

City of Groveport

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Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 14, 2014

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

City Council

Mayor Lance Westcamp

*Council Members - Ed Rarey, Jean Ann Hilbert,
Donna Drury, Ed Dildine, Shawn Cleary & Becky Hutson*

I. Call to Order

by Mayor Westcamp at 6:30 p.m.

Staff Present: Kevin Shannon - Law Director, Jeff Green - Director of Finance, Ralph Portier - Chief of Police

Not Present: Marsha Hall - Administrator

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

II. Moment of Silence

The Mayor asked everyone to join him in a moment of silence.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chief Portier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

Present: 6 - Council Member Cleary, Council Member Dildine, Council Member Drury, Council Member Hilbert, Council Member Hutson, and Council Member Rarey

V. Approval of Minutes - June 23, 2014

Approved as submitted.

#152-2014 Council Meeting Minutes 6-23-14

Attachments: [Council Meeting Minutes 6-23-14.pdf](#)

VI. Business of Guests**1. Cheryl Winter**

Cheryl Winter of 391 Cron Drive addressed Council with her concerns regarding cars parking on Cron Drive. She referred to the petition every resident on Cron Drive had signed outlining the problems and concerns. Safety is the main concern of the residents, emergency vehicles would not have any access to the homes during emergencies. The sign at the front of Cron Drive

reads "No Outlet", which means there is no City provided outlet nor a school provided outlet. Leaving the only way out for vehicles is to turn around in private driveways. Personal property is getting damaged when the vehicles hit mailboxes, vehicles and such. Litter and trash is left behind and homeowners witnessing a vehicle hitting a mailbox or fence, are met with the person yelling at them. Signs placed on the homeowners' property reading "no trespassing"; "no parking" or "no turn around" get torn down and/or ignored. Council Member Hilbert expressed her appreciation for the petition and apologized for the situation the homeowners are experiencing. Over the years residents have talked with the Groveport Youth Athletic Association (GYAA) coaches and ballplayers to ask people to move their vehicles off Cron Drive. Whenever a coach would approach the vehicle owners, some would respond to him by yelling, screaming and throwing their gear down to the ground. If they want to address where people park, Ms. Winter would think they would need to go to the City's Building & Zoning Department to look into access from Wirt Road. There is plenty of parking behind the schools. Council Member Cleary commented on the fence that used to run along the area with a gap at the very end. Ms. Winter referred to the no parking signs at the soccer fields on SR 317 and Bixby, the City had the signs installed because people were driving through the grass. Mayor Westcamp referred the matter to Law Director Shannon. Mr. Shannon advised there is an Ordinance on tonight for consideration for emergency action by Council, which means they can consider passing it tonight. It addresses all the concerns you were very eloquently discussing with Council earlier. Mr. Shannon stated there is a subdivision regulation which reads that in all particular subdivisions where there is a pavement of 26', there is a requirement that they not be permitted to park on the hydrant side of the street, thus allowing emergency vehicles to get through. After looking into Cron Drive, we found the street has only 10' of pavement. There are two fire hydrants on the eastside of Cron Drive. Captain Kurt Blevins informed Council Chief Portier has charged him with overseeing and enforcement on the Cron Drive parking issues. Council Member Hilbert commented it is basically the end of baseball season now, but then a new season will start with the same issues. Captain Blevins commented it is best to get it resolved as soon as possible. Council Member Cleary commented the City could get the news of the new ordinance to

GYAA so they could post the information on their website along with the schedules, rain outs and general information. Council Member Dildine feels the City needs to send out official letters to the Board members of the GYAA and the schools. If it continues to be a problem for the residents, the City will take it farther administratively. Council Member Hilbert commented the Police Department will be issuing tickets. Mr. Shannon responded not only is there the ability to ticket but to tow as well. After discussion on the involvement of the schools and GYAA, Mr. Shannon clarified this is not solely about GYAA, it is about the fire department being able to have access to the fire hydrants on that side of the street. It is a very narrow stretch of pavement of 10'. To have people parking on that side of that street all the way up and down; aside from the horrible situation of people throwing their trash in residents' yards and tearing down signs; the City clearly has a safety issue that needs to be dealt with now. Mr. Cleary commented when cars pull through Cron Drive, go down the ditch and pull all the way towards the diamonds on the school's grounds, which is a matter for the school. Mr. Shannon advised it would be up to the schools to call the City and say people are parking on their property where they should not be parking. It is up to the schools to set the rules as it pertains to their property just like we are setting forth the rules as it relates to our property, which is the street. Mr. Dildine stated the City is addressing one part of the issue, but if they passed a right-of-way onto school property; there is only a 10' area there; they could still possibly cause the same problems. He wants letters sent to the school so they can address their portion of the issue, as we address our portion and, GYAA will have to address their end with their coaches, players and parents. Mayor Westcamp thanked everyone for their comments.

