

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO  
COUNCIL MINUTES

July 19, 2010

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Berry at 7:00 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:

*Greg Grinch   Maria Klemack-McGraw   Ted Berry   Steve Bennett   Melissa Albright*

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

Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes

2. The Chair recognized Mr. Honsey for a presentation, in the absence of the Mayor. Ms. Conrad, Dir. of Parks & Rec., introduced her staff and recognized Tim Baker, Pool Manager, for again receiving an award for the lifeguard staff. Mr. Honsey presented Kim and her staff with a Proclamation recognizing July as Parks & Recreation Month. Kim also introduced the Park Board members present. Frisbee's were handed out to those in attendance to celebrate Parks & Rec. Month.

The Chair recognized Mr. Jamie Green for a presentation on the Town Center. Mr. Green explained that Open Houses were held for residents to share their thoughts on what could be done with the Town Center & Lumberyard site. He said they asked two important questions: 1. How do we prioritize capital investments of the Green Frame; and 2. What are your ideas and the important characteristics that any future development would take in the Lumberyard vicinity. He said this is not a scientific sample of the community. It is a qualitative research from a group of caring people who attended the meetings. He said they asked about their preferences for investments and characteristics, not necessarily particular uses. He said it was clear that they wanted an active, attractive place that garners the affection of the community; and a desire of some sort of catalytic investment for the basic management of these assets. He said they asked people where they would spend \$100.00 on six categories. The top was Parks; then streetscapes. They asked what should the lumberyard be, have and do. He said in terms of what should it be, the words that came up were: mixed use, unique, walkable, bikeable, family friendly, a destination. In terms of what should it have, the words were: gathering space, recreation, entertainment, shops, water feature, performance venue. What should it do: attract people, generate revenue, be physically beneficial, support Town Center businesses, reflect the history, and increase traffic to Town Center. They asked them to consider six options of the development alternatives. Of the six options, they range from Do Nothing to High Intensity. He said all intensities have a Park component. The question asked what they wanted the city to focus on. The top answer said it should be a Reserve; 7% said partial reserve/partial park; 35% said Low intensity development; 1 out of 4 people said the high intensity Park. He said there are four recommendations that he comes away with from this research. They are: Update the Town Center Action Plan; Allow Park Board to finish updating Strategic Plan, then update drawing; find ways to strengthen cooperation and trust of the overall leadership of the community.

3. The Chair read the agenda items and Mr. Bennett moved that Ord. C-45-10 be removed; seconded by Mr. Grinch.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes

All other items were approved by unanimous consent.

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

1. Ordinance C-37-10 (Appropriate \$48,430.00 from the General Fund for the Current Expense of Engineering the Green Frame/Town Center Improvements) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Honsey, City Administrator, explained that rather than have EMH&T do the assessment on the Lumberyard site, they had Mr. Green do this. He asked that the ordinance be amended to reflect a reduced amount to \$34,497.00.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Bennett moved that the amount, throughout the ordinance, be amended to \$34,497.00; seconded by Ms. Klemack-McGraw.

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes

Mr. Berry wanted to make sure that these projects will get done if Council approves this funding. Mr. Honsey said this is for preliminary engineering. The intent is to have an actionable plan, knowing what the construction costs may be and move forward from there. Mr. Keller, EMH&T, said this will give a better picture and definition of each of the street segments. It will allow them to prioritize projects and use the information to leverage CDBG or OPWC grants for certain projects. It will get projects on the Capital Improvement list and start developing strategies for full funding.

Mayor Stage said as each project is identified they will be brought back to Council as individual projects for funding. Mr. Berry said that is what he was asking and thanked the Administration.

Mr. Bennett moved it be approved; seconded by Ms. Albright.

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

2. Ordinance C-41-10 (Authorize the City Administrator to execute the Loan Agreement and Promissory Note with the Ohio Department of Development for a Logistics & Distribution Stimulus Loan and to declare an emergency) was given its first reading.

Mr. Honsey, City Administrator, explained that we approved a term sheet about three months ago, but approval is also needed for the Loan/Grant form. Mr. Smith, Dir. of Law, said this was received after the last meeting and this is the first time to get it in front of Council. We are set to close next week. However, we don't have the final language, as they sent their standard loan language. He said he sent Council a copy of the mark-up that was sent to the State. Those changes are not substantive. They do not change the amount. He asked that they amend Section to allow them to continue working on that language.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Bennett moved that the Rules of Council be suspended and the Waiting Period waived; seconded by Ms. Klemack-McGraw.

Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

Mr. Bennett moved it be approved as an emergency measure; seconded by Ms. Albright.

Before the vote was taken on the motion to approve, Mr. Berry moved that Section 1 be amended to include "or as may be adjusted by the Director of Law" to the end of the Section; seconded by Mr. Grinch.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes

The vote was then taken to approve as an emergency.

Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes

- Ordinance C-42-10 (Appropriate \$53,000.00 from the Water Enterprise Fund for the Current Expense of the 12-inch Water Main Improvements for Marlane Drive and to declare an emergency) was given its first reading.

Mr. Honsey, City Administrator, explained that we received very competitive bids for both phases. They are asking to fund the entire project now and get it all done now rather than spread it over two program years. In order to take advantage of these bids, we need to approve it immediately. He said this is a very strategic water line and have had some recent breaks. It is a weak link in the system that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Bennett asked if this was a sufficient size line. Mr. Keller said yes. It has been evaluated with a hydraulic model and designed for existing and future growth.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mr. Bennett moved that the Rules of Council be suspended and the Waiting Period waived; seconded by Mr. Grinch.

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes

Mr. Bennett moved it be approved as an emergency measure; seconded by Ms. Albright.

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

- Ordinance C-43-10 (Appropriate \$365,000.00 from the General Fund for the Current Expense of the Town Center/Windsor Park Trail Construction) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on August 2, 2010.
- Ordinance C-44-10 (Appropriate \$22,000.00 from the General Fund for the Current Expense of Professional Services for the Phase 2 Stringtown Road Corridor Improvements) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on August 2, 2010.
- Ordinance C-46-10 (Approve a Loan for TAC Foods, LLC under the Town Center Loan Program) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on August 2, 2010.

**The Chair recognized Mr. Grinch, Chairman of Service, for discussion and voting under said Committee.**

- Resolution CR-38-10 (Support the Southwest Public Libraries Operating Levy of 1.0 Mill on Nov. 2, 2010) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Jeff Davis, President of Friends of Hope & Chair of Save Our Libraries, explained that the Library has seen a 33% cut in funding from the State. He said 65 positions have been cut and one Library branch has to be closed. He said our founding fathers understood that individuals had to be responsible citizens and create a way to share knowledge, regardless of their station in life. He argues that Public Libraries were that very creation. If you want a living, breathing, viable communal, you need a living, breathing, viable library. He said libraries are not a transfer of wealth. They benefit all, for the common good. He said as Chair of the Campaign, he commits that this campaign will be an all volunteer campaign. No one will get paid to run this campaign. It will be run respectfully of all opinions, good naturedly, and with humor to build the excitement.

Mr. Berry noted that there are Fact Sheets available. He asked how much this will cost per year. Mr. Davis said it is \$1 mill, 10 year levy. If you own a \$100,000.00 home, it will cost \$2.55 per month. He said the Committee is very aware that the community gets asked for money for many issues & they wanted to be as considerate as possible. Ms. Albright asked what this will fund. Mr. Davis said it will fund current services. He said they have lost so much in the last 10 years. He said they hope to restore some hours and keep what they have today. He said there haven't been raise in 10 years for the employees. Instead, there have been furloughs and they have cut staff. He said this would help them keep a foundation and not have to make more difficult decisions.

Mayor Stage said he is very passionate for the library. He said the system is broken and it needs fixed. It is one of the most precious things a community can have. He applauded all who is working on the levy. He said it is indicative of how this community is going to be perceived, not only internally, but externally.

Mr. Mike Uhrin said two years ago he voted against moving the library to the lumberyard site. He said at that time he said a levy needs passed and would assist to get it passed. To keep his word, he announced that he is the Fundraising Chair for the campaign. He said they will not ask for any funds from the City for this campaign. Rather, he asked that all City Officials and employees consider donating personally. He said he has donations for all interested persons tonight. He asked that Council approved this Resolution.

