

GROVE CITY, OHIO COUNCIL MINUTES

October 18, 1993

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Brian Buzby at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 4035 Broadway.

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

Brian Buzby William Ferguson William Buckley John Mountain Charles Cotton

1. Mr. Buckley moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as written; seconded by Mr. Ferguson.

Mr. Buckley	Yes
Mr. Cotton	Yes
Mr. Buzby	Yes
Mr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Ferguson	Yes

2. President Buzby recognized Shannon Hamons for a presentation. Mr. Hamons explained that City Hall was used as a station for the Jail-N-Bail Fund Raiser for the American Cancer Society. Our area raised approximately \$10,000.00 and three individuals raised over \$1,000.00 each. Mr. Hamons introduced Mr. Robert Whittier to recognize those individuals.

Mr. Whittier announced that he was very happy to be here this evening as a staff member of the American Cancer Society and a resident of Grove City to make the presentation. He presented crystal skylines to Mr. Richard L. Stage; Mr. William Lotz; and Ms. Patti Boso for raising over \$1,000.00 each for the Cancer Society. Mr. Whittier stated that this fund raiser is great fun and announced this year's dates as December 6-9, 1993, with a station at City Hall for the second year.

The Chair recognized Mr. Cotton, Chairman of Lands & Zoning, for discussion and voting of legislative agenda items under said committee.

1. Ordinance C-83-93 (Accept plat of Rush Creek, located west of Demorest Road) was given its second reading and public hearing and Mr. Cotton moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Buckley.

Mr. Cotton	Yes
Mr. Buzby	Yes
Mr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Ferguson	Yes
Mr. Buckley	Yes

2. Ordinance C-84-93 (Accept Dedication Plat of Demorest Road Extension) was given its second reading and public hearing and Mr. Cotton moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Buckley.

Mr. Buzby	Yes
Mr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Ferguson	Yes
Mr. Buckley	Yes
Mr. Cotton	Yes

3. Ordinance C-88-93 (Accept the annexation of 399.036 acres located north of State Route 665 and west of the Scioto River, Scioto Holding Co.) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on November 01, 1993.

The Chair recognized Mr. Buckley, Chairman of Finance, for discussion and voting of the legislative items under said committee.

1. Ordinance C-86-93 (Authorize the issuance of not to exceed \$2,960,000 of bonds for the purpose of advance refunding Bonds issued in 1989) was given its second reading and public hearing and Mr. Buckley moved that the Rules of Council be suspended and the waiting period waived; seconded by Mr. Mountain.

Mr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Ferguson	Yes
Mr. Buckley	Yes
Mr. Cotton	Yes
Mr. Buzby	Yes

Mr. Buckley moved that Ordinance C-86-93 be approved as an emergency; seconded by Mr. Cotton.

Mr. Ferguson	Yes
Mr. Buckley	Yes
Mr. Cotton	Yes
Mr. Buzby	Yes
Mr. Mountain	Yes

2. Ordinance C-87-93 (Authorizing an amended and restated lease between the City and the G.C. Area Community Improvement Corp. in connection with the issuance of a maximum principal amount of \$4,000,000 in Certificates of Participation) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Speaking to this ordinance was Mayor Stage. He specifically directed his comments to Mr. Ferguson. This ordinance is part of our financial planning that goes back to 1988 when we developed City Hall and the Safety Building. Going back to Mr. Ferguson's first meeting on Council, he has made numerous innuendos about his fellow Council Members and how they handled the Larry's Trucking Contract, he has accused the Mayor of having a conflict of interest with the Huntington Bank and the City of Grove City. In reading Mr. Ferguson's latest campaign literature, he makes a statement that the Mayor felt the governmental body needed an explanation on. Item "H" of Mr. Ferguson's literature states "The residents of Jackson Township own the Jackson Township Fire Department Building. **Who owns Grove City's City Hall and Safety Complex?**" Reading this, associated with a political piece of material makes the Mayor assume that this is another innuendo/impropriety and asked Mr. Ferguson for an explanation as to what that statement means.

Mr. Ferguson stated that he was not going to get into a political debate. "This is City business and I have no comment. If you wants a comment, he can go outside and talk to the press after the meeting, but, we have Council business to proceed with". Mayor Stage then commented that he assumed Mr. Ferguson would vote positively for the legislation before him that the City Attorney says has been properly executed and indicates that the City owns City Hall and the Safety Complex without any innuendos.

