



Legislation Text

File #: Ord. 2020-028, **Version:** 1

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$3,200,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CURRENTLY REFUNDING (I) A PORTION OF BONDS ISSUED IN 2010 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING LAND AND INTERESTS IN LAND RELATING THERETO AND CONSTRUCTING AND RECONSTRUCTING BUILDINGS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS ON SUCH PROPERTY, AND ACQUIRING AND INSTALLING EQUIPMENT, FURNISHINGS AND RELATED APPURTENANCES THERETO; AND (II) NOTES ISSUED IN 2020 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNING, ENGINEERING, AND CONSTRUCTING VARIOUS WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, WITH RELATED SITE IMPROVEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND RETIRING NOTES PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR SUCH PURPOSE; AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, the City Council (the "Council") of the City of Groveport, Ohio (the "City") has issued bonds dated January 14, 2010, in the amount of \$4,465,000 (the "Outstanding Bonds") for the purpose described in the title of this Ordinance, of which \$2,650,000 in aggregate principal amount remains outstanding; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City has issued notes dated April 28, 2020, in the amount of \$560,000 (the "Outstanding Notes") for the purpose described in the title of this Ordinance and in anticipation of the issuance of the bonds herein described, which Outstanding Notes will mature October 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in view of currently prevailing lower interest rates, this Council has determined that it is advisable and in the best interest of the City to issue refunding bonds of the City to currently refund certain maturities of the Outstanding Bonds (the "Refunded Bonds"), and to retire the Outstanding Notes with the bonds herein described; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Director of the City (the "Finance Director") has certified to this Council that the maximum maturity of the bonds herein authorized cannot exceed the maximum maturity of the Refunded Bonds, with respect to those bonds allocated toward refunding the Refunded Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Director (the "Finance Director") of the City has certified to this Council that the estimated life of the improvements stated in the title of this Ordinance with respect to the Outstanding Notes (the "Project") which is to be financed with the proceeds of bonds hereinafter referred to exceeds five years, the maximum maturity of bonds being 40 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GROVEPORT, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO, A MAJORITY OF ITS MEMBERS CONCURRING:

Section 1. Issuance of Bonds. It is hereby declared necessary to issue bonds of the City in the principal sum of not to exceed \$3,200,000, which bonds shall be designated "City of Groveport, Ohio Various Purpose Refunding Bonds, Series 2020," or as otherwise determined by the Finance Director (the "Bonds"), for the purpose of (i) refunding the Refunded Bonds, and (ii) paying the cost of the Project.

Section 2. Terms of the Bonds. The Bonds shall be issued as fully registered bonds in denominations of \$1,000 or any integral multiple thereof, or as otherwise determined by the Finance Director; shall be numbered consecutively from R-1 upward, as determined by the Finance Director; shall be dated the date determined by the Finance Director and set forth in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer provided for hereinbelow; and shall bear interest, payable semiannually on such dates as shall be determined by the Finance Director and set forth in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer, until the principal sum is paid or provision has been duly made therefor. Interest shall be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

Section 3. Certificate of Fiscal Officer Relating to Terms of Bonds. The Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to execute of behalf of the City a Certificate of Fiscal Officer Relating to Terms of Bonds (the "Certificate of Fiscal Officer") setting forth the aggregate principal amount and the final terms of the Bonds, which aggregate principal amount and terms, subject to the limitations set forth in this Ordinance, shall be as determined by the Finance Director. The Certificate of Fiscal Officer shall indicate the dated date for the Bonds, the dates on which interest on the Bonds is to be paid (the "Interest Payment Date"), the purchase price for the Bonds (which shall be not less than 97% of the face value thereof), the maturity schedule for the Bonds, the interest rates for the Bonds (provided that the true interest cost for all Bonds in the aggregate shall not exceed 5.00% per annum, the optional and mandatory redemption provisions, if any, and such other terms not inconsistent with this Ordinance as the Finance Director shall deem appropriate.