VII. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. 3rd Readings

ORD. 14-024

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 123.07, DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GROVEPORT

Sponsors: Cleary

Attachments: [ORD. 14-024 123.07 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

Law Director Kevin Shannon advised Council this ordinance gives the Administrator the additional power to scrap. On several occasions it has been more beneficial financially for the City to scrap an item than to try to sell it at auction.

The Clerk of Council read by title Ordinance No. 14-024. A motion was made by Council Member Hilbert, seconded by Council Member Dildine, to adopt. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Dildine, Drury, Hilbert, Hutson and Rarey

B. 2nd Readings

ORD. 14-025 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART NINE - STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE, TITLE FIVE - OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES, CHAPTER 941 PARKS, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GROVEPORT

Sponsors: Rarey

Attachments: [ORD. 14-025 Exhibit A .pdf](#)

The Clerk of Council read by title Ordinance No. 14-025.

C. 1st Readings

ORD. 14-026

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING PARKING AND AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION OF NO PARKING SIGNS ON THE FIRE HYDRANT SIDE OF CRON DRIVE IN THE CITY OF GROVEPORT, AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY

Sponsors: Cleary

Law Director Kevin Shannon stated this means if Council determines an emergency exists which could affect the health, safety and general welfare of the public, it has the authority under the law of the State of Ohio and the City Charter to enact legislation immediately. Meaning there is no ability for a referendum. Normally, citizens would have the opportunity within thirty days from passage of legislation to challenge its passage. In this situation, because of this being such a critical nature to the health, safety and welfare of the community, and Council has determined that as such, it has passed this legislation. After

the Mayor signs this Ordinance tonight it goes into effect. Therefore, providing the police department a tool to deal with a parking issue on a public street, where they had no tool before. Mr. Shannon responded to Ms. Winter's concerns about people still using Cron Drive to access the grass area to get to the fields at the school. Mr. Shannon stated the City has limitations as to our ability as far as the traveling on our roadway. It will be up to a private property owner to notify the City as to someone defacing or tearing up their property. Mr. Shannon will look into the signage regarding no driving on the grass at Cruiser Park, but he believes that was due to the fact that the City owns that park land and the large stretch of right-of-way is owned in part by Groveport and in part by the county. Anything in a right-of-way is City property, unless it is a part of the township and not the City, those right-of-ways are controlled by the county. Mr. Shannon provided Ms. Winter with his business card so the two of them could discuss the matter of the signs at Cruiser Park in further detail. Mrs. Hilbert advised Ms. Winter to please bring any further issues on the matter back to Council. Mayor Westcamp directed Finance Director Jeff Green to draft a letter to be sent to the school superintendent to advise him Council is displeased with the activities going on with Cron Drive.

The Clerk of Council read by title Ordinance No. 14-026. A motion was made by Council Member Hilbert, seconded by Council Member Cleary, to suspend the rules as to the three readings and the effective date. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Dildine, Drury, Hilbert, Hutson and Rarey

A motion was made by Council Member Cleary, seconded by Council Member Hilbert, to adopt as emergency legislation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Dildine, Drury, Hilbert, Hutson and Rarey

#153-2014 Cheryl Winter Petition

Attachments: [Cheryl Winter Petition.pdf](#)

ORD. 14-027

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ADD THE POSITION OF PROGRAM COORDINATOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Sponsors: Hilbert

The Clerk of Council read by title Ordinance No. 14-027. This Ordinance was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

RES. 14-008

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2015

Sponsors: Hutson

Attachments: [RES. 14-008 2015 Tax Budget attachment.pdf](#)

Law Director Shannon requested Council to consider making a motion to suspend the rules as to the three readings. Suspending the rules as to the effective date was not necessary as this Resolution pertains to appropriations.

The Clerk of Council read by title Resolution No. 14-008. A motion was made by Council Member Hilbert, seconded by Council Member Hutson, to suspend the rules as to the three readings. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Dildine, Drury, Hilbert, Hutson and Rarey

A motion was made by Council Member Hilbert, seconded by Council Member Hutson, to adopt. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Dildine, Drury, Hilbert, Hutson and Rarey

VIII. Reports

A. Mayor - Lance Westcamp

Mayor Lance Westcamp thanked the 4th of July Committee for the job well done, recognizing Larry Dowler as a committee member. There will be a follow up meeting. The weather couldn't have been better. Attendance was good and the event was well received. The Mayor commented on the amount of people from other communities who come to Groveport for the fireworks display.

