

## **GROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2014 @ 7PM**

**ALL MEMEBERS PRESENT**

**CONSENT AGENDA:** A motion was made by Councilmember Peterka to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nelson. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Councilmember Peterka made a motion to approve the minutes from July 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> and August 10<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nelson. Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**BOLLIG ENGINEERING:** There was some discussion about the up and coming sanitary sewer and street project; mainly about the streets and which streets were or could be added to the project. Two streets in particular that were mentioned were Axel Avenue West from Highway 4 up to 4<sup>th</sup> Street and the alley behind the bank and Schmidty's convenience store. Brian asked if Councilmember Halterman could meet with them to go over the street portion of the up and coming project.

**STORAGE UNIT AT SOUTH GROVE:** Councilmember Peterka talked about building a storage unit in the gym at South Grove to store salt, supplies, etc. C.A.R.E. would also like to store some supplies within the storage unit and they are willing to contribute \$400 towards the cost of materials. Peterka said he would help build the storage unit along with Dave Martin; both are donating their time. Councilmember Halterman made a motion to approve purchasing the materials for the storage unit. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Drange. Motion carried.

**ELECTRICAL OUTLETS AT SOUTH GROVE:** Councilmember Peterka obtained two bids from electricians to install additional outlets in the bird rooms and gym. Mid-MN Electric was \$1830 and Ryan Buer was \$1100. A motion was made to approve hiring Ryan Buer by Councilmember Peterka. The motion was made by Councilmember Walthers. Motion carried.

**BEAN BAG BOARDS:** Councilmember Peterka received a bid from Matt Dahl regarding a set of bean bag boards. The cost would be \$200. In discussion, the boards would not be purchased at this time but possibly in the spring and then determine how to attach the boards into the ground so they are permanent. A motion was made by Councilmember Peterka to purchase the boards from Matt Dahl. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walthers. Motion carried.

**FIRE HALL ELECTRICAL UPGRADE:** The council made a motion to hire Ryan Buer several months ago to do the electrical upgrade needed in the fire hall but the work has not been done. The Council told Gaarder to let him know that they want the work done while he is doing the electrical work at South Grove or they will decide to hire someone else.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**PSE to do ELECTRICAL STUDY ON GROVE CITY'S ELECTRIC BUSINESS:** Brian Bollig informed the council that he had spoke with Doug Joens of PSE in regards to doing a study on Grove City's electric business. The study would take a look at the previous five years and do a five year forecast on the rates, expenses and profits. It would take them about three weeks to conduct the study after they receive all of the requested information. A motion was

### **UNAPPROVED**

made by Councilmember Peterka to hire PSE to do the study on Grove City's electric business. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walthers. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2015-06 DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING:** Brian Bollig made a request of the council to move the Public Hearing date from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of October because they had a scheduling conflict. The council agreed. A resolution regarding the date of the public hearing was presented to the council. Councilmember Peterka made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walthers.

**RESOLUTION 2015-07 TEMPORARY FINANCING FOR SANITARY SEWER/LAND:** Resolution 2015-07 was presented to the council for additional PFA temporary loan funding in the amount of \$1,604,000. A motion was made by Councilmember Peterka to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nelson. Motion carried. A motion was made by Councilmember Nelson to approve allowing the City Clerk to fill out the application for the loan. The motion was made by Councilmember Peterka. Motion carried.

**2016 PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXY LEVY:** The council discussed the options of keeping the tax levy at the same level it has been for the past three years or increasing it due to the increased expenses coming with the new sanitary sewer/street project. The Clerk told the council that she would advise them not to raise the levy at this time. She did not see the need to increase it and with the up and coming special assessments and likelihood of increases to the utility rates, it would not be good to increase property taxes as well. Bergstrom reminded the council that when setting the proposed levy, it can't be increased in December only decreased. A motion was made by Councilmember Walthers to keep the tax levy at \$195,000. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Peterka. Motion carried. Councilmember Nelson opposed.

**SOUTH GROVE REPORT:** Councilmember Peterka informed the rest of the council that they need two new board members. Gwen Kielty resigned from the board. He told the council that the EDA Board approved making Allan Knutson a board member and now they needed a replacement for Dawn Johanneck. It was mentioned that AJ Walthers had been appointed by the Mayor to replace her. Robin Wall had indicated that she would be willing to be a board member as well. Peterka asked Walthers if he was too busy to be on the board. Walthers said he was willing to be on the board but he needed notice before the meetings. After some discussion it was decided to ask Robin to fill the open seat.

Peterka informed the council that they needed to hire someone to clean Ardy Johnson's carpet. Also, the outside of the windows at South Grove need to be cleaned. Dale Pautzke has been hired to install new sheetrock in the hallway to replace the old sheetrock that fell down. C.A.R.E. paid to have dish TV installed in the diningroom.

