

CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
COUNCIL MINUTES

September 19, 1994

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of Council was called to order by President Grossman 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:

Mike Milovich *Todd Hurley* *Cheryl Grossman* *John Schreck*

1. President Grossman moved to excuse Mr. Warner; seconded by Mr. Schreck.

Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes

2. President Grossman recognized Mayor Stage for a presentation. Mayor Stage read a Proclamation recognizing Mrs. Jeanette Meyers and declaring Saturday, September 17, 1994 as "Jeanette Meyers Day". Mrs. Meyers was the Grand Marshall at the Community Parade this year. Mrs. Meyers expressed her thanks. She said this was a great surprise and she enjoyed the entire weekend. President Grossman also expressed congratulations.
3. President Grossman recognized Mrs. Sherol Saxton, President - Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Saxton stated that as part of the "Experience Grove City, A Great Place To Live" Campaign in 1994, they have envisioned a Community Afghan and one has been designed and produced. She presented Mayor Stage with the first of a Limited Edition of 225 and it is inscribed as such on the corner. Mayor Stage accepted the afghan with pleasure and commented that Mr. Earl Nicholson, former council member, was the designer. Mrs. Saxton mentioned that Mr. Nicholson has also put a book together explaining the afghan and it would come with the Limited Edition Afghans which are available at the Chamber office for \$55.00.
4. Mrs. Grossman recognized Mr. Marty Sapperstein for a presentation. Mr. Shannon Hamons, Director of Development, explained that Mr. Sapperstein was here to review the results of the community telephone survey which was completed this summer and is the second taken in our City. He gave Council Members a summary and announced that Clerk Kelly had the full survey report on file in the Council office. In addition, the Grove City Library and the Administration has a copy of the full report. He expressed the importance of conducting such a survey in order to determine how the residents feel we are doing our jobs and what they feel are important issues. Mayor Stage commented that out of the last Survey, the most important issue was expanding the Senior Center and that has now been done.

Mr. Sapperstein expressed his delight in returning and in knowing that the information collected had been used. He explained that a random calling of 503 residents in Jackson Township was conducted between June 23 and July 8, 1994. The telephone numbers were made-up and therefore contained unlisted and new numbers as well. The interviews lasted approximately 20 minutes and the data gathered has a sampling error of no greater than + or - 4.5%. He said the sample was demographically the same as the 1992 Survey with 84% being in Grove City, 14% in Jackson

Township and 2% in Urbancrest; Male & Female was 50 - 50; Marital Status was 69% married, 30% unmarried; etc. He provided a slide presentation and reviewed many of the questions asked with their results. Some were: *What do you think of Grove City?* 36% - excellent place to live (42% in 1992). There was virtually no difference whether you lived in Jackson Township or Grove City; owned or rented; did or did not have children when answering this question. *What percent participate in Parks & Recreation Programs?* At least one household member in three participates - 35% (identical to 1992). *Does anyone participate in Kids Association?* One in Five participates. *Is G.C. better than five years ago?* 53% said yes (63% in 1992) however, more said it was "about the same" than in 1992. *How do you rate the Fire Department?* 71% said excellent. (same as 1992) *How do you rate the Police Department?* 49% said excellent (up from 40% in 1992). *How do you rate Community Events?* 44% - excellent (up from 1992). *How do you rate Trash Collection?* 40% - excellent (49% in 1992). *How do you rate Parks & Recreation Facilities?* Identical response of 37%. *How do you rate the Streets & Sewers?* 22% - excellent (up from 16%). With respect to these public services, there is absolutely no difference in how people feel in relation to where they live except for streets - where satisfaction is higher in Jackson Township. Next, *people were given a list of problems existing in communities and they were asked to rate them 1 = not serious to 10 = very serious.* Results were: Unplanned Development & Drug Abuse = 4.5; Inadequate Child Care = 4.0; Crime = 3.9; Unemployment = 3.6; and Homelessness = 2.0 (not much change from 1992). Then, *people were asked to name what they thought was the biggest problem.* Fifty-five percent (55%) named Public Education. He commented that most unaided questions do not produce such a high number. *Please evaluate South Western City Schools - 17% = excellent quality of schools, and this did not differ much between parents and non-parents.* *How are City Officials doing in Responsiveness?* 20% agree strongly (up from 1992); *Keeping Public Informed?* 30% agree strongly (up from 1992); *Planning for the Future and Managing City's Money?* Both are up slightly from the previous survey. *People were asked to express importance of a list of Capital Improvements:* Teen Rec. Center = 36% very important; Community Pool = 36% very important; followed by Bike Trails, Parks, Indoor Rec. Center and only 16% saying an Outdoor Sports Complex should get a high priority. *When asked of those Improvements, which is the highest priority, the Teen Rec. Center = 1 out of 3; Community Pool = 1 out of 5.* *Should Community Pool be Indoor or Outdoor?* 29% said indoor; 26% said outdoor; 49% had no preference. *Where should it be located?* 29% = Hoover Road & Southwest Blvd.; 25% = Orders Road; 11% = Meadow Grove Area; 17% = No Preference. *Would you favor a property tax levy of \$44.00 for every \$75,000/home valuation?* 35% = favor; 62% = oppose. *At \$22.00 for every \$75,000/home valuation?* 50% = favor; 49% = oppose. *When given an alternative way to fund Pool:* 43% say Issue Bonds; 15% say Property Tax Increase; 29% say take from General Fund. *Does your house recycle?* 63% = do; 37% = do not. *Should there be a local ordinance requiring households to recycle?* 57% = yes; 38% = no. Mayor Stage asked if Marty had asked this question in any other community? Mr. Sapperstein said he had in Dublin. *Do you rake your leaves into the Street for removal?* 72% = yes; 28% = no. *Would you rather have a common drop-off point for the leaves?* 21% = yes; 79% - no. Several questions were asked about COTA with the end result being that 53% do not use it, don't care about it and if more service was added, they still would not use it. *Do you use the Grove City Library?* More than 1 in 5 go to the library once a week. *What priority should be given to improve the Library?* 57% - increase child programs; 35% - stay open later. In conclusion, Mr. Sapperstein said that most of the community has really positive feelings as G.C. being the place to live; really high satisfaction with respect to fire, police, community events, and parks & recreation; broad concern on Public Education; satisfied with public officials; strongest interest in a Teen Center, ordinance to require recycling; very little interest in a common drop-off for leaves or increasing COTA service; and finally, strong interest in additional Children's Programs at the Library.

