

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL MINUTES

May 04, 2020

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Houk at 7:00 p.m. by a virtual Webex connection due to the Coronavirus-19 pandemic as temporarily allowed by the State.

Roll was called and the following members were present:

Roby Schottke Aaron Schlabach Christine Houk Randy Holt Ted Berry

1. Mr. Schottke moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting and approve as written; seconded by Ms. Houk

Mr. Schottke	Yes
Mr. Schlabach	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

2. The Chair read the agenda items and they were approved by unanimous consent.

3. Mr. Schottke moved to excuse the Mayor; seconded by Ms. Houk.

Mr. Schlabach	Yes
Ms. Houk	Yes
Mr. Holt	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Schottke	Yes

The Chair recognized Mr. Schlabach, Chairman of Safety, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Ordinance C-16-20 (Continue the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area under the same regulations as set forth in Ordinance C-17-19) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on May 18, 2020.

Mr. Holt commented that he would like to see this application expanded to include Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. He asked Council to consider this and be ready to discuss this proposal at the second reading.

The Chair recognized Mr. Holt, Chairman of Finance for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Ordinance C-17-20 (Replace Exhibit "A" of Ordinance C-09-20 to approve a Town Center Commercial Revitalization Grant Program) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on May 18, 2020.

The Chair asked that any new business to be brought before the attention of Council be done so at this time.

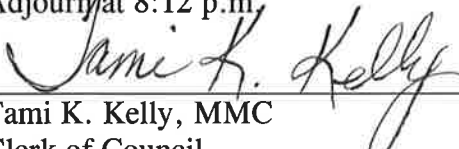
1. Ms. Fitzpatrick, Director of Service, provided Council an update on the flooding event. She shared a map depicting the areas that flooded. She explained that 66 property owners reported getting water in their basements. All were called and they spoke to 45. She said 82% did not have any preventative measures in their basements. She explained that in the oldest areas, homes would not be permitted to be built due to the floodplain. To eliminate flooding in these areas, structures would need to be eliminated. She shared the existing investments (totaling \$12 mill.) the City has undertaken to improve the sewer system and noted that with every new development, improvements are made to the system. She shared that they are looking at West Water Run and Grove City Run, the new school site, Columbus Street, and any new developments for an opportunity to expand water storage or drainage. They are coordinating with up-stream jurisdictions on stormwater management (Columbus & Townships) that impact our infrastructure. They are also looking into a program that the City of Columbus has called "Project Dry Basement", which installs a backwater valve for eligible applicants. She explained that in order for the City to build a retention pond large enough to hold the amount of water that fell during the last event, it would require 85 acre feet of storage and a parcel of land of 25 – 40 acres. At \$81,000.00 per acre foot, that would cost about \$11 million plus the land cost. In contrast, the Dry Basement Project costs approximately \$3,500.00 per parcel. If all 66 parcels were addressed, that cost would be \$230,000.00 and targets the properties with flooding issues. *Mr. Berry* asked where the optimal place would be for a basin. Ms. Fitzpatrick said she didn't know if there was one. She said it may have to be incremental and some of it may need to be upstream of the City. *Mr. Berry* asked for a map that would identify potential areas for basins for future planning. *Mr. Schottke* announced that he has drafted a Matching Grant Flooding Program for Council and the Administration to review. He said he has also looked at Columbus' Dry Basement program as well as others to address several issues that contribute to flooding and help mitigate them. Ms. Fitzpatrick offered to work with *Mr. Schottke* on his draft program. *Mr. Smith*, Dir. of Law, shared comments from Facebook Live concerning flooding. Ms. Fitzpatrick said they are also working on an education piece to share with homeowners on how to minimize flooding and how to check their system.

The Chair recognized members of Administration and Council for closing comments.

1. *Mr. Boso*, City Admin., updated Council on the Columbus Street extension. He said they are putting together an agreement for the Mill Street property and have one other parcel that is going to Court for eminent domain. Because Courts are closed, that has been stalled. He also updated Council on the Demorest/S.R. 62 intersection.
2. *Mr. Turner*, Dir. of Finance, provided an overview of the City's current financials.
3. *Mr. Berry* said Council has received a number of questions about Food Trucks in residential neighborhoods. He said he understands that there is an issue of mass gatherings and it goes against residential zoning, but asked if it was possible to create food truck station areas outside residential areas. *Mr. Vedra*, Safety Dir., explained that Food Trucks can operate in the City as long as they are outside a residential neighborhood. He said relaxing this ordinance would go against the Governor's order. *Mr. Berry* asked if the food trucks could take orders and deliver to neighborhoods. *Mr. Vedra* said yes, that would not violate the ordinance. It would be the same as Grub Hub deliveries. *Mr. Smith* clarified that deliveries would need to be made to an individual home, not to a general location where people would come and pick them up. That would have to occur outside a residential district. He said there are comments on Facebook Live about this issue. He noted that businesses are permitted in residential districts and food trucks are no different. *Ms. Houk* said Food Trucks can apply and get a permit to serve the community in the appropriate areas – and that is happening. She said everyone needs to be treated the same and follow the same set of guidelines.

4. Mr. Smith read in comments from Mr. Goman asking the City not to build a road in Fryer Park for the apartments.
5. After comments from Council and Administrative staff members, a motion to adjourn was approved by unanimous consent.

Adjourn at 8:12 p.m.



Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council



Christine Houk
Chair