Mayor Stage then introduced Mr. Richard Simpson of Bricker and Eckler. Mr. Simpson explained this piece of legislation and referred to a letter he addressed to Council and Mayor Stage (on file). The interest rates have not been this low since approximately February, 1974, and this is what is prompting such action. Many municipalities and school districts are taking advantage of refinancing their outstanding bonds and notes. In 1988, the City issued 4,280,000 in Certificates of Participation to finance the construction of City Hall and the Safety Complex. The financing was structured as a lease-hold financing, which is commonly used for a number of reasons. In this case, it was used to avoid tying up debt capacity for other projects the City has on its agenda. Mechanically, the way it works is that the City owns the real estate. The City has leased the real estate to the local Community Improvement Corporation, which is a quasi public body that exists to perform development functions on behalf of the City. The C.I.C. then sub-leased the building and the land back to the City for a fixed period of time. The rent that the City pays each year, on that lease goes to repay investors who bought Certificates, which look like bonds and smell like bonds, but, are titled Certificates at the time of financing. It is a little more complicated than typical financing, but, in the Bond industry, it is a very well-known mechanism. Once the Certificates are repaid, the leases terminate and the buildings revert to the City, free and clear. This structure exists strictly for the purposes of financing. Today, because of the low interest rates, the City is planning to issue new Certificates at a lower rent level. The money from that will go into an escrow account and be used to retire the old Certificates. The City's obligation is to pay rent on the new Certificates ONLY. The total payment will go down approximately \$20,000.00 per year and the total savings would amount to approximately \$200,000.00. The purpose of this ordinance is to authorize an amendment to the original lease which will permit us to issue new Certificates at a lower rate and capture the savings for the City.

Mayor Stage asked Rich to clarify the C.I.C., such as how it was formed. Mr. Simpson explained that almost every municipality has a Community Improvement Corporation. There is a section in the Ohio Revised Code which authorizes the creation of C.I.C.'s to perform development functions for the municipality. One of the things that a C.I.C. typically does is act as a screening agency for Industrial development bonds. Another function is to purchase and hold real estate. The C.I.C. is comprised of governmental officials and community residents appointed as volunteers. It is strictly a non-profit, governmental agency that exists to perform statutory functions.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Buckley moved that the Rules of Council be suspended and the waiting period waived; seconded by Mr. Cotton.

Mr. Buckley	Yes
Mr. Cotton	Yes
Mr. Buzby	Yes
Mr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Ferguson	Yes

Mr. Buckley moved that Ordinance C-87-93 be approved as an emergency; seconded by Mr. Cotton.

Mr. Cotton	Yes
Mr. Buzby	Yes
Mr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Ferguson	Yes
Mr. Buckley	Yes

3. Ordinance C-89-93 (Direct the Certification to the County Auditor of the expense for Cutting Weeds on Private Property) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on November 01, 1993.
4. Resolution CR-68-93 (Council intends to make funds available to match funds that may be granted by the Housing and Community Development Block Grant Programs and authorize the Mayor to file applications)

Speaking to this resolution was Director of Service, Jim Blackburn. He explained that approximately every three years, MORPC requests that Council pass a resolution, which must be included with the application, showing support by committing to make funds available to match funds that may be granted from the application to the Housing and Community Development Block Grant Programs. Mr. Blackburn said that he was focusing on the west side of Grove City - Curtis Ave., Lincoln St., Rose Ave., Grant Ave., Elm St.. for this round of improvement grant funds. As part of the process, a public hearing must be held and he announced that it would be held on November 3, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Buckley moved that this resolution be approved; seconded by Mr. Cotton.

Mr. Buzby	Yes
Mr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Ferguson	Yes
Mr. Buckley	Yes
Mr. Cotton	Yes

President Buzby asked that any New Business to be brought before Council, be done so at this time.

There being no new business, President Buzby recognized members of Administration and Council for closing comments.

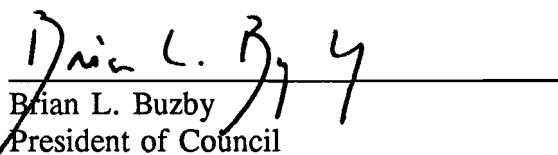
1. Mayor Stage announced that he has received a letter from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources indicating that we will receive a National Small Business Administration Tree Planting Sub-grant, administered by the Division of Forestry in the amount of \$25,280.00. Mr. Blackburn expanded by stating that this grant will be used for the area of Farm Grove. Earlier this year, we received notification of a Resource Grant for roughly \$37,000.00 and this was used for the Meadow Grove Subdivision. Mayor Stage asked if our goal of being a Tree City U.S.A. would take place next year? Mr. Blackburn stated that he was hoping that we would reach that this year, but, it looks like it will be next year.
2. Mr. Behlen recognized Mr. Bret Underwood who was attending this evening, working on his Citizenship/Community Merit Badge and came to see how City Council operates.
3. Mr. Babbert announced that a Brick Laying Ceremony was held today for the Senior Center Addition. The cornerstone has officially been placed and we are ready to put up walls. He also announced the Town Center Halloween Celebration will be held on October 28, 1993 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and in conjunction with this, the Parks and Recreation Department will be sponsoring the Haunted Warehouse from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

4. Mr. Blackburn stated that Columbus Street was partially paved today and the rest should be completed by the end of the week. Also, leaf season is upon us and pick-up schedules will be placed in the newspaper and will start next week. There will also be a voluntary drop-off at the old Wastewater Treatment Plant for anyone wanting to utilize this service.
5. After additional comments from Administration, the Chamber and Council, Mr. Cotton made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Mountain. Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



Tami K. Kelly
Clerk of Council



Brian L. Buzby
President of Council