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

Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

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

1. Ordinance C-47-10 (Approve a Special Use Permit for a Drive Thru Window for Zanzis Pizza located at 3467 Broadway) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 8/2/10.
2. Ordinance C-48-10 (Approve a Special Use Permit for a Drive Thru Facility for Telhio Credit Union located on Outlot 43 in Parkway Centre East) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 8/2/10.
3. Resolution CR-36-10 (Requesting the Development of the former “Lumberyard Project” into a downtown park) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Rob Starrett commented that since he moved here, the population has tripled and there has been an explosion of growth along Stringtown Road. He said what is not growing are the downtown businesses. He said every viable city he and his wife have visited have one thing in common – a downtown park. He said they just returned from St. Louis where they visited two of their downtown parks and left about \$100.00. He said you don’t need to go that far to see what happens in downtown. Columbus built the City Center for revitalization. Today, they are tearing it down and installing a park. He said he attended and participated in the Open Houses. He said the #1 consensus was to use the Lumberyard property for a park. When asked how to allocate money, again the #1 consensus was to use it for a Park. He said he doesn’t know where the 51% for buildings came from, as he was one of the last to leave the meeting and no one mentioned building buildings there. He said the people have spoken and he asked Council to listen to the citizens of Grove City. Do not build more buildings for merchants to come in and fail. Instead, do what the people have asked and build a very fine park that will draw people downtown and will, then, patronize the merchants we already have. He feels a park will do more to bring people downtown than all the buildings you could possibly build.

Mr. Dave Roasa, as Park Board Chair, said the Board did discuss this resolution. They are in the middle of updating a Strategic Plan. Based on their current activity they ask that this Resolution be removed

until they have completed their evaluation. He said the Park Board is not against parks, they just feel like this doesn't make sense when they are in the middle of updating this Strategic Plan. Personally, he thinks this is a little different than what came out of Mr. Green's review. The majority of the members at the workshop he spoke with said there needs to be an anchor. He feels the anchor needs to be something that draws family's downtown.

Ms. Rosemary Barrows said she is very excited about the Town Center growing and changing. She did participate in the Open Houses but doesn't feel 100 people were very representative of the city. She said she loves many parts of Rebecca Sommer's Park design. She particularly likes and wants to see a large amphitheater but also wants a building for higher learning either here or somewhere in the Town Center. She would like to see a large, new library, a bookstore, a bigger coffee shop. She is vehemently opposed to a dog park here. Please put the dog park somewhere else.

Ms. Rebecca Sommer shared her drawing and vision for, what she calls, Lamplighter Park. The visions that have been designed for those acres west of City Hall, for the past several years, have been for new construction for medium to high density development – for new businesses, restaurants, brownstones, apartments, and perhaps a parking garage. These physical images that have been in the newspaper are certainly imprinted on the citizen's minds eye. However, the reality is that it has been a grassy area where people park for Arts-in-the Alley, to watch the fireworks, etc. So, when the idea was circulating for an urban park, it sparked her imagination. It became a new direction for Grove City's minds eye – something other than businesses. She said for some it may seem counter productive to attracting new businesses by not constructing new buildings, but, maybe by creating a people-friendly park as a "Central Park" type destination, may be just the attraction that would bring people downtown and bring the attention needed in this business district to fill the existing vacancies and spark development of the available areas defined in the Green Frame Plan. She said there is a certain freedom in having a destination that will not cost a person to come to. One's wallet is not involved in going to a park. She submitted copies of Petitions with over 200 signatures in favor of this type of Park.

Mr. Bennett moved this Resolution be amended to include the following Whereas Statement: "WHEREAS, a conceptual design with specific elements, created and illustrated for the proposed Lamplighter Park located behind the City Hall parking lot was created by a Rebecca Sommer, a local resident and business owner" and that Section 1 be amended to read: "The City Administrator is hereby requested to develop a plan and budget consistent with the attached Lamplighter Park proposal, utilizing the designer of the original "Green Frame" plan to analyze how such a park in the "Lumberyard Development" would impact the surrounding areas and the proposal be forwarded to Council for consideration by August 16th."; seconded by Ms. Klemack-McGraw.

Mr. Grinch	No
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	No

Mayor Stage asked if this was the same change that was sent out Saturday. Ms. Klemack-McGraw said yes. Mayor Stage felt Council should postpone this so that it could be presented to the public. He said this is the first time he has seen it in its entirety. Ms. Klemack-McGraw asked Mayor Stage if he had any questions about the amended language. He said he just read it tonight.

Mr. Grinch said he has received many phone calls & e-mails about this. He said he participated in the Open Houses last week and if we are talking about the possibility of an urban park, he received a letter from the Park Board requesting this be postponed. He said he also thinks Council should take into

consideration the opinion of the Parks Director. He said he believes you have to enter into something like this with the support of the Parks Director and the Park Board. He said he is not an expert on Parks and feels Council should have their input before continuing.

