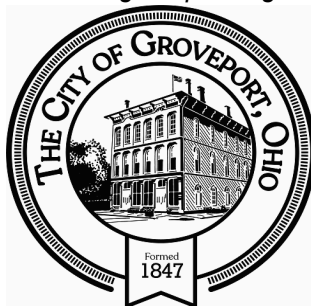


City of Groveport

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Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 12, 2022

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Committee of the Whole

Mayor Lance Westcamp

Council Members - Jean Ann Hilbert, Ed Dildine, Shawn Cleary, Becky Hutson, Scott Lockett & Jack Rupp

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Hilbert called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Staff Present: BJ King - Administrator, Kevin Shannon - Law Director, Jason Carr - Finance Director, Steve Farst - City Engineer, Casey Adams - Chief of Police, Ruthanne Sargus Ross - Clerk of Council, Mindy Kay - Assistant Clerk of Council

Guests Present: The Guest Book is on file with the Clerk of Council.

II. Moment of Silence

Committee Chair Hilbert asked everyone to join her in a moment of silence.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chief Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

Absent: 1 - Dildine

Present: 5 - Cleary, Hilbert, Hutson, Lockett, and Rupp

V. Approval of Minutes - November 21, 2022

The November 21, 2022 Committee of the Whole Minutes stand approved as submitted.

[#277-2022](#)

COTW Minutes 11.21.2022

Attachments: [COTW Minutes 11.21.2022.pdf](#)

VI. Business of Guests**A. Madison Township Fire Chief Robinson**

[#264-2022](#)

MTFD Monthly Report

Attachments: [MTFD Monthly Report.pdf](#)

Chief Robinson greeted Council and extended gratitude to the City of Groveport and the Golf Course for the use of three of the golf carts last weekend for the annual Santa Parade. The carts were very useful for the Madison Township Fire Department to be able to pass out

goodie bags to all the kids during the parade. He added that it was a pleasure working with Director of Golf Tom Walker and thanked him for his flexibility in scheduling pickup and drop-off of the carts. He went on to report that Engine 181, which is the truck that was struck in January on I-270, is repaired and now back in service at Station 181. The backup truck that we were using is now at Gender Road Station 182 and now needs repairs from an auto accident it suffered earlier in the year when someone ran into it while responding on a run. It will be repaired in Macedonia, OH with about a two to three month rebuild time. The new engine that had been ordered for Station 183 will be arriving tomorrow and all personnel will start training with it at the academy in order to get familiar with the vehicle before it goes into service. He then informed Council that medic truck 181 has a transmission issue. Apparently, this is a known issue for F550 trucks. It will thankfully be covered under warranty. However, because it is such a problem the transmissions are hard to come by. We currently have no time table as to when we might see that transmission replacement. Fortunately, we have a couple reserve medic trucks we can use for the time being. He concluded by thanking Council and the City of Groveport for inviting Madison Township Fire Department to deliver Mayor Westcamp and Santa to the Heritage Holiday, and for allowing them to pass out leftover goodie bags from the Santa Parade.

VII. New Business

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. 3rd Readings

None

B. 2nd Readings

[Ord. 2022-048](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SOLICIT BIDS AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR THE 2023 ANNUAL STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Sponsors: Hutson

Administrator BJ King informed Council that this is annual legislation we have to pass in order to authorize putting the street program out to

bid. We anticipate putting it out to bid in the first quarter of 2023. He said that currently City Engineer Steve Farst and Public Service Director Brian Strayer are looking at the streets to prioritize the list of things that need done. The final list will be presented to Council once that is done.

A motion was made by Council Member Hutson, seconded by Council Member Cleary, to recommend approval to the City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Cleary, Hilbert, Hutson, Lockett, and Rupp

[Ord. 2022-049](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SOLICIT BIDS AND TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR THE GOLF COURSE DRIVEWAY PROJECT

Sponsors: Lockett

Mr. King stated that this legislation goes along with Ordinance 2022-048, as it will be authorizing putting out to big along with the street program to repave the Golf Course driveway. He said that the driveway is in pretty bad shape. We have some proceeds left over from the issuance to do the cart paths that will be put towards this. Both the street program and Golf Course driveway projects will be put together as one bid.