**OTHER:** Councilmember Peterka presented the council with a copy of a letter that Eden Valley's weed inspector hands out to residents and businesses that violate their weed ordinance. He wants Grove City to do the same. He would like to see letters delivered to people who have trash in their yards, trees growing out of the foundation of their houses and not keeping the houses and garages kept up. The Clerk told the council that if two of them wanted to sit down with the building inspector he would gladly come and discuss these issues and procedures with them. Peterka asked the Clerk to set up a meeting and asked if Councilmember Halterman would like to attend the meeting with the building inspector as well.

**RESCUE:** Chief Hudec reported that the department has had 45 calls for the year. Another battery went bad on a pager. Gwen Cristel has resigned from the department. AJ Walthers has resigned as well. Hudec said he will take

**UNAPPROVED**

over the Training Officer position until the end of the year. Ashley Needham is on suspension and not able to start her training at this time. They have three applications for new hires; one has passed the background check.

**FIRE:** Chief Jans informed the council that there is \$1940.00 allocated towards training in the budget. The department has submitted \$935 already and will be submitting \$2700 more but it should be 100% reimbursed due to extra funds within Ridgewater. On October 10<sup>th</sup> they will be doing a house burn on the Meeker/Kandi line. Fire Prevention will be on October 8<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm. The department will be grilling food and raffling off four bikes for the kids. Colin Kragenbring has resigned from the department due to relocation. Councilmember Nelson made a motion to approve his resignation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Halterman. Motion carried. They will be looking into removing Mackenzie Rusch from the squad as he works out of town and is unavailable to go out on calls. Jans said they need to purchase a new water tank; the current one has holes in it. He is still looking into getting prices from the list of repairs on the DOT work order. The radiator on one of the trucks blew up and news to repaired as well.

**SHERIFF:** Officer Schutz reported that he had 19 calls for the month. Highway 12 will be open tomorrow. He will check on the camper at the old car wash to see if it has current tags. Schutz informed the council that within the City's weed ordinance it states that the properties in question need to be brought to the council for approval to proceed with notices. The council discussed having this ordinance looked at and re-written so that the weed inspector does not have to come before the council to gain approval before sending out notices and lowering the inches from 12 down to 6 or 7 inches.

**CLERK:** Bergstrom informed the council of some training dates that she would like to attend. October 14<sup>th</sup> is the quarterly regional clerk's training in Osakis and then there are two other dates in October for another class; the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup>. The cost for the class on the 14<sup>th</sup> is \$20 and the cost for the other two classes are \$30 each. Councilmember Peterka made the motion to approve sending the clerk to all three days of training. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walthers. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Gaarder presented a bid from Mr. Dirt for washing out the storm sewer drain on Axel Avenue West for \$850. A motion was made by Walthers to approve hiring Mr. Dirt for the job. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Peterka. Motion carried. Gaarder also presented a bid from Brent Whitcomb for \$500 to remove six tree stumps. A motion was made by Councilmember Walthers to approve hiring Brent Whitcomb. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Drange. Motion carried. Gaarder asked the council about hiring Kohl's Street Sweeping again this fall. The council agreed but asked Gaarder to wait as long as possible. The Dept. of Health does not want the City to sell water until we get the proper back flow attachment. The cost would be about \$500. A motion was made by Councilmember Halterman to approve purchasing the back flow attachment. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walthers. Motion carried.

The council asked about trimming around the secondary wires. They feel the City workers should be able to take care of this now that the trimming around the primary wires has been done.

**DRANGE:** Mayor Drange said that Augustfest went well in spite of some issues with Royalty. There will be a recap meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September at 6:30pm. Kevin Drange will be down to repair the back window behind the community center. She stated that the utility committee needs to meet in October sometime to discuss rates.

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**WALTHERS:** Walthers asked about the possibility of the City getting a credit card so the fire and rescue could purchase items on-line which would at times save money and time in getting the items. It was decided that the issue needs to be looked into before making a decision.

**PETERKA:** Peterka asked if the council could receive a list of who comes in requesting and getting building permits. He would like to see a monthly log sheet.

**NELSON:** Nelson mentioned that he hasn't been able to get a price on what it would cost to fix up the basketball courts.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Councilmember Peterka. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Haltherman. Motion carried.

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**\*\*\*PUBLIC HEARING ON OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2015 AT 7PM IN  
THE COMMUNITY CENTER\*\*\***

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

October 11, 2015 @ 4pm is the C.A.R.E.'s annual Octoberfest. Tickets are \$6 in advance or \$7 at the door. Great meal plus chances on raffles, silent auction items, cookie walk and farmer's market area.