

GROVE CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8, 2014 @ 7:30PM

PRESENT: DRANGE, PETERKA, MILLER, AND JOHANNECK

CONSENT TO AGENDA: A motion was made by Councilmember Johanneck to approve the consent to agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2014-16: Resolution 2014-16 is a donation to the Rescue Department by Lynne Thomsen in memory of Ardell Thomsen. A motion was made by Councilmember Peterka to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

RESCUE: Chief Munoz reported that there were three medicals during the month. The email address on the website is still incorrect. The Rescue email is www.grovecityrescue@hotmail.com. There are two people interested in the old rig. The Department listed the rig for \$1500 or best offer. The Department's 44 Plan went well. Augustfest went well. They are covering for the football games. The lights in the hall are bad and need to be looked at by an electrician.

FIRE: Chief Jans reported that they had a fire last weekend. The owner had it put out before they got there. The breaks are stuck on the equipment van so they are getting them fixed.

NEW BUSINESS

BOLLIG – UPDATE: The MPCA is reviewing projects and prioritizing them. Grove City is attracting attention from various agencies. Based on the exploratory information that was down next to the sewer plant, the PSIG Grant Program thru PFA and Clean Water Legacy Fund is looking at approving Grove City to be eligible up to \$3M in grant funds. Grove City is fast tracking on the PPL list in applying for grants. The top ranked is at 69 and Grove City is at 61. The land purchase agreement for the new sewer ponds is progressing well; no red flags. There is an opportunity for Grove City to apply for a grant through the Small Cities Grant with DEED for up to either 51% or \$600,000. Councilmember Miller made a motion to approve Task Order No. 4 giving Bollig permission to apply for this grant. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Peterka. Motion carried.

Another member from Bollig came to discuss the Highway 12 project next summer. There was discussion on who should be responsible for any damage done to the detour on second street; MN Dot or the City. Bollig went over the agreement MN Dot proposed and needed approval of the agreement from the Council. Councilmember Miller made a motion to approve the agreement with MN Dot pending discussion on who will cover the repairs to second street. Councilmember Peterka seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015: The City Clerk asked the Council to approve the proposed budget for 2015 at the same \$195,000 levy amount as the previous two years. The final budget will be approved in December. She indicated that there were several issues to discuss with the Finance Committee and that the LGA for Grove City is going to increase by another \$3,912 for 2015. Councilmember Miller made a motion to approve the proposed budget for 2015 at \$195,000. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Peterka. Motion carried.

UNAPPROVED

APPLICANTS FOR THE UTILITY BILLING CLERK: The City Clerk informed the Council that there had been three applications for the position. The applications were in their packets. She asked the council to approve letting the Personnel Committee do the interviews and choose the candidate to hire so the person could start sooner rather than wait until the next council meeting. The motion to allow the Personnel Committee to hire the Utility Billing Clerk was made by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

SOUTH GROVE: Another refrigerator needs to be purchased and the Clerk recommended purchasing them from the same business which would make it easier in the future when needing to call someone out to fix them when needed. A motion was made by Councilmember Peterka to purchase another refrigerator from Halvorson in Spicer. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

OTHER: Jerry Reckdahl wanted it brought up again that the City population sign south of town has not been changed for ten years. The Council told Dustin Gaarder to order a new sign.

SHERIFF: It was asked of Officer Schute if the overnight parking sign was up and it is. The car that has been parking in the lot will be receiving a notice. The discussion went on to how the car should be towed and at whose expense. Councilmember Miller said he would talk to Atwater Ford about towing at the owner of the car's expense. Officer Schute went on to report that there had been 26 calls during the month. He told the Council that a white GMC pick-up, smaller version, was causing problems and driving reckless. He went on to say that there would be no more warnings for the owner of this vehicle and if anyone sees the owner driving around in this vehicle to call the Sheriff's Department.

PUBLIC WORKS: Gaarder told the Council that he reported the wrong amount for replacing the line on County 11 last month; it would actually cost more like \$10,500. The Council after some discussion decided to wait until the line goes out again to replace it. A new customer has requested to have a service line installed for a shed. The Council requested that a job order be written up and that the customer should be billed for this service. Gaarder went on to say that some wash outs by Gordy's elevator need repair and Gerald Whitcomb was coming to fix them.

Gaarder and the Clerk asked the Council for clarification on who owns the meters after they are installed and who is responsible for any repairs to the meters. The Clerk read a couple of emails from other clerks; some said the City paid for the original meter and some said they made the resident/business owner pay for the meter but then the meter belongs to the owner of the property and they are responsible for any damage to the meters. The Council agreed that the meters belong to the resident/business owner and they are responsible for any damage to the meters.

Gaarder ordered a V-plow from Atwater Ford. The cost is \$1,000+ more than a straight plow but they throw more snow, they help with drifting and you don't have banks. Atwater Ford had a deal in which we saved \$600 by going ahead and purchasing it. Miller said he talked to other people including a maintenance person from another town who had purchased a V-plow and said it was well worth the extra money.

DRANGE: Augustfest went very well.

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JOHANNECK: Received two calls after Augustfest that someone had the old Rescue rig out driving around town. The old rig is not insured.

PETERKA: Peterka reported that he went to his first CARE Board Meeting. Everything went smooth and the board was in good spirits. They are going to upgrade the computer system which is very old. The board has eight members and they are looking for one more. Most of the things discussed required some easy decisions and things went well.

MILLER: Miller asked about the customers the City has on payment agreements plan and if they were making those payments along with other customers and their outstanding bills with the Cold Weather Rule approaching fast. The Clerk said a few assessment letters will be going out shortly. Some do to foreclosures. She also talked about post-dated checks and said that she asked other clerks weather or not they accept them. Most said they do not. Councilmember Miller made a motion not to accept any more post-dated checks from customers. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Johanneck. Motion carried.

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

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