President Grossman commented that it was very interesting to see the results and thanked him for a very good job. Mayor Stage commented that it is important to keep a benchmark, because it gives us a sense of direction.

5. Mr. Hurley moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve as written; seconded by Mr. Schreck.

Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes

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

1. Ordinance C-70-94 (Authorize the acquisition of approximately 110 acres of land on Orders Road for use as a Public Park and authorize the issuance of \$300,000.00 of Notes in anticipation of the issuance of Bonds for the purpose of financing such acquisition and costs related thereto) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on October 3, 1994.

Mayor Stage commented that for a number of years the City has been looking at acquiring a large mass of land for a pool or other major activity. Most of our parks are in smaller acreage and some in high density residential areas, which can be distracting or an enhancement, depending on the activity. Now, he thinks they have found a fairly decent parcel of land, located on Orders Road which is around the center of our service area. Mr. Babbert, Director of Parks and Recreation, explained that the 110± acre option is located on the south side of Orders Road, between Haughn Road and 3C Highway. There is approximately 14 acres of wooded property with a tributary running through it and is currently being farmed. He showed a very preliminary, architectural drawing of uses for the property. It showed: 8 ball diamonds, a large playground area (similar to that at Homewood Park in Hilliard), parking that continues throughout the entire property, Multi-purpose field; two volleyball courts, basketball court, approximately 2.5 miles of walking trails; a pond for fishing and ice skating; several shelter houses, concession stand, separate playground area within the ball diamond area. Currently, the Adult Softball Program utilizes six different locations throughout the City with only two diamonds being owned by the City. This new facility will centralize this program and free-up other diamonds for the youth program. He said they will be going after Issue 1 money for development of the property. Mayor Stage recognized three Park Board Members and asked if they had any questions? Mr. George Zorich asked how far along we were? Mayor Stage said that he has signed a purchase agreement, subject to Council's approval. Other Board Members made comments & endorsed the preliminary plan. The question was raised about a pool being placed at this site. Mr. Babbert indicated that this site was not being considered for the pool.

2. Resolution CR-52-94 (Create a Community Plaza) was given its reading and public hearing.

Mr. Hurley explained that this would set aside the area behind City Hall on Park Street where the mail boxes currently set. A fountain would be erected to honor those who have served the community and a 6 x 10 area for Veteran's Groups to design and build a memorial.

