

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL CAUCUS NOTES

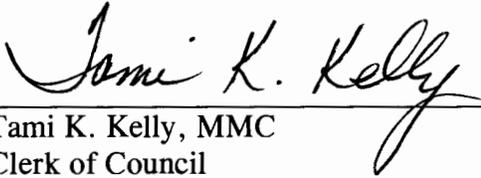
Feb. 16, 2016

Council met at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Caucus Room, City Hall, 4035 Broadway.

Council Members reviewed the Agenda items.

Ms. Kelly reviewed two liquor permits (Noodle & Co.; One Stop, Inc.), which Council had no objections to.

Council retired to the Chambers to begin the Regular meeting.



Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council

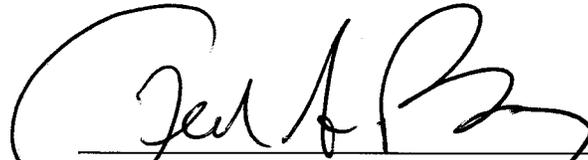


Temporary Chair

Council adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council



Ted A. Berry
Temporary Chair

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL MINUTES

February 16, 2016

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by Ms. Kelly 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:

Laura Lanese Steve Bennett Jeff Davis Ted Berry

1. Ms. Kelly, Clerk of Council, opened the floor for nominations for a Temporary Chair.

Mr. Davis moved to appoint Mr. Berry as Temporary Chair; seconded by Mr. Bennett.

Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

2. Mr. Berry took the gavel and moved to excuse Mr. Schottke; seconded by Mr. Davis.

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

3. Mr. Berry moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from previous meeting and approve as written; seconded by Ms. Lanese.

Mr. Davis	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes

4. Mr. Berry recognized Mayor Stage who presented a joint Proclamation to Reach Out and Read. He presented one of the first books for their program.

5. Mr. Berry recognized Mr. Nick Gill from Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, who presented the latest 2016-2040 Transportation Plan from MORPC. Mr. Davis asked how this gets used rather than sitting on a shelf. Mr. Gill said they update this every four years. They are a source for municipalities to assist with getting grants; funds; etc. to keep the projects moving. Ms. Lanese asked about a Bike Path to connect Grove City to Downtown Columbus. Mr. Gill said this is just a Draft list and it focused on the 12 corridors. He said there is more detail in their full documentation. He suggested looking at the full report on-line. Mr. Berry asked about an

intermodal rail system to get to areas around Central Ohio and the upgrades to I-71. He said bike and rail systems are keys to transportation upgrades. Mr. Bennett asked about the rail system to connect Cleveland; Columbus and Cincinnati. Mr. Gill said there is no support for this at the present time at the Statehouse.

- 6 The Temporary Chair read the agenda items and they were approved by unanimous consent.

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

1. Ordinance C-13-16 (Appropriate \$4,500.00 from the Community Environment Fund for the Current Expense of Awarding a Grant to The Buckeye Ranch to Install Screening for the previously approved Fence) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Davis explained that this is in response to residents concerns over the fence that The Buckeye Ranch is to install. He asked the mayor if this will be given to the Ranch after the fence is put in. Mayor Stage said this is a Grant and an agreement will be drawn up to cover those issues.

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

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes

2. Ordinance C-14-16 (Appropriate \$2,055,350.00 from the General Fund for the Current Expense of Redeveloping Abandoned Track Facilities as recommended by the Racetrack Development Committee) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 3/7/16.
3. Ordinance C-15-16 (Appropriate \$168,800.00 from the Lumberyard Urban Redevelopment Tax Increment Equivalent Fund for the Current Expense of Debt Service Payment) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 3/7/16.
4. Ordinance C-16-16 (Authorize the City Administrator to enter into an Agreement with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1116, Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO and to Appropriate Funds for the Increased Costs) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 3/7/16.
5. Resolution CR-09-16 (Waive the provisions of Section 139.05 of the Codified Ordinances for the Purchase of a New Pool Filter System for the Big Splash) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Davis explained that the City has found a specific filter from a specific vendor and want to waive the provisions of the Code to contract with them. Ms. Conrad, Dir. of Parks & Rec., said yes. This system is energy efficient and believes we will save money on water and electrical costs over time.

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

Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

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

1. Ordinance C-17-16 (Enact Section 505.18 titled Pet Shops – Restrictions on the Sale of Dogs and Cats in the City) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 3/7/16.
2. Resolution CR-10-16 (Waive the provisions of Section 529.07(b)3 of the Codified Ordinances for the Wine & Arts Festival on June 18, 2016 in the Town Center) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Andy Furr, Dir. of Town Center, Inc., was present to answer any questions. Mr. Bennett asked about parking, since there is none behind City Hall now. Mr. Furr said they are looking at shuttling folks from different locations, as it will be an issue.

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

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

3. Resolution CR-11-16 (Waive the provisions of Section 529.07(b)3 of the Codified Ordinances for the October Festival on October 01, 2016 in the Town Center) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Andy Furr, Dir. of Town Center Inc., explained that this is a new event they are sponsoring.

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

Mr. Davis	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes

The Temporary Chair recognized himself, Chairman of Service, for discussion and voting under said Committee.

