**GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2012**

**6:00 PM**

The Grove City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 6:00 PM with Mayor Marty Follis presiding. Members present were Ed Trumbull, Ileta Bray, Marty Dyer and Berwin Kock. Also present was City Manager, Bruce Johnson; Attorney, Brandon Watkins; Assistant City Manager, Debbie Bottoroff; City Treasurer, Lisa Allred; Public Works Director, Jack Bower and City Clerk, Bonnie Buzzard.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**:

Ms. Judith Read addressed the Council to report that she has been attending several meetings held by the Oklahoma Water Resource Board in regards to the water control in and around the four state areas. Read announced that the OWRB has appointed a new Chairman of the Board, and he is proposing some new changes.

Mr. Ron Lay addressed the Council to respectfully request a status update on the proposed City Golf Course. Lay indicated that it would definitely give the City of Grove additional revenue over time, and he strongly suggested that the Council to give that project consideration.

Mr. Duane Lietzke addressed the Council to report that he is a resident of the Cherokee Grove Golf Course, and that he has been an avid supporter of golf since he was approximately 11 years of age, therefore he offered his assistance to the City should they desire to purchase the proposed golf course.

Kock made the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Trumbull, Bray, Dyer, Kock and Follis. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Trumbull made the motion to approve the purchase order register. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Trumbull, Bray, Dyer, Kock and Follis. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Follis opened the floor for discussion with respect to presentation by Troy Helms regarding a Proclamation proclaiming Friday, March 16, 2012 as ‘Arbor Day’. Troy Helms addressed the City Council to request the approval of the Proclamation proclaiming Friday, March 16, 2012 as ‘Arbor Day’. Follis read the Proclamation in its entirety proclaiming March 16th as Arbor Day and urged all citizens to participate in the planting of trees. No action was taken.

Kock made the motion to approve a Resolution amending Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget. Seconded by Follis. AYE: Trumbull, Bray, Dyer, Kock and Follis. NAY: None. Motion carried.

Follis opened the floor for discussion with respect to the April 2012 Delaware County Sales Tax vote as presented by Larry Parham. Mr. Larry Parham addressed the Council to report that he had recently attended a meeting of the Delaware County Commissioners where discussions were heard in regards to the following Delaware County Sales Tax Proposition comparison $13,500,000 settlement with 2.5% interest rate in regards to Sales Tax vs. Property Tax:

Sales Tax

* 17 years proposed
* ½ of 1% sales tax
* $3,085,191 in interest to be paid
* Total Cost = $16,585,191

Example: Average Delaware County Resident

Average yearly household income = $35,000

Average spending of $50 / day = $0.25 / day in taxes

$0.25 / day x 365 day / year = $91.25 / year

$91.25 / year x 17 years = $1,551.25

Property Tax

* 3 years proposed
* 18% increase in ad valorem taxes
* $526,628 in interest to be paid
* Total Cost = $14,026,628

Example: Average Delaware County Resident

Estimated home value = $100,000

Average district levy = .09

Average district levy increase due to settlement = .0162 / year

$100,000 x .115 x .0162 x 3 years = $558.90

Parham entertained questions, comments and concerns from the Council, Staff and participating audience. No action was taken from the Council.

**WARD REPORTS**:

Bray reported that in light of the recent action by Delaware County Commissioners resulting in a settlement if charges brought by inmates of the Delaware Council Jail, and that proposed methods of payment for this liability by citizens who had no part in the infractions of settlement, she felt compelled to ask the City of Grove on behalf of the residents the following three questions:

1. What policies, procedures and practices are in place, and are they communicated to the employees and contractors in a way it is widely known violations are dealt with, and are they stringent enough to make everyone aware failure to follow then will result in prosecution the fullest extent of the law?
2. What protection do we provide for our citizens to cover the cost of prosecution and any settlements or judgment resulting from violations of city policies and procedures? Are these protections and / or insurance coverage’s comprehensive enough to avoid the “one occurrence” issue used by the county liability insurance company to avoid full payment of the judgment and place the balance of the burden on each citizen of the County?
3. Do these protections comply with all Federal and State laws and regulations? Do we have legal counsel statement of the adequacy of these compliances?

Johnson responded to each of Bray concerns individually by indicating that in the most part the City and its employees are covered by the policies and procedures approved by the City Council, and by the State of Oklahoma statutes restricted by the City of Grove Form of Government, and the Oklahoma Municipal League, which provides the city’s insurance liability coverage.

At 7:05 PM Kock made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Bray. AYE: Trumbull, Bray, Dyer, Kock and Follis. NAY: None. Motion carried.