Speaking to this resolution was Mr. Tom Nicholini who stated that the memberships of the American Legion, VFW & Ladies Auxiliary were very pleased to be participating, to this extent,

in this project. He introduced Ms. Jan Dewey, art teacher at Grove City High School, who will be supervising the students who will be submitting proposals for the Memberships to choose from. Ms. Dewey asked if there would be two different memorials within the Plaza? Mayor Stage answered yes. He envisions a brick inlay taking up 60% of area and in the brick inlay there would be a "Veteran's Memorial" consisting of two different things. She said she saw a design for a circular fountain and asked if that would be representing the veteran's. Mayor Stage said both would be representing the veterans, but more specifically, one will be as the Veteran's Group wants to dictate. Ms. Dewey asked if there was any interest in pursuing the incorporation of ideas from the veteran's into the fountain idea? Mayor Stage said the problem we have is that the fountain is now in the hands of the Arts Commission. One of the things he has asked for is for it to be aesthetically pleasing; have cultural value and blend in with existing landscaping. She then noted that the resolution states it is to be circular and asked how it was envisioned to fit around the fountain. Mayor Stage said he didn't think it would be around the fountain, but, contiguous to. She asked if it had to be circular? Mayor Stage said that would probably be open, however, the area is oblong, its rounded and it would seem practical that it would have a circular tone to it. She expressed their excitement to have this opportunity and asked if there would be a time to meet with the Arts Commission, Council, etc. to share ideas and make sure that everything will look good together? President Grossman said as far as council was concerned, yes and said she was sure that the Arts Commission would be very willing to make this a group effort. Mayor Stage commented that he wished to have this done by Memorial Day, 1995. Mr. Nicholini reminded Council of the September 24, 1994 meeting at the American Legion to discuss this issue and hoped that they received their invitations. Mayor Stage announced that he had spoken with Mr. Norm Lambert and he as offered to donate one of his World War II photo's for raising funds for the site.

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

Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes

In the absence of Mr. Warner, President Grossman chaired the Service Committee, for discussion and voting of legislative agenda items under said committee.

1. Ordinance C-63-94 (Authorize the Amendment of the Contract for Refuse Collection and declare an emergency) was given its second reading and public hearing and moved that the Rules of Council be suspended and the waiting period waived; seconded by Mr. Hurley.

Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes

President Grossman moved that Ordinance C-63-94 be approved as an emergency; seconded by Mr. Milovich.

Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes

2. Ordinance C-65-94 (Accept the Grove City Thoroughfare Map) was given its second reading and public hearing and President Grossman moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Milovich.

Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes

3. Ordinance C-69-94 (Authorize the Administrative Assistant to enter into an agreement with and request the cooperation of the Director of Transportation for the improvement to Interstate I-71 and declare an emergency) was given its first reading.

Mr. Clyde Sidel, Department of Public Service for the City of Columbus, explained that this will allow for the implementation of a Traffic Surveillance System on the Freeways. The main purpose would be to monitor freeway traffic to obtain accurate traffic counts. It would also include overhead surveillance, allowing for the change of message signs at a central locations in downtown Columbus to assist with incident management. It would also include surveillance cameras and additional ramp metering in areas in terms of access, on and off the freeway. This is a project that would be paid for by the Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration and Grove City has the opportunity to be on a policy committee that set the overall implementation procedures for this.

Mr. Schreck asked if this will include phone boxes? Mr. McGinnis replied that they would not be at this time.

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

Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes

President Grossman moved that Ordinance C-69-94 be approved as an emergency measure; seconded by Mr. Hurley.

Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes

4. Resolution CR-51-94 (Authorize the Mayor to file an application and enter into an agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of acquiring funds through the "Recycle Ohio Grant" pursuant to the Ohio Litter Control Act of 1980) was given its reading and public hearing and President Grossman moved it be approved; seconded by Mr. Milovich.

Mr. Jim Blackburn, Director of Service, explained that this is a continuation of Litter Prevention grants from the last four or five years. This particular grant is for Litter Awareness and Keep America Beautiful Activities and will be available to us in 1995.

Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes

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

1. Ordinance C-64-94 (Enact new Chapter 524 of the Codified Ordinances titled "Alarm Systems") was given its second reading and public hearing.

Mr. Schreck moved to amend Sections 524.01(f) from city personnel to public safety personnel; 524.90(b) from permit holder to alarm holder; 524.99(b) from seven days to fourteen days; seconded by President Grossman.

Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes

Mr. Schreck moved it be approved as amended; seconded by Mr. Milovich.

Ms. Grossman	Yes
Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes

2. Ordinance C-67-94 (Amend Section 1101.07(a) titled "Submission Procedures" of the Codified Ordinances of Grove City, Ohio) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on October 3, 1994.
3. Mr. Schreck moved that Ordinance C-68-94 (Amend Section 1323.13(b) titled "Signs Permitted in Residential Districts" of the Codified Ordinances of Grove City, Ohio) be removed from the agenda; seconded by President Grossman.

