

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL MINUTES

September 17, 2007

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Lester at 8:04 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:

Larry Corbin Maria Klemack-McGraw Rich Lester Richard Stage Ted Berry

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

Mr. Corbin	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Lester	Yes
Mr. Stage	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes

2. President Lester recognized Mayor Grossman for some presentations. First, the Mayor & President Lester recognized Chief Dennis Deskins with a Joint Proclamation for his retirement. The Chief thanked everyone and commented that he has gone to work happy every day. Next, the recognized Miss Roberta Camp, who is this year's Miss Ohio, with a Joint Proclamation. She will represent Grove City and the State at the Miss America Pageant. Next, the winners of the Green Thumb Awards were recognized. Finally, the Mayor recognized the Mustangs & Legends Aviation Show. She said this is the U.S. Airforce's event of the year. It will be right around the corner from Grove City this year and she encouraged everyone to support it.
3. President Lester read the agenda items and they were approved by unanimous consent.

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

1. Ordinance C-76-07 (Appropriate \$61,855.46 from the General Fund for the Current Expense of Severance Payments) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 10/1/07.
2. Ordinance C-77-07 (Appropriate \$80,000.00 from the Convention Bureau Fund for Current Expenses) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on 10/1/07.
3. Resolution CR-49-07 (Accepting the Amounts and Rates as determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Stage commented that this resolution sets the inside millage and we are currently at .90. He asked Dr. Whitney if he knew the amount collected. Dr. Whitney said no. He suggested that Council reduce the inside millage to .70, which he estimates to be \$200,000.00 per year.

Ms. Reichard, City Admin., explained that in anticipation of discussion to reduce the inside millage, they put together a report showing the monies collected for the year, and we are down \$500,000.00. Mr. Stage stated that the analysis was a snapshot since July. Ms. Reichard said yes. Mr. Stage said the biggest unknown was the corporate income tax. Ms. Reichard said yes and that takes us down \$500,000.00. Mr. Stage stated that his position is that we are carrying over \$16 million, as of this month. It is not necessarily driven by what we have collected this year, although he is optimistic that we will collect the targeted amount by the end of the year. He believes we can share some of that with the residents by way of a reduction.

Mr. Stage moved that the inside millage (General Fund) to .70; seconded by Mr. Berry.

President Lester asked Dr. Whitney what that would do to the city. Dr. Whitney said very little.

There being no further discussion, the vote was called.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Lester	Yes
Mr. Stage	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Corbin	Yes

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

Mr. Lester	Yes
Mr. Stage	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Corbin	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes

4. Resolution CR-50-07 (Appointing Robert Hatley to the Audit Committee) was given its reading and public hearing and Mr. Stage moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Corbin.

Mr. Stage	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Corbin	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Lester	Yes

On an unrelated matter, Mr. Stage said he saw an article in the Dispatch that indicated gambling machines were going to be allowed in Beulah Park. He asked if the City had taken any steps on this. Ms. Reichard said she had not seen the article.

The Chair recognized, Ms. Klemack-McGraw, Chairman of Safety, for discussion and voting of legislative agenda items under said committee.

1. Resolution CR-51-07 (Adopt an Underground Utilities Policy for the City of Grove City) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. David Kandel, External Affairs Director for AT&T, commented about this resolution. He said AT&T has been burying lines for several decades. He said it is their policy to bury those lines in all

new subdivisions. Although the lines are buried, there is some equipment that must be above-ground for service and the addition of homes. He explained that older neighborhoods were not engineered or designed for underground lines. For the most part, AT&T leases space on utility poles by AEP. He said they do own some poles. For the most part, in older neighborhoods, the poles are located on the back or side lot line. These older neighborhoods were engineered & designed for aerial facilities. Newer neighborhoods were engineered and designed for underground facilities. He explained that if there is a roadway relocation and their lines are in the way, they would move them at their expense. If the city is doing a beautification project, the poles would be moved at the city's expense. He provided Council with a letter that reiterated his comments.

Mr. Corbin said he has read that when you take a line from above ground and put it under ground it is between 4 to 10 times the expense. He asked if that was correct. He Kandel said it would be impossible for him to estimate that. There are so many different factors and a myriad of considerations. He said it is very expensive, but he would need to consult an engineer.

