

**GROVE CITY, OHIO COUNCIL
MINUTES**

July 15, 1992

Special Meeting

The special meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Ferguson at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Conference Room at City Hall, 4035 Broadway.

The roll called and the following members were present:

William Ferguson

William Buckley

John Mountain

Also present were: Charles Boso, Administrative Assistant; Chief McKean, Chief of Police; Ms. Betty Nolan, a representative of Nolan Amusements; Mr. Greg Skinner; and Marsha Thompson; Grove City Record;

Mr. Ferguson, Chairman of Safety, opened the floor for discussion and voting of the legislative agenda item under said committee.

1. Resolution CR-38-92 (Permit Nolan Amusement to conduct a carnival at Harts from July 15 to July 18, 1992), was given its reading and public hearing.

Speaking to this resolution was Charles Boso, Administrative Assistant - Mr. Boso informed Council that the administration did not become aware of this carnival until 8:30 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 1992 and his first contact with someone involved until Mr. Ralph Rickey phoned him as 11:30 p.m. Monday evening. Mr. Boso indicated that the next morning a representative came in to see him and requested a permit sighting that they were not aware a license was needed until now. Mr. Boso initiated inspections by the Police Department, Fire Department and Health Department and turned the floor over to Chief McKean.

Chief McKean informed Council that he and Chief of Fire, Danny Ashcraft, went over to review the operation yesterday. They both found safety problems that need to be addressed. Some of which are: a fuel spill, location of equipment/rides to be both a safety and fire hazard, location of the carnival itself to be a safety concern, pedestrian traffic, etc. He said that the Administration was in opposition to this carnival taking place.

Mr. Greg Skinner spoke out on this issue. He said as a business owner and homeowner no more than a mile away from the proposed carnival, he was very much against this carnival or any such carnival anywhere in Grove City. He indicated that he was involved for many years trying to bring quality to Grove City and this carnival did not benefit our image nor was it needed. He felt that rides are fine at Kings Island and Cedar Point, but, take this carnival somewhere else.

Ms. Betty Nolan, representing Nolan Amusements, stated that they run a quality, family oriented business. She said she felt that Big Bear/Harts felt they portrayed a welcome image and that should be a recommendation in itself. She said they run a clean operation, they have worked in high traffic areas before without any problems, they provide outdoor restrooms for patrons, and do not distress or disturb any residence's.

Chief McKean readdressed Council stating that Mr. Jim Forsythe of the Department of Agriculture, Division of Safety, had yet to inspect the rides and would not be out until sometime this afternoon to do so. He said he felt that there was not proper notice or planning for this event and did not want another incident like we just had with Mr. Abe Amira and Beulah Park. In addition, Chief McKean stated that in a discussion with the Assistant Manager of Nolan Amusements, he was informed that this was just an overflow of rides not being utilized at the Franklin County Fair and he did not think Grove City should be used as a dumping ground, especially without addressing all the safety concerns.

Ms. Betty Nolan responded by stating that all of the rides were up last week and inspected on Hamilton Road and that this was not an overflow of rides. Rides are continually flipped/flopped within the company. She stated that they were unaware of a license being needed in Grove City, otherwise, they would have been in sooner.

Mr Skinner responded by stating that when someone comes before him as Chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals for Grove City, and uses the excuse that they weren't aware a permit was needed does not wash with him. He indicated that "Grove Tuckey" doesn't exist anymore and we need to move forward.

Mr Mountain asked Ms. Betty Nolan when Nolan Amusements decided to come to Grove City? She responded by stating that the contract was signed on March 23, 1992, that tickets were distributed to local schools while they were still in session and flyers have been in the Harts store for two weeks. She said they didn't try to sneak into town and had they known about the license, they would have applied earlier. She also indicated that the fuel spill has been cleaned up.

Mr. Boso submitted 10 photo's, for the record, of the operation.

Mr. Mountain asked if the contract was signed on March 23, 1992 why the City wasn't informed until July 14, 1992? Ms. Betty Nolan said that when they worked in Grove City many years ago they did not need a license and they were not aware it was necessary. Mr. Mountain continued and said he couldn't believe a company would come into town without contacting any City officials. Ms. Betty Nolan responded by explaining that their contract is with Harts/Big Bear and the carnival is being conducted on their property. She felt it was their responsibility to notify them of any stipulations the City may have and this did not occur.

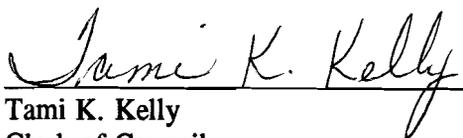
Chief McKean reiterated his strong concerns for safety and Mr. Boso contended that this particular location is not the proper place for this kind of operation.

Mr. Ferguson asked for any additional comments.

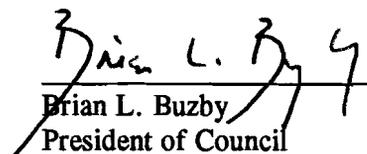
Seeing none, Mr. Ferguson moved to approve Resolution CR-38-92; seconded by Mr. Buckley.

Mr. Buckley Yes
Mr. Ferguson No
Mr. Mountain No

Council adjourned at 10:10 a.m.



Tami K. Kelly
Clerk of Council



Brian L. Buzby
President of Council