The Mayor also thanked everyone involved and who participated in the Employee Family Fun Day. The weather did not cooperate but everyone he talked to said they had a good time. It was a record turnout for passes handed out to employees. He appreciates Council taking care of the employees of the City.

B. Administrator - Marsha Hall

Not present.

#154-2014 Adm Report to Council - July 14

Attachments: [Adm Report to Council - July 14.pdf](#)

C. Chief of Police - Ralph Portier

Chief Ralph Portier reported the department had ten arrests on July 4th keeping the department pretty busy. There might be a couple of negative outcomes and complaints on how the agency handled things, but the department will deal with any issues. A few runs to the areas of The Orchard, Elmont Place and downtown on reports of fireworks going off, two complaints were handled by the responding officers. There were no injuries. The Mayor commented other communities changed their fireworks displays to the same night as Columbus, but he does not feel Groveport needs to change their display night.

D. Director of Finance - Jeff Green

Director of Finance Jeff Green reported the audit is done and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) has been sent in to the State and in to the GFOA for review. We have the opportunity for the exit interview done every year if Council is interested. The date will be set at a later time. The City should be receiving awards from the state and GFOA for reporting excellence. At the same time they are trying to do the mid-year forecast, and plan to have something presented to Council next week at the Committee of the Whole meeting and do the tax budget at the same time. Anna Krigbaum and Amy Hartung have done a good job and Mr. Green asked Council to let the two of them know how much they appreciate them. He commented they are two of the hardest workers the City has and a lot of the time it goes unnoticed.

Council Member Cleary commented maybe we could get started on the budget earlier this year. Mr. Green stated he plans to have information out to the department heads for their spreadsheets the first of August, giving them time to prepare and have something ready for Council by early October.

E. Director of Law - Kevin Shannon

Law Director Kevin Shannon thanked Council for the renovation of the municipal building. To Marsha Hall and Jeff Green he wants to tell them he thinks moving the department down stairs is working very well. The Court, Legislation and Law departments all together is working great. He complimented Ruthanne Ross and Chelle Coleman for the great job they are doing and it has been a very positive transition all together.

F. Council Members - Ed Rarey, Jean Ann Hilbert, Donna Drury, Ed Dildine, Shawn Cleary & Becky Hutson

Council Member Dildine updated Council on the new City flags. A quote has been submitted to finance for a purchase order.

Council Member Hutson wanted to know how many days the pool has been over its capacity of patrons. Jeff Green responded Kyle Lund would be the person to have that information and Mr. Green will have the information for Mrs. Hutson for next week's meeting. She reported she has had contact with a long time resident who was quite unhappy being turned away at the pool entrance. When the pool is packed it becomes a security issue in its self. Mrs. Hutson informed everyone the situation with the resident was taken care of but possibly not to her complete satisfaction. Council Member Hilbert commented Mrs. Hutson is concerned with the residents who wanted to go to the pool but couldn't get in due to the number already there. Mrs. Hilbert commented the residents should be first and foremost. Council Member Dildine commented the lifeguards have to be able to make the determination as to the number of people they can safely handle. You can't hold a spot for a resident or a corporate resident in the hope they may show up. It is the number of patrons who are there at any given time. Council Member Cleary stated he went to the pool for a swim meet and was surprised to find there were only two teams in attendance. Mrs. Hutson commented she heard the day cares and day camps have to make appointments to attend the pool. Mayor Westcamp stated if buses are coming in, they are to call in ahead to make arrangements.

G. Clerk of Council - Ruthanne Sargus Ross

Nothing to report.

H. Standing Committees

Council Member Dildine informed Council on the Rules of Council Committee's second and final meeting held tonight. A draft will be presented on Monday night, July 21st for Council's consideration. There are a few minor changes, nothing earth shattering, just some clarification on some matters. Law Director Shannon advised what is generally done is to have the first reading of the resolution at the July 28th Council Meeting. There is some flexibility as it relates to the rules, Council can adopt the resolution that night if they feel comfortable in doing so. There will be a draft for Council to review, there are very few changes and Mr. Shannon will have a memo with the draft advising Council of those changes. The committee will get the red-line draft to them so if Council wants to, they can make a decision on the rules fairly quickly.

IX. Other Business

None

X. Adjournment

Council Member Cleary made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hutson to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Dildine, Drury, Hilbert, Hutson and Rarey

Lance Westcamp, Mayor

Ruthanne Sargus Ross, 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.