Council Member Cleary asked if the Golf Course driveway would be made wider because it's currently kind of tight for two cars. Mr. Farst agreed the driveway is narrow and said there are a couple ways of looking at the issue. If you make it wider, people drive faster. He added that he could talk to Director of Golf Tom Walker to see if there have been any complaints. Mr. King stated that what this legislation entails is just repaving the current driveway. Mr. Farst then said that with it being an old road, we do not know what is underneath or what problems may arise by widening it.

A motion was made by Council Member Lockett, seconded by Council Member Rupp, to recommend approval to the City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Cleary, Hilbert, Hutson, Lockett, and Rupp

X. Financial Report

Finance Director Jason Carr reported that income taxes remain positive when compared to prior year. The general fund balance is positive as well. Through November the debt service fund has loaned a million dollars to the general fund, which in turn has been paid to the Groveport CIC for interior build out construction. We will make two

payments through the CIC before the end of the year which will then total \$1,850,000 of that 2.2 million that Council approved. That difference will be attributed to the remaining space next to Delaney's and accounted for once the City has a definite tenant. Mr. Carr then informed Council that the final principal and interest debt payment associated with the Recreation Center was paid in November 2022. Council Member Rupp stated that he was looking through the investments and maturity dates and knows we have a few investments maturing next year. He said he noticed some of the low percentages and proceeded to ask Mr. Carr if he thinks we will have a better climate next year if we reinvest some of those certificates of deposits and treasury bonds in terms of the interest rates. Mr. Carr directed him to the part of the Financial report that speaks to investments by type. He informed Mr. Rupp we have 50% of the City's total investment portfolio invested with a duration of 6 months or less. Any investments that will be maturing will not be invested past December 31, 2023. Investments that are greater than twenty-four months probably have three to four year maturities and were originally invested in late 2020 or early 2021. Mr. Carr then responded to Mr. Rupp that our current investments are short-term in duration. Mr. Rupp then asked if Mr. Carr thinks we'll have a higher interest rate at this point next year. Mr. Carr replied that we should and believes yields may top at 4.5% which is currently what the City is investing in today. Mr. Carr believes June of 2023 may be when the City will need to revisit its investment position in terms of duration.

[#266-2022](#)

Financial Report

Attachments: [Financial Report.pdf](#)

XI. Other Business**XII. Reports****A. Mayor - Lance Westcamp**

Mayor Westcamp spoke of the Heritage Holiday and said that was one of the best fall events that he's witnessed in our community. He liked the event being on Sunday at 3:00 and added that the skating rink was a big hit. He commended the efforts of Town Hall and Community Affairs Director Jessica Wyke. He then read a thank you note he received in the mail.

"Mayor Westcamp and City Council,

Thank you for the goodie bag. Knowing those in my adopted hometown still remember me makes it even better!"

- Charlotte Barker

The Mayor asked Police Chief Adams how many goodie bags were handed out. Chief Adams replied that Santa's lap was full from the moment the door opened for three hours until door closed. Mr. King said he doesn't know the exact number but it is quite a few and it is a really good thing to do for the community. He said he knows that people who receive them are very appreciative. The Mayor then wanted to publicly thank Paddock Pub owners Paul and Shelly Clark for the food they provided at the City of Groveport's Christmas luncheon. He concluded by thanking the Parks Department for all of their hard work on the Heritage Holiday event.

B. Administrator - BJ King

Administrator King said the holiday events over the last couple weeks have really set the mood for the season. To have all staff and Council Members together at last Friday's luncheon was such a good feeling and it's one of those things where you leave feeling proud. He added that it is such a great season that we're in and Groveport really does it right. He thanked Chief Robinson for escorting Santa during his busy time. He then informed Council that there will be several pieces of legislature coming up at the next Council meeting. Most will be referred to the Committee of the Whole. He then reminded Council about the Rules of Council Committee meeting at 6:00 that night.

[#265-2022](#)

Admin Report to Council December 12

Attachments: [Admin Report to Council December 12.pdf](#)

C. Director of Law - Kevin Shannon

D. Director of Finance - Jason Carr

Mr. Carr specified with Council that two of the ordinances coming up at the next meeting have to do with closing out the budget for 2022.

