CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO

COUNCIL MINUTES

arch 02, 2015 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Berry at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 4035 Broadway.

After a moment of silent prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, roll was called and the following members were present:

Jeff Davis *Maria Klemack-McGraw* *Ted Berry* *Steve Bennett* *Laura Lanese*

1. Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous two meetings and approve as written; seconded by Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Davis	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes

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

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

1. Ordinance C-10-15 (Appropriate $36,900.00 from the General Fund for the Current Expense of purchasing Video Equipment and Professional Services for Public Meetings) was given its second reading and public hearing.

M. Kelly, Clerk of Council, explained that Council asked her to research the use of video equipment for the Council meetings. She said she contacted municipalities from around Ohio and worked with IT Director, Todd Hurley. She reviewed the highlights of the three quotes that were received and provided to the Council Members. She said the City of Athens uses Swagit and it was felt that Swagit provided the most service for the price. She and Mr. Hurley recommended pursuing a one year contract with this provider.

Mr. Berry said he viewed the Athens website and liked how the video was indexed to be able to directly to that portion of the meeting someone would be interested in. He asked Mr. Hurley if the camera's could be moved to a different location. Mr. Hurley said yes. Mr. Berry asked if this could be used for other meetings. Mr. Hurley said yes. Mr. Hurley showed the City of Athens website and pulled up one of their Council Meeting video's to demonstrate how it works.

Mr. Bennett asked if someone at home could record the meeting to their DVR. Mr. Hurley said it would be available on our website and could watch it there.

Ms. Lanese confirmed that after the first year, the only cost would be for the meetings. She also confirmed that this would be something that the City could use for other meetings. She noted that part of the $29,000.00 would not be recoverable since it includes installation. Mr. Hurley said there is benefit to having someone from Swagit come in to make sure the camera placement is correct. She asked if we have checked with someone locally. Mr. Hurley said we do have a a couple pieces of equipment from Sound Communications and he is not aware of them offering something like this. Ms. Kelly said she checked their website and Sound Communications caters to recording Court proceedings. She said she has checked with them in the past, but did not this time. She said the local person would be Shared Vision, who lives in Hilliard and records for the City of Dublin. She said she tried several times to get in touch with someone at the High Schools but was unsuccessful. Ms. Lanese asked what happens to the recordings if we terminate the contract after the first year. It was explained that the City will own all recordings. Storage will be maintained with the Company until we terminate service, then they would be given to us. Ms. Lanese asked if this could be used for PSA's. Mr. Hurley said yes. Ms. Kelly stated that the proposal allow for 120 hours of additional specialty content each year.

Mayor Stage said this would be part of our technology platform and used for various applications.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Bennett moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Lanese.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes

The Chair recognized Ms. Lanese, Chairman of Service, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Resolution CR-03-15 (Promoting Transparency in Government by Requiring that the Audio Recordings for all regular Council Meetings be made available to the public on the City's Website) was given its reading and public hearing.

Ms. Lanese said she feels this goes hand and glove with the video and believes this would be enormously helpful. It should be done at least until the video is up and running.

Mr. Bennett said he feels that the audio equipment is inadequate and the sound quality is dismal. If audio is to be used, he feels better equipment should be purchased. He also noted that the meetings are ruled by the official record, which are the approved minutes and he believes these to be transparent.

Mr. Davis voiced support for the audio being offered until the video system is in place.

Ms. Lanese said she has listened to the audio and feels they are pretty clear. She voiced support for making the audio available.

Mr. Berry moved to amend Section 1 of the Resolution to read: *This Council hereby requires that audio recordings taken for all regular Council meetings be made available to the public on the City's website until the video recordings are available.*; seconded by Ms. Klemack-McGraw.

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Lanese moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Klemack-McGraw.

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

Mr. Smith, Dir. of Law, noted that neither the audio or video recordings can be the official record of the meetings, by law. There will still be written minutes.

The Chair recognized Ms. Klemack-McGraw, Chairman of Lands, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Ordinance C-04-15 (Approve an R-1 Zoning Classification for 5.92 acres located West of Elm Street upon its Annexation to the City of Grove City) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Kacie Waugh, attorney for petitioner, was present to answer any questions.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Lanese.

Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

2. Ordinance C-05-15 (Approve the Rezoning of 4074 Gladman Ave. from R-2 to PSO) was given its second reading and at the request of the petitioner's agent, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be postponed to 3/16; seconded by Ms. Lanese.

Mr. Davis	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes

3. Ordinance C-06-15 (Approve the Rezoning of 4483 & 4895 Hoover Road from R-1 to PUD-R) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw noted that this rezoning has a Zoning & Development Text attached.

Mr. Joel Rhodes, petitioner, was present to answer any questions. He explained the adjustments they have made, since the preliminary plan was submitted. These include larger setbacks and the removal of some stubbed streets. He said they feel this is a better plan and have support from many of the neighbors. He asked for Council support.

Mr. Bennett voiced concern over only having one ingress/egress for the complex. He feels there should be two, even if it is only for emergency personnel. He feels we need to take the health and safety for our residents up a notch.

Mayor Stage said there is an 8' bike path that runs though the site that could be used in an emergency.

This path will also connect to the existing path further west and provide additional connectivity.

Mr. Davis noted that there was considerable opposition in the beginning and appreciates the time they took to meet with neighbors, listen to their concerns and make considerable changes.

Ms. Lanese asked about traffic flow. Mr. Rhodes explained that they included a traffic report in their submittal that compares 40 homes to their 65 units. He said the total number of trips will be relatively less and the trips will be on fewer peak hours. He said because of the target market for these homes, the traffic profile is different.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Davis.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes

4. Ordinance C-11-15 (Accept the Annexation of 5.923 acres located West of Elm Street and at Midland Street to the City of Grove City) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Ms. Kacie Waugh, attorney for petitioner, was present to answer any questions. Mr. Berry asked if there was an easement to access this parcel. Ms. Wahl said yes.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved; seconded by

5. Ordinance C-12-15 (Authorize the City Administrator to enter into an Agreement with Hoover Park Homeowners Association Inc. for the Extension and Maintenance of a Bike Path) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Smith, Dir. of Law, explained that they negotiated with the Homeowners Association to allow for the extension of the bike path. There is a portion of a bike path now and this will allow for a full connection in return for the maintenance of an area that is pretty vital to the front door of the City.

Mayor Stage commented that this has been an ongoing discussion for two years and are happy with this outcome. It is a win/win for everybody.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved; seconded by

6. Ordinance C-13-15 (Amend Various Sections of Chapter 1138 of the Codified Ordinances titled Historical Preservation Area and Sign Code) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Davis explained that this is an attempt to expedite the process for approval of HPA signs. They would go directly to the Chief Building and Zoning Official for review and approval. He said no changes will be made to any of the requirements to meet Code, but thinks this will expedite the process by approximately 30 days. He said we want to be business friendly and help cut down on some of the frustration in getting an approved sign up for the business.

Mr. Bennett asked if Council has any power if things don't go according to plan. Mr. Smith said Council can always make changes if it is not working to Council's satisfaction. He said this isn't changing any substance, it is just changing procedure. Mr. Bennett asked if there was any appeal process by Council for a rare event when a sign is in question. Mr. Smith said no. Ms. Kelly pointed out that there is an appeal if the Chief Building & Zoning Official denies a permit, it could come to Planning Commission & Council for review and approval.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Lanese.

Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

7. Ordinance C-14-15 (Amend Ord. C-92-07, approving a Special Use Permit for a U-Haul Truck Rental Service for Grove City Marathon located at 4441 Broadway) was given its second reading and public hearing.

The applicant was not present, but the Mayor requested that Mr. Boso, Chief Building & Zoning Official be able to speak for the City.

Mr. Boso explained that this business has recently changed ownership and the new owner has made many changes without going through the approval process. One was for a digital gas sign, which was approved through the Board of Zoning Appeals. He also added a wall sign, which was denied by BZA. They have discussed the U-Haul trucks that are parked along Broadway and the shrubs that he removed and was informed he had to move the trucks and replace the landscaping. He has been continually notified and since they have had discussions, he continues to violate Code and the existing Special Use Permit.