1. Resolution CR-12-16 (Declaring it Necessary to Construct Certain Sidewalks on Anna Ave., Dennis Ln., Irwin Ave., Jerome Ct., Lotz Dr., Michael Ln., Sheldon Pl., Terry Ln., and Wendy Ln, and requiring that Abutting Property Owners Construct same) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Smith, Dir. of Law, explained that this is the second Resolution in the series to being the 2016 Sidewalk Program. Mr. Davis asked about the long range plan for this program. Ms. Fitzpatrick, Dir. of Service, said they have a few more years left in the program to complete the neighborhood they are currently in.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Berry moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Davis.

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes

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

1. Ordinance C-11-16 (Approve a Special Use Permit for Outdoor Sales for Speedway #1231 located at 1895 Stringtown Road) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Todd Russell, representing Speedway, was present. Mr. Bennett reviewed the stipulations set by Planning Commission. Mr. Russell agreed. He said they got a notice about non-compliance and have done what is necessary to come in to compliance.

There being additional questions or comments, Mr. Bennett moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Lanese.

Ms. Lanese	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

2. Ordinance C-18-16 (Accept the Annexation of 22.6 acres located at 1345, 1351, and 1393 Stringtown Road to the City of Grove City) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be 3/7/16.

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

1. Mr. Anthony Samples, Petland, announced the opening of their Grove City store on Friday, Feb. 27 at 10:00 a.m. He said they work with rescues and shelters and will be offering 20% of their kennel space to rescue/adoption puppies at this store. They will begin with 15 employees and they have employees at their stores every day of the year to take care of their pets. He said they also partner with Canine Units to provide a feeding unit. He said they will provide this to "Max" and a portion of their proceeds from the Opening will go to the Grove City Canine Unit. They are planning a Grand Opening with prizes/give-aways and WNCI. He said he looks forward to seeing them at the Opening. He also hopes to work with Council to find common ground.
2. Ms. Paula Gebhardt voiced support for the upcoming Ordinance C-17-16. She asked that Petland turn over a new leaf and choose a more caring way to run its business. She showed a picture of an approved Breeder who has had no violations of any kind. She said she would be ashamed to show that picture to a child and tell them that this is where the puppy came from. She said she doesn't believe anyone would find this acceptable or humane. She said dogs are not products and should not be treated as such. They are living, thinking and loving individuals with the same needs as humans. She asked to choose compassion and be a role model for our children and society. She asked that Grove City be a leader to end this unethical way of doing business.
3. Ms. Phyllis Stewart, resident of Westerville, expressed support for C-17-16 in order to protect the Grove City consumer. She said pet stores that obtain their inventory from "puppy mills" have no

other means of convincing the consumer that their purchase is ethical or sensible other than outright deception. She explained her visit to a pet store and the inaccurate information she was given; the price; the charge card interest; the deception she feels that was relayed to her to try to sell her a puppy.

Mr. Davis said he is struggling with this issue and hate's to see the messages confused. He said he doesn't see how what a business charges is Council's responsibility. He wants to know issues that Council can deliberate. Ms. Stewart said it's not what they charge, it's how they don't provide the consumer full and accurate information. She feels that the consumer should be protected from this.

4. Ms. Heather Swint, Grove City area resident, voiced support for C-17-16. She said there is an overpopulation of dogs and cats in the United States. She said by approving this ordinance, we won't shut down puppy mills, but we can do our part and take a stand that we do not support puppy mills.
5. Ms. Leslie Cohn-Smith, resident, voiced support for the ordinance to regulate dog/cat stores. She said these animals are companion animals. They love us and should not be looked upon as a commodity. Grove City has a unique opportunity to be an example and make a statement in defense of these unlucky dogs. She said responsible breeders and any type of dog are plentiful. She said for a business who claims to love animals but purchases dogs from and partners with puppy mills does not equate to a love for animals. She said she hopes Grove City Council can continue a trend of banning the sales of commercially bred dogs, which is already in effect in other cities. She said Grove City can make a difference.

Mr. Davis asked if she knows if Petland does anything illegal. Ms. Cohn-Smith said she doesn't know. Mr. Davis there are retailers that have products on then shelves that were made in Countries that have poor working conditions with awful things going on. He asked how this is different. Ms. Cohn-Smith said these are companion animals and living beings. It is an ethical issue. She said she doesn't care if Petland opens a store here but wants this store to offer puppies differently, like other Petland's and other pet stores have done.

6. Ms. Laurie Morgan, Grove City resident, voiced support for the C-17-16 ordinance. She said this could help the taxpayer by helping dogs & cats stay out of the shelter. She said we paid for 14,000 dogs to be euthanized last year. She wants a humane model for these pet stores. She said animals don't have a voice. We need to be their voice.
7. Mr. Wayne Kreml, Boy Scout, spoke about his Eagle Scout Project. He is performing a fundraiser for C.O. P.D. in honor of his grandmother. He said it is an expensive undertaking for his Event and asked the City to be a sponsor; donate something for the Silent Auction; and get the word out. It will be held March 4, 2016 and all proceeds will go to the Wexner Center for COPD research.

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

1. Mayor Stage commented that they do have some technical issues with Ord. C-17-16 in its enforcement and will work with Council on those concerns.
2. After comments from Council and Administrative staff members, a motion to adjourn was approved by unanimous consent.