Ms. Albright said she has only had one person voice full support for this park but many asking for mixed use. She said Mr. Green has provided a lot of information tonight and some of it is conflicting. She has not had a chance to read it all and go over it. She also supported the request of the Park Board and to postpone this resolution tonight.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw commented that the Park Board is an advisory Board to the City and we must keep that in mind. She said when Mr. Bennett campaigned for his current Council seat, he suggested this area become a park. He has publically stated that he would be introducing a measure to start the process for a park. She said the original Lumberyard "Request for Proposal" specified a park and even the former Stonehenge proposal included the same amenities. She said the site has been an eyesore for too many years. This resulting wasteland is unacceptable and harms our City's heart and center. She stated that she has seen an overwhelming response supporting the proposed park. She said in her Ward, people demand that she support the park, which she does. She said that while her friends on the Park Board would like the matter deferred, she believes this item is too urgent and too important to place it in line with all the other potential park issues. If we are to have any hope of reigniting interest in the downtown, we need to act now. She said we have planned, debated, discussed and cussed, with no results to date. It has reached a point where it would be irresponsible to not take action immediately.

Mayor Stage said he doesn't understand the sense of urgency. He said a dog park is not an issue. We will absolutely have a dog park. The question is where and how much it will cost. He said there isn't a question of a park or open space in this area has always been a part of the plans - going back to 1988. He said the question is how much open space and where, on that site. He said he and Council are not that far away on this issue. He read a portion of an article from the Grove City Record wherein Mr. Berry says that "the project is to be used to bring high paying jobs and commerce to our Town Center". He said this has been their direction ever since we have had the original design from Stonehenge and up until February. The need to say we need a particular park and a particular type is not an issue. It is how much and where. He said he will not veto this resolution. He does not have a problem with the resolution. They will analyze and do the due diligence. They will use the information that was presented tonight. They will use the petitions that they had signed by 51 parcel owners in the Town Center that say they want commerce and a center of learning. He said if Frank Elmer cooperates with them, they will use him as their source.

Mr. Berry reiterated that all this Resolution does is request a plan be forward to Council. Mr. Bennett concurred.

Mr. Grinch moved that CR-36-10 be postponed until the Parks & Rec. Strategic Plan is complete; seconded by Ms. Albright.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	No
Mr. Berry	No
Mr. Bennett	No
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes

Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be approved, as amended; seconded by Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	No
Mr. Grinch	No
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes

- 4. Resolution CR-39-10 (Approve Amendments to the Development Plan for The Shoppes on Broadway located at 3467 Broadway, as approved by Res. CR-50-04) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Brian Eversman, owner, and Mr. Pat McNeaill, tenant, were present. Mr. Eversman said they are trying to get two things accomplished. They would like a drive-thru window on the south side for Zanzis Pizza and they want to amend the signage requirements. He said they have adjusted the plans to address concerns of Planning Commission. He said they sat back down with staff and have submitted plans that they believe staff has supported. As for signage he explained that there is a stipulation that requires all signs be consistent in color, size, and font. He said when they purchased the center in 2006, it was clear that this was the direction that the City wanted to take for this portion of Broadway. He said since that time, there have been three multi-tenant retail buildings erected and none of them have this same requirement. He said they are asking that these restrictions be lifted from his Center, since it hasn't been carried to other structures, as intend.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved that the plans be replaced with the new drawings submitted by the petitioner; seconded by Mr. Berry.

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

There being no additional questions or comments, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be postponed to 8/2/10; seconded by Mr. Berry.

Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

- 5. Resolution CR-40-10 (Approve the Development Plan for Telhio Credit Union located on Outlot 43 in Parkway Centre East) was given its reading and at the request of the petitioner, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be postponed to 8/2/10; seconded by Mr. Grinch.

Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes

6. Resolution CR-41-10 (Approve the Sign Request for Retro Cave Comic's and More located at 3915 Broadway in the Historical Preservation Area) was given its reading and public hearing.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw noted that there were two stipulations for this application.

There being no one present to answer questions, Ms. Klemack-McGraw moved it be postponed to 8/2; seconded by Ms. Albright.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes

7. Resolution CR-42-10 (Authorize the City Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbus & Franklin County Metropolitan Park District) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. John O'Meara, Director of Metro Parks, said they have been talking about this for quite a while. This would be an arrangement between Metro Parks and Grove City, with the support of Jackson Township, to create a new metro park along the Scioto River. Grove City has 1907 acres that has been discussed being transferred to Metro Parks. Metro Parks has recently purchased 70 acres on the north edge. This was one of the commitments made to the voters as part of the tax levy last year. He said he looks forward to working with the City and moving forward with this effort.

