

**GROVE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021  
6:00 PM  
MINUTES**

The Grove City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM with Mayor, Ed Trumbull presiding. Members present were Josh McElhaney, Matt Henderson, Marty Dyer and Ivan Devitt. Also present was City Manager, Bill Keefer; Attorney, Darren Cook; Assistant City Manager, Debbie Bottoroff; City Treasurer, Lisa Allred; Public Works Director, Deric Douthit and City Clerk, Bonnie Buzzard.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joe Gelinas addressed the Council to report that the local Softball Organization has relocated all of their team events from Miami to Grove and are preparing for tournaments. Gelinas understood that the City has recently engineered a drainage project for that location, and respectfully requested that the City expedite that project to better serve the tournament events. Keefer announced that Engineer, Tim McCrary is present, and asked that he update the Council on the current status of the project. McCrary reported that there should be a contractor on board by the end of the month. Gelinas expressed his appreciation to the City on getting this project completed as quickly as possible.

Trumbull read a Proclamation in its entirety declaring the month of April 2021 as Fair Housing Month.

Devitt made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 16, 2021 regular meeting. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve the purchase order register. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Trumbull opened the floor for discussion with respect to review of Resolution #20-024 Declaring a State of Emergency and Implementing Mandatory Emergency Provisions as amended adopting the Governor's Open Up and Recover Safely Plan. McElhaney asked if there is still a need for this Resolution since the Governor has expired all of the state wide mandates and restrictions. McElhaney reported that he has searched all of the surrounding communities, and that they too have cancelled all of their restrictions. McElhaney further asked if it is still necessary for the mask restrictions for City Hall. Trumbull reported that the numbers are starting to decline but felt like the masks are still a vital part to keeping the number steadily on the decline. Cook reported that he believed that by keeping the restrictions in place may play favorable for the City of Grove in grants received for the Emergency Management mandatory provisions. Dr. Bechtol addressed the floor to express his appreciations to the City Council for the great job they done with the high vaccination rate, and expressed the need to continue encourage all residents to get their vaccination. Devitt made the motion to extend the Resolution until the April 20, 2021 City Council meeting. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: McElhaney. Motion carried.

Trumbull opened the floor for discussion with respect to review of extending, amending or terminating the provisions of Ordinance # 796 as it pertains to requirements to wear face

coverings/masks. No discussion was entertained on this matters, therefore Trumbull announced that the Ordinance will expire at midnight on this date. No action was taken.

Devitt made the motion to approve a Resolution promoting and supporting Fair Housing in Grove. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Trumbull opened the floor for discussion with respect an Ordinance amending the Civic Center Fee and Charges. Bottoroff reported that the new sound system has been installed at the Civic Center and to lessen the probability of the microphone being damaged or removed from the premises, the proposed Ordinance adds a separate deposit fee for the use of the sound system and cordless microphones. Devitt made the motion to approve an Ordinance amending the Civic Center Fee and Charges. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve an Agreement with the YMCA for Swimming Lessons and Water Aerobics for a one year term. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Trumbull opened the floor for discussion with respect a Performers Agreement with Jennifer Brando to provide entertainment at the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Celebration. Keefer reported that this agreement will be provided for in the 2021-2022 budget, therefore; an acknowledgement of compensation clause has been added to the agreement as required by the Oklahoma Constitution Article 10, §26. Devitt made the motion to approve a Performers Agreement with Jennifer Brando to provide entertainment at the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Celebration as presented and discussed. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve a Resolution creating an Administrative Policy Implementing the Use of Improvement Districts to Finance Infrastructure Improvements for new residential subdivisions. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve a Resolution scheduling a Public Hearing as is required by Oklahoma State Statutes to provide proper notice on the proposed annexation of tracts of lands located along US Highway 59 corridor between Sailboat Bridge and the intersection of US Highway 59 and E 250 Road (aka Tom Cat Corner), Grove, OK. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Trumbull opened the floor for discussion with respect to scheduling a special meeting to meet virtually with representatives of Strategic Government Resources, (SGR) to discuss the recruitment process and a proposed agreement. The Council discussion various option date and time for this meeting, Dyer made the motion to schedule Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00 PM. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Bureau of Investigation to participate in their Tulsa Safe Trails Task Force. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve the denial of claim #209127-1-HW by claimant, Mark McPhetridge upon recommendation from the Oklahoma Municipal Assurance Group. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Keefer reminded the Council of the upcoming annual Spring Cleanup scheduled for the week of April 12-16, and the household hazardous waste and e-waste collection for Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> @ the Public Works Facility.

Keefer then updated the Council on the recent action taken by the GMSA Board in regards to the Constellation gas invoice for the month of February:

- ✓ GMSA to pay the proportionate amount of the incremental gas for our retail customers in the amount of \$235,000
- ✓ Reduce the gas cost for our retail customers to \$2.49, and
- ✓ Invoice the wholesale customers at the rate of \$5.58 per dekatherm, waive the scheduled administrative and wheeling fee(s) to those customers as it relates to their February bill.

Keefer added that GMSA is still awaiting the decision from FERC on the request of waiver on the tariff penalties related to that event.

**WARD REPORTS:**

The Council all expressed their appreciation to Josh McElhaney for his service on the Council for the last four year and wished him the best of luck.

McElhaney expressed his appreciation to the Council, Staff and the residents for the continual support expressed to him during his tenure as Council Representative.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 6:55 PM Devitt made the motion for the Council to recess into an Executive Session for the purpose of confidential communications between a public body and its Attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the public body, with the advice of its Attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest, pursuant to Title 25 O.S. Section 307.B.4. (Pending Litigation) to include participation from Bill Keefer, Debbie Bottoroff, and Police Chief, Mark Morris. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

At 7:15 PM Devitt made the motion to come out of Executive Session with no action taken. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Trumbull announced that in regards to agenda item E.1 above. No action taken.

At 7:15 PM Devitt made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by McElhaney. AYE: McElhaney, Henderson, Dyer, Devitt and Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion carried.