E. Chief of Police - Casey Adams

Chief Adams reported that next Monday the two newly recruited officers, James Reed and Freeman Nixon, will be coming from Mansfield PD to be sworn into Groveport PD. Their start dates will be the 22nd and the 29th of this month. He told Council that officer Adam Greter spoke very highly of both of the officers. He then spoke about Groveport Madison schools and said that he and Lieutenant Short had both attended several meetings. The school board and staff are currently coming up with ideas to resolve situations and lessen the

amount of calls for the police to come to the school. He said our officers have had to respond on a couple occasions lately but it hasn't been as nonstop as it was in early November. He then informed Council that Lieutenant Short has also been monitoring Groveport Elementary for the past couple weeks and making sure students are safely using the crosswalks. He went on to say that Detective Josh Gilbert had reported to him that the legislation on scrap yards has now been pushed through very quickly. Franklin County has a two million dollar grant and is going to develop a task force. They would like Detective Gilbert to help out and consult with them a few days a month.

Council had no further questions for Chief Adams, however Mayor Westcamp wanted to add that we received a grant for Town Hall from Berkshire Hathaway Company. Council member Rupp asked if the grant money could be used for Safety Town with the PD and Fire Department. Administrator King replied that this grant is earmarked for something else but to his understanding, they make these grants available on a regular basis. If there was something that we wanted to do with Safety Town, the next grant could be used for that. Director Carr added that the original idea was for them to sponsor the Fourth of July, but when we met with them they said they want to do things that are more involved with the community. He explained that we fill out grant applications to them with different ideas on it and believes that Safety Town would probably be something they'd want to provide grant money for.

[#267-2022](#)**PD Council Report**

Attachments: [PD Council Report.pdf](#)
[Letters - Boso - Short 12.5.22.pdf](#)

F. Development Director - Jeff Green**G. Public Service Director - Brian Strayer****[#268-2022](#)****PW Council Report**

Attachments: [PW Council Report.pdf](#)

H. Chief Building Official - Stephen Moore**[#269-2022](#)****B&Z Council Report**

Attachments: [B&Z Council Report.pdf](#)

I. Director of Golf - Tom Walker

[#270-2022](#) GOLF Council Report

Attachments: [GOLF Council Report.pdf](#)

J. Recreation Director - Seth Bowers

[#271-2022](#) REC Council Report

Attachments: [REC Council Report.pdf](#)

K. Community Affairs Director - Jessica Wyke

[#272-2022](#) CA Council Report

Attachments: [CA Council Report.pdf](#)

L. City Engineer - Steve Farst

[#273-2022](#) ENG Council Report

Attachments: [ENG Council Report.pdf](#)

M. Director of Transportation - Bob Dowler

[#274-2022](#) DOT Council Report

Attachments: [DOT Council Report.pdf](#)

N. Personnel Director - Joyce Myers

[#275-2022](#) HR Council Report

Attachments: [HR Council Report.pdf](#)

O. Director of Information Technology - Trevor Swackhamer

[#276-2022](#) IT Council Report

Attachments: [IT Council Report.pdf](#)

P. Clerk of Council - Ruthanne Sargus Ross

Q. Council Members - Jean Ann Hilbert, Ed Dildine, Shawn Cleary, Becky Hutson, Scott Lockett and Jack Rupp

Council Member Rupp spoke of the school district board meetings he has been attending and wanted to say that what goes on in the schools really effects how people view us as a community. He said we need to stay informed and watch what's going on. He said he is going to try to attend as many of the board meetings as possible. Committee Chair Hilbert told him to inform Council if there were any meetings he could not attend, as other Council members could go in his place. Council Member Hutson commented on how nice the Heritage Holiday was and said she really liked the time change to Sunday. She said it really is a whole family event now.

Council Member Cleary wanted to inform Council that at the next Council Meeting he will be honoring Firefighter John Jones, who has done a great job for Firefighters for Kids and has recently fallen into bad health. He said that Ohio State Representative Richard Brown is going to be giving a reading and invited everyone to bring toys for the kids in honor of Firefighter Jones.

XIII. Adjournment

Council Member Cleary made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hutson , to adjourn at 5:59 p.m. All in favor stated AYE, None Opposed. Motion passed.

Jean Ann Hilbert, President Pro Tem

Mindy Kay
Assistant Clerk of Council

PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM. A
RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S
OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.