A map was shown of the area in question and showed potential additional acreage father north. Mr. Berry asked if the goal is to connect this park with the Audubon with a trail system. Mr. O'Meara said it is hopeful that it will in the future.

M. Bennett said he found out about this in the newspaper. He was surprised to learn it was this far along. He said we as a horse town and asked if an equestrian center has been discussed. Mr. O'Meara said they would have community meetings to determine what to develop here. He said they do have horse activities in other parks they own, so they can do it if there is interest. Mr. Bennett asked who has final approval. He said we are giving up a considerable amount of property. Mr. O'Meara said this agreement gives Metro Parks the final authority. Ms. Albright asked about their timeline. Mr. O'Meara said they hope to have it complete in three years.

Mayor Stage said the red area on the map was negotiated with Virginia Homes. He said the lost link is the Falter's farm. He said they welcome the opportunity to work with Metro Parks.

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

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes

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

1. Mr. Dick Rutherford, resident, said he participated in the Town Center Open Houses. He said he means no disrespect to Jamie Green, but the first night it was very clear that Parks, Streetscape and Parking was what was desired. The report shows that the Wednesday results were quite different. He said there was only half the number of people on Wednesday that just stopped in to give opinions than there was on Tuesday who participated in the exercises, so it is impossible to have a complete change of opinion. You cannot compare the two days.

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

1. Mayor Stage submitted a partial Mayor's Report w/ Building Division statistics.

Mr. Berry moved that the Rules of Council be suspended to accept the Mayor's partial Report; seconded by Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Bennett	Yes
Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

Mr. Berry moved to accept the partial Mayor's Report; seconded by Ms. Albright.

Ms. Albright	Yes
Mr. Grinch	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Bennett	Yes

In closing, the Mayor said we do have all the easements for the I-71/SR665 project. They hope to have a groundbreaking on October 15. He said the State Auditor has issued their report on the 2009 financials. He congratulated Mr. Turner on a fine audit. He said he is working with three employers who are looking at the downtown area, but the problem is that the existing buildings do not meet their criteria. He said they have an amendment coming for the next meeting to amend some items in the Historical Preservation area to help clean up some of the bureaucracy. He said he was at the Columbus City Council meeting earlier tonight asking them to deny the annexation of property for Jones Topsoil and keeping 300 jobs from the Ohio Auto Auction. He said he had to leave before the vote was taken. Mr. Boso said Columbus did deny it unanimously.

2. Mr. Turner submitted a monthly financial report. He said Income Tax is up 2.5%. Mr. Bennett asked if the Hotel tax was up. Mr. Turner said it is almost dead even.
3. Mr. Chuck Boso, Dir. of Dev., asked Mr. Green to clarify some of his report. Mr. Green clarified that Tuesday night's exercises asked about the characteristics people wanted, not if they wanted a park specifically. He feels there is no disconnect at all in the two exercises. He said the question "how do you want to spend your money" was never about spending money for a park at the Lumberyard site. It meant that the money would be spent on parks in general.
4. Mr. Bennett commented that he will continue to champion the cause to bring a centralized park into the community. He said these types of parks are amenities. Amenities bring people; people bring money; money brings commerce; commerce builds a city and brings taxes and we all move forward.

He feels the people in this core of the community have been neglected. Every other subdivision has a park in them. He said adding more brick and mortar to compete with the existing vacant space is ridiculous. He said we should keep moving forward and do what is best for the community.

Mr. Berry thanked Rebecca Sommer for designing her Lamplighter Park plan and all she does for the Town Center. He mentioned that Mr. Greg Laws has a development initiative to bring a new building and housing the colleges in the Town Center as well. He commented that someone said he wanted the whole area to be a dog park. He referred to his article in the paper, where he suggested a dog part could be part of the larger park. He said he spoke with Ms. Conrad who suggested a dog friendly area would be a better consideration. He thanked the Park Board for their efforts. He said he looked back in the Minutes to see if the Park Board has ever taken an official position and could not find one. He said they have been a great advisory board and appreciates their service. He then commented on the Mayor's statement about bringing high paying jobs to Grove City. He said he did say that. He said the context in which he said this was that the property could be used to bring high paying jobs to Grove City. He said the Park could be a gem to attract jobs and/or development to surrounding properties. He said this is an economic development initiative. He said it brings people and jobs to an area. He said he received a note from Graeter's with the same views and shares why they believe a park would be a good draw. He said we need to move forward on this and use it to bring jobs to Grove City and he believes a Park is the method to do it.

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

Council adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

  
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Tami K. Kelly, MMC  
Clerk of Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted A. Berry  
President