Section 4. Redemption Provisions of the Bonds. The Bonds shall be subject to optional and mandatory redemption prior to stated maturity, as provided in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer. If optional redemption of the Bonds at a redemption price exceeding 100% is to take place on any date on which a mandatory redemption of the Bonds of the same maturity will take place, the Bonds to be redeemed by optional redemption shall be selected by the Bond Registrar (as defined hereinbelow) prior to the selection of the Bonds to be redeemed at par on the same date.

When partial redemption is authorized, the Bond Registrar shall select Bonds or portions thereof by lot within a maturity in such manner as the Bond Registrar may determine, provided, however, that the portion of any Bond so selected will be in the amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof.

The notice of the call for redemption of Bonds shall identify (i) by designation, letters, numbers or other distinguishing marks, the Bonds or portions thereof to be redeemed, (ii) the redemption price to be paid, (iii) the date fixed for redemption, and (iv) the place or places where the amounts due upon redemption are payable. From and after the specified redemption date interest on the Bonds (or portions thereof) called for redemption shall cease to accrue. Such notice shall be sent by first class mail at least 30 days prior to the redemption date to each registered holder of Bonds to be redeemed at the address shown in the Bond Register (as defined hereinbelow) on the 15th day preceding the date of mailing. Failure to receive such notice of any defect therein shall not affect the validity of the proceedings for the redemption of any Bond.

Section 5. Form and Execution of the Bonds. The Bonds shall express upon their faces the purpose for which they are issued and that they are issued pursuant to this Ordinance; and shall be executed by the Finance Director and the City Administrator of the City (the "City Administrator"), in their official capacities, provided that either or both of their signatures may be a facsimile. No Bond shall be valid or become obligatory for any purpose or shall be entitled to any security or benefit under this Ordinance unless and until a certificate of authentication, as printed on the Bond, is signed by the Bond Registrar as authenticating agent. Authentication by the Bond Registrar shall be conclusive evidence that the Bond so authenticated has been duly issued and delivered under this Ordinance and is entitled to the security and benefit of this Ordinance. The certificate of authentication may be signed by any officer or officers of the Bond Registrar or by such other person acting as an agent of the Bond Registrar as shall be approved by the Finance Director on behalf of the City. It shall not be necessary that the same authorized person sign the certificate of authentication on all of the Bonds.

Section 6. Payment of the Bonds. The principal of and interest on the Bonds shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America without deduction for the services of the Bond Registrar as paying agent. The principal of the Bonds shall be payable upon presentation and surrender of the Bonds at the principal office of the Bond Registrar. Each Bond shall bear interest from the later of the date thereof, or the most recent Interest Payment Date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, unless the date of authentication of any Bond is less than 15 days prior to an Interest Payment Date, in which case interest shall accrue from such Interest Payment Date. Interest on any Bond shall be paid on each Interest Payment Date by check or draft mailed to the person in whose name the Bond is registered, at the close of business on the 15th day next preceding that Interest Payment Date (the "Record Date") (unless such date falls on a non-business day, in which case the Record Date shall be the preceding business day), on the Bond Register at the address appearing therein.

Any interest on any Bond which is payable, but is not punctually paid or provided for, on any Interest Payment Date (herein called "Defaulted Interest") shall forthwith cease to be payable to the registered owner on the relevant Record Date by virtue of having been such owner and such Defaulted Interest shall be paid to the registered owner in whose name the Bond is registered at the close of business on a date (the "Special Record Date") to be fixed by the Bond Registrar, such Special Record Date to be not more than 15 nor less than 10 days prior to the date of proposed payment. The Bond Registrar shall cause notice of the proposed payment of such Defaulted Interest and the Special Record Date therefor to be mailed, first class postage prepaid, to each Bondholder, at such Bondholder's address as it appears in the Bond Register, not less than 10 days prior to such Special Record Date, and may, in its discretion, cause a similar notice to be published once in a newspaper in each place where Bonds are payable, but such publication shall not be a condition precedent to the establishment of such Special Record Date.

Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Section, each Bond delivered by the Bond Registrar upon transfer of or in exchange for or in lieu of any other Bond shall carry the rights to interest accrued and unpaid, and to accrue