Mr. Berry suggested postponing this and asking the applicant to appear before Council. Mr. Boso asked that Council have a expedited process to overturn the existing Special Use Permit and not permit the U-Hauls at all, if the owner doesn't comply. Mayor Stage said we have an enforcement issue with this person and asked for a decision tonight. Discussion took place over whether or not to postpone.

Mr. Davis asked why the Administration feels this should be turned down. Mr. Boso said they already have a Special Use Permit that stipulates the number and the location of where they are to be located. They have discussed this with him many times, but he continues to park them in an improper location. Now he wants to expand the amount of trucks allowed. Mr. Boso said there are parking spaces in the rear, but he continues to park the trucks in the front.

Mr. Berry asked Mr. Smith about rescinding the original Ordinance. Mr. Smith said there are enforcement proceedings that can be followed and he will get with Mr. Boso on those. He said rescinding the original approval has some issues and he will have to look into that.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Lanese.

Mr. Davis	No
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	No
Mr. Berry	No
Mr. Bennett	No
Ms. Lanese	No

8. Ordinance C-16-15 (Approve the Annexation of 0.981 acres located at 4338 Hoover Road) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on March 16, 2015.

9. Resolution CR-09-15 (Approve the Dev. Plan for The Courtyards on Hoover located at 3883 - 4895 Hoover Rd.) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Joel Rhodes, Epcon Group, was present to answer any questions. Ms. Klemack-McGraw reviewed the three stipulations set by Planning Commission. Mr. Rhodes agreed to them. Zoning and Development Text dated December, 2014 is also part of the Plan and the approval.

Mr. Bennett asked about mounding on the north property line. Mr. Rhodes said it was ultimately determined not to put mounding in the area in order to save existing trees. They have committed to an 80% opacity in the Text.

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Bennett.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes

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

1. Mr. Paul Shopel, resident, explained that he recently lost the ability to drive and walks most places. He said no one is shoveling their sidewalls and understands that they are supposed to by Code. He said Mt. Carmel Health at 3636 Broadway hasn't shoveled either and finds this ironic. He asked if this is being enforced and can something be done. Mr. Smith said we do have a provision in the Code to require snow removal. There was a letter sent last year to remind people of their obligation and attempted this approach fist. They can cite a property owner. Mr. Shopel said he is more concerned about the businesses. Mr. Smith said businesses are a bit more difficult because there is no one present to put in jail if they don't comply. Mr. Berry asked if we need to update that Section of Code. Mr. Smith said he would look into it. Mr. Berry said this is something the newspaper needs to write about, because it is an issue.

2. Mr. Marty Sapperstein, Sapperstein & Associates, was present to explain the second Business Survey the City had completed. There was a response of 16%. Overall satisfaction of City personnel and City services were highly rated as "very satisfied". Also highly rated was: health care services, education, recreational services, businesses services, local school system, and cultural amenities. Skilled labor and labor force was: good to very good. Of the two, skilled labor was a little more difficult. They asked what the challenges were for businesses. The highest response was attracting customers, but there wasn't a lot of difference between the answers. He shared some of the open ended comments provided. They asked what the City could do to better serve them & over 50% could not offer a suggestion. In summary, 9 out of 10 have positive impression; they are satisfied with city staff, services, education, health care. Finding qualified employees is somewhat difficult, more so for skilled labor. 3 out of 10 plan to expand employment. He shared recommendations to the City based off the replies.

Ms. Lanese asked what the response rate was for 2011. Mr. Sapperstein said 48%. The difference is that they spent much more time calling every business that didn't respond. He said the comparison is undeniable, so he would not recommend going back to the old method because it not worth the money. Small businesses are very busy. Building participation is tough.

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

1. Mayor Stage submitted two Mayors Court reports and the Monthly Financial Statement. Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved to accept same; seconded by Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes

2. After comments from Council and Administrative staff members, a motion to adjourn was approved by unanimous consent.

Council adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Tami K. Kelly

Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council

Ted A. Berry

Ted A. Berry
Chair