Mr. Schreck	Yes
Mr. Milovich	Yes
Mr. Hurley	Yes
Ms. Grossman	Yes

President Grossman recognized Mr. Milovich, Chairman of Finance, for discussion and voting of items under said committee.

1. Ordinance C-66-94 (Appropriate \$20,000.00 from the Pavilion Fund for current expenses) was given its first reading. Second reading and public hearing will be held on October 3, 1994.

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

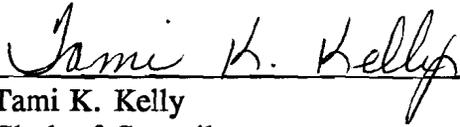
There being no new business, President Grossman recognized members of Administration and Council for closing comments.

1. Mayor Stage commented that we had approximately 20,000 to 25,000 people in downtown Grove City over the weekend and we experienced a great parade. As usual, Mr. Jim Hale did a phenomenal job, as did the Arts Commission/Group.
2. Mr. Behlen, Director of Finance, stated that the ordinances mentioned at the last meeting for D.A.R.E. and the Stage Fund will be submitted for the next Council Meeting and in the interest of allowing these projects to be completed, he will be asking that they be passed as emergencies.
3. Mr. Shannon Hamons, Director of Development, announced that the new Grove City Map was out. They will be available at City Hall, the Chamber office and the Library. He thanked the Grove City Area Visitors & Convention Bureau for funding them.
4. Chief McKean, Chief of Police, thanked Council for the "False Alarm" legislation. He also thanked President Grossman, on behalf of D.A.R.E. Officer - Teri Russlander, for her time on the Dunk Tank at the D.A.R.E. Cruise-In.
5. Mr. Chris Fulton, Safety Director, stated that Arts-In-The-Alley went very well from a safety standpoint. The people cooperated as did the weather. He also commented on the Sapperstein report, noting that the positive percentages are also reflected in the department's Annual Report. He said he as received a number of calls regarding the traffic light at Hoover and Gershwin and there is still a bit of work to be done with the High School parking lot. Once the High School lot is completed, they hope the rerouting within the lot will help with those problems.
6. Mr. Robert Lathrop, Tree Commission Chairman, expressed his thanks for allowing him to participate in a Tree Appraisal Workshop put on by ODNR. Their next meeting is October 6, 1994 at 7:00 a.m. and on October 3, 1994 at 4:00 p.m. they will be doing a planting project with the Park Street Middle School Sixth Graders. Also, we have received another tree source grant which will be used to complete the planting at Meadow Grove. He also extended any assistance that the Tree Commission could give to the Community Plaza Project.
7. President Grossman recognized Mr. Marvin Holt, Chairman of Planning Commission, and expressed Council's congratulations for his turning 60 years old this week.
8. Mr. Barry Babbert, Director of Parks and Recreation, reported that the Fourth Annual Kite Festival will be held on October 2, 1994 at Murfin Fields.
9. Mr. Hurley expressed his enthusiasm about the Preliminary Park Plan and what a nice addition it will be to our park system. He congratulated Mr. Babbert on Arts-In-The-Alley and the ability to show off what Grove City has to offer.
10. President Grossman stated that she and Mr. Hurley attended a meeting on August 31, 1994 coordinated by MORPC concerning HUD Funding. Secondly, she and Mr. Schreck met with Mr. Terry Andrews of CV Perry and residents of Hoover Crossing concerning the wooded area behind Dunman Way on September 8, 1994. She feels that a very fair and reasonable solution was reached and the majority of residents are pleased with it. She then thanked Mr. Babbert for coordinating the Mayors Cup Golf Outing which benefits our Meals-On-Wheels program as well as Officer

Russlander for the success of the D.A.R.E. Cruise-In. She noted her deep regret to learn of the fire at Broadway Cleaners and hopes they can rebuild in a timely manner. She also gave thanks to Jim Hale & the parade committee, Pat Ruth & the Arts-In-The-Alley committee, and our Parks & Rec. Department & Service Department for the outstanding service they provided in coordinating this event. This is a bright star for Grove City and makes us shine.

12. After additional comments from Administration, the Chamber and Council, a motion was made to adjourn and seconded. Motion carried.

Council adjourned at 9:20 p.m.



Tami K. Kelly
Clerk of Council


Cheryl L. Grossman
President