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

Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Corbin	No
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Lester	Yes
Mr. Stage	Yes

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

1. Ordinance C-67-07 (Accept the Resubdivision of Reserve B of Hoover Crossing, Section 1) was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Corbin stated that a request to postpone this item has been received. Ms. Kelly, Clerk of Council, confirmed that the EMH&T representative has requested postponement to 10/1/07, as they are waiting on a letter from the Hoover Crossing homeowner's association.

Mr. Corbin moved it be postponed to 10/1/07; seconded by President Lester.

Mr. Stage said he would like to see it removed. He was not in Caucus and missed any discussion. President Lester said there was no discussion. They just asked Mr. Keller if there was going to be a representative present.

Mr. Keller, City's Consulting Engineer, stated that he called Mr. Strung, EMH&T, and was told that they are anticipating a letter from the Homeowner's Assoc. of Hoover Crossing and requested it be postponed to the next meeting.

Mr. Stage commented that at the last meeting there was no one present and it was postponed. There is no one here again, and he feels it should be removed.

Mr. Berry commented that he didn't understand why we keep putting this off.

There being no additional questions or comments, the vote was called on the motion to postpone.

Mr. Corbin	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	No
Mr. Lester	Yes
Mr. Stage	No
Mr. Berry	No

Mr. Stage moved to approve this ordinance; seconded by President Lester.

Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Lester	Yes
Mr. Stage	No
Mr. Berry	No
Mr. Corbin	Yes

- Resolution CR-52-07 (Approve a Sign Request for Country Hearth Primitives located at 4026 Broadway in the Historical Preservation Area) was given its reading and public hearing

Ms. Jolene Ingman, petitioner, was present to answer any questions and requested approval.

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

Mr. Lester	Yes
Mr. Stage	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Corbin	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.

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

- Mayor Grossman submitted the Mayor's Monthly Report and President Lester moved to accept same; seconded by Ms. Klemack-McGraw.

Mr. Stage	Yes
Mr. Berry	Yes
Mr. Corbin	Yes
Ms. Klemack-McGraw	Yes
Mr. Lester	Yes

In closing, the Mayor commented that she was proud to be a part of the welcoming group to welcome home the 285th Unit of National Guard from Iraq at Central Crossing High School. She said it was a very proud moment and proud that Grove City could host it. She thanked the Chamber and everyone who delivered a very successful Arts-in-the-Alley event. She congratulated Roberta Camp and the Green Thumb winners. She wished Chief Deskins the very best on his retirement.

- Chief Deskins did address Mr. Stage's inquiry about the article in the Dispatch. He stated that any games of chance are highly illegal in Ohio. Games of skill are not. This falls under the Safety Division and once this issue has been settled in the courts, they will enforce it accordingly.

3. The Administration and Council also expressed their best wishes to Chief Deskins.

Mr. Stage commented that if a reconsideration was to be taken on C-67-07, that would have to be done tonight or, at the latest, by the next meeting. Ms. Kelly said she would have to double check the Rules on reconsidering at the next meeting. He said he couldn't move for the reconsideration tonight because he voted against it.

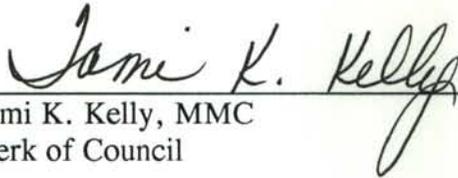
Ms. Klemack-McGraw read a statement concerning the Utility resolution. She said this simply establishes a policy to give serious consideration to underground utilities.

Mr. Corbin commented that Council has an obligation to protect the citizens of this city from raising taxes. Placing utilities underground will increase projects and someone has to pay for it. That would be the citizens and he is not in favor of that.

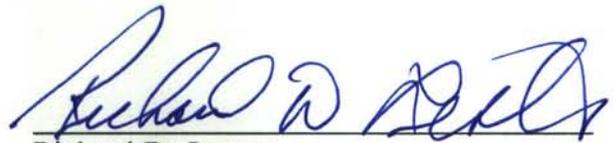
President Lester announced the Special Meeting of Council for Tuesday, 9/25, at 7:00 p.m. to hear a presentation by AEP.

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

Council adjourned at 8:56 p.m.



Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Clerk of Council



Richard D. Lester
President