JR. COUNCIL REPORT PRESENTED BY JUNIOR COUNCILPERSON, Elle Myford

- Ms. Myford reported that renovation work is ongoing at the High School, with the auxiliary gym closed due to the work. Ms. Myford detailed that the new air conditioning is expected to be ready by January.
- Ms. Myford detailed that Homecoming is this coming weekend with the football game on Friday and the dance on Saturday.
- Ms. Myford reported that Blackout Burger will be holding fundraisers this week for tennis and soccer.

MAYORS REPORT PRESENTED BY MAYOR RANDY RIDDLE

- Mayor Riddle shared that Homer Christie turned 101 on August 30th but has moved from his home to an assisted living facility.
- Mayor Riddle shared that over the last month he attended the following events:
 - 8/20/24- Meeting with Moxietec's new owners
 - 9/10/24- Met with Conner Rodgers, a senior at Grove City College and a current elected official for Jim Thorpe Borough
 - 9/13/24- PSAB Conference Committee meeting at Penn State
- Mayor Riddle reported that he has the following events upcoming:
 - 9/18/24- Veterans' Day Parade meeting and COG meeting
 - 9/23/24- Finance Committee Meeting
 - 10/7/24- tentative date for the third grade field trip to the Borough office
 - 10/11-10/13/24- PSAB Fall Conference
- Mayor Riddle reported that Chief Allias reported that the new EMR system will be going live later this month. Additionally, Officer Vodzak should be off field training by the first week of October. Chief Allias detailed to Council that Tyler Technologies, the company that is conducting the County Reassessment, informed him that they expect to be in Grove City next summer. Chief detailed that they will be wearing identification and will contact the Borough prior to their arrival.
- Mayor Riddle reminded Borough Council that the Mercer County Boroughs Association will be holding a meeting at Pub 76 in Stoneboro on 9/26/24.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Ms. Mattocks detailed that Armstrong will be holding a Veterans' Day lunch on Veterans' Day and passed out information regarding it. Ms. Mattocks detailed that Scarecrows in the Park will occur again this year and distributed flyers.

NEWS MEDIA

- Borough Council was available for questions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM.

Respectfully,

Taylor G. Pokrant, Assistant Borough Manager