

**Meeting Minutes
Grove City Regular Council Meeting
Monday, October 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: McCoy, Evenson, Lokken, Sordahl, Simota

ABSENT: None

Mayor McCoy called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

CONSENT TO AGENDA:

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes of the following City Council Meetings: August 14, 2023
- C. Ratify December 11, 2023 at 7pm for the public meeting regarding final tax levy to County Auditor.

Council Member Sordahl made a motion to accept the consent to agenda. Council Member Simota seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

VISITOR RECOGNITION:

Taylor Williamson from West Central Sanitation came to answer questions and presented names to the Council of delinquent payers. Mayor McCoy made a motion to accept the list of payers and have their delinquent amounts assessed to their property taxes. Council Member Evenson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Council Member Sordahl asked if recycling dumpsters would be available if we wanted them and they would be.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor McCoy read aloud the correction to the August 14, 2023 minutes regarding lawful gambling managed by St. Phillips.

Summer Rec: Andrew Hallin gave a report of the summer rec program. There were kids from 20 different families at \$10 per activity. Eight volunteers were involved. Cenex provided discounted pizzas. He presented a report of his expenses. Suggestions for future planning are to start advertising sooner, allow coordinator to make equipment purchases under an equipment budget, and purchase an adjustable basketball hoop if basketball is continued. Participants requested more than just 3 sessions. Council Member Evenson mentioned that next year there should be a pickleball court available in town. Council Member Lokken made a motion to approve a payment of \$2,200 to Andrew Hallin for the remainder of the \$2,500 summer rec contract. Council Member Evenson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Room Rental: Jeff Doty and boy scouts from the Atwater Boy Scouts Pack 221 requested utilization of the Community Center again this year. Council Member Evenson made a motion to allow to them to use the Community Room on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 7pm during the 23-24 school year. Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Grove City Bank Investment Options: Tabled.

Liability Waiver Form: Mayor McCoy made a motion to approve the liability waiver form to complete the property and casualty renewal for 2023-2024. Council Member Simota seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Residential Property Zoning Violation: The property at 201 5th Street North is an R1 zoned property with three apartments in it, which is in violation of R1 zoning. Owner will be sent a letter informing them of the zoning violation and possible options.

Retaining Wall Damage: The retaining wall at the corner of 117 3rd Street N has broken blocks. Public Works will add it to their work schedule. Public Works will add repair of it to their work schedule.

New Lindstrom Ave Address: The property at the east end of Lindstrom has been submitted to the county as 99 Lindstrom Avenue East. A motion was made by Mayor McCoy and seconded by Council Member Evenson to approve the address and the placement of a modular home on that property. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. Discussion ensued regarding holding of water between 99 Lindstrom Ave E and 101 Lindstrom Ave E. Public Works will look into a solution.

Ordinance Violations Enforcement: Members of the community have requested more enforcement of lawn and nuisance property violations to help the town look better. Mayor McCoy made a motion to change the property ordinance violation process and send a letter to the community explaining the new process. Council Member Evenson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

MMUA Services Agreement: Council Member Evenson made a motion to approve the 15-month contract for \$16,339. Council Member Simota seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Lions Club Charitable Gambling Application: Lorie Simota and Rhonda MccCoy from the Lions Club are requesting a permit to have lawful gambling at Agave Mexican Cocina in Grove City. Council Member Evenson made a motion to allow the Lions Club to have lawful gambling at Agave Mexican Cocina at 218 Atlantic Avenue in Grove City and for approval of their premises permit application. Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Members Evenson, Lokken and Sordahl voting in favor and McCoy and Simota abstaining.

Utility Rates: Mayor McCoy made a motion to increase the base rate \$1/month per utility. Council Member Lokken seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Wings Gym Rental: The organization requested use of the South Grove gym again this year. Council Member Evenson made a motion to charge \$20 per day for the rental of the gym. Mayor McCoy seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Members Evenson, McCoy, Lokken and Simota in favor and Sordahl opposed.

Township Meeting: The next township meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 7pm.

STAFF REPORTS AND COUNCIL

Rescue: Rescue Chief Thomas will give Mayor McCoy the information needed to order the bracket that was approved last month. Council instructed him to put together a budget for FY24 to be ready in time for the township meeting. Chief Thomas continues to try to find a new rescue vehicle. It will cost \$90K or more for a 4 wheel drive. A background check needs to be done on a new rescue and fire member. She will be put on the squads pending background check. Mayor McCoy will get the background check done.

Fire: Council instructed Fire Chief Jans to put together a budget for FY24 to be ready in time for the township meeting. They are being shown turnout gear and air packs which they can order with the grant. Controlled burns aren't able to be done right now.

Clerk Report: no report.

Public Works: Supervisor Roering requested permission for Jack and himself to attend the Heartland Winter Workshop. Mayor McCoy made a motion to approve their attendance and mileage and Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion passed with all members voting in favor.

Mayor's Report: Mayor McCoy made a motion to approve the Salvation Army Heat Share Assistance Program for 2023-2024. Council Member Evenson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor. Mayor McCoy received a request for a South Grove apartment and garage lock change. Council clarified that residents can request lock changes and it will be at their own expense.

Evenson's Report: Council Member Evenson reminded the council of an impending November 1 deadline for a residence to replace a roof and siding.

Lokken's Report: Council Member Lokken is in the process of obtaining costs for city banners and lighting. She gave an update on the Clerk's office and recommended rerunning ads for a new City Clerk. Council Member Sordahl made a motion to rerun ads for City Clerk and Council Member Lokken seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Sordahl's Report: Council Member Sordahl asked if the committee list has been updated. He would like to have descriptions about committee functions. He would also like to see the City Shop get cleaned up.

Simota's Report: Council Member Simota suggested that we review and amend the quiet time ordinance. She suggested changing the monthly workshop time to the afternoon. Council decided to hold workshops at noon on the Wednesday before the City Council meeting instead of at 9am.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member McCoy made a motion to adjourn at 8:33p. Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.