

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of GROVE CITY, OHIO COUNCIL

Special Meeting #6

COLUMBUS BLANK BOOK CO., COL., O.

Form No. 1097

Held September 22 1971

1. The Council of the City of Grove City, Franklin County, Ohio met in special session on the twenty-second day of September, 1971 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers located in the Municipal Building, 42 East Park Street, Grove City, Ohio with the following members present:
  - Eileine Simmons
  - John Hooper
  - Orville Harkless
  - Charles Ogg
  - Curtis Hamilton
  
2. Mrs. Simmons moves that the reading of the Journal be dispensed; seconded by Mr. Ogg.
  - Mr. Harkless Yes
  - Mr. Ogg Yes
  - Mr. Hamilton Yes
  - Mrs. Simmons Yes
  - Mr. Hooper Yes
  
3. Council recessed to committees.
  
4. Mr. Harkless announced to Council the reason for the special meeting was to announce his resignation as President of Council and as a council member to be effective immediately. This action must be taken because of the ruling of Attorney General William J. Brown's decision that Mr. Harkless's elective office is in conflict with his employment by the State of Ohio.
  
5. Council reconvened; was called to order by President Harkless.
  
6. Mr. Ogg moves that the Council accept the resignation of Mr. Harkless as president of the Council; seconded by Mr. Hooper.
  - Mr. Ogg Yes
  - Mr. Hamilton Yes
  - Mrs. Simmons Yes
  - Mr. Hooper Yes
  - Mr. Harkless Yes
  
7. Mr. Harkless moves that Mr. Ogg be made President of Council; seconded by Mrs. Simmons.
  - Mr. Hamilton Yes
  - Mrs. Simmons Yes
  - Mr. Hooper Yes
  - Mr. Harkless Yes
  - Mr. Ogg No
  
8. Mr. Harkless asks Council to accept his resignation as a member of Council.
  
9. Mr. Hooper moves that Council accept the resignation of Mr. Harkless; seconded by Mrs. Simmons.
  - Mrs. Simmons Yes
  - Mr. Hooper Yes
  - Mr. Harkless Yes
  - Mr. Ogg Yes
  - Mr. Hamilton Yes
  
10. Mr. Hamilton moves that Council adjourn; seconded by Mr. Hooper.

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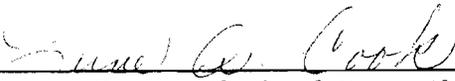
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Vote on Item #10.

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Mr. Hooper   | Yes |
| Mr. Ogg      | Yes |
| Mr. Hamilton | Yes |
| Mrs. Simmons | Yes |

11. Council adjourned.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 June A. Cook, Clerk of Council

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Charles Ogg, President of Council

# Councilman Quits In Job Conflict

By NED STOUT  
Of The Dispatch Staff

Orville E. Harkless, council president in Grove City, announced his resignation Wednesday, effective immediately, because the elective office is in conflict with his state job.

Harkless, in the final months of a four-year council term, has been an \$8,008-a-year maintenance supervisor for the Ohio Department of Highways since March.

HE SAID his action was prompted by a recent attorney general's opinion, requested by a Northern Ohio city, that the state job and the councilmanic post are legally incompatible.

Atty. Gen. William J. Brown's opinion cited a portion of state law which forbids "any officer or employe in the classified service of the state . . . the counties, cities and (school districts)" from being an officer in any political organization or taking part in politics "other than to

vote as he pleases and to express freely his political opinions."

Brown said his predecessors have been uniform in holding that an elective office, such as councilman and president of council, is taking part in politics.

HARKLESS, WHO is not a candidate for re-election this November, said "it's breaking my heart" to resign from the city post. During his tenure on the council, the 44-year-old Harkless was influential in promoting a city admissions tax, aimed at tapping revenue from the lucrative Beulah Park racetrack, establishing the post of juvenile officer for the city; getting a charter revision committee and setting up a zoning code.

Harkless said he does not know whether the opinion has any bearing on his post as a Democrat ward committeeman.

Grove City councilmen, who are paid \$30 a month, elect their president from the council membership.

HARKLESS SAID he hoped to arrange a special council meeting Wednesday night to present formally his resignation from the five member body which will then name a successor to fill the remainder of his term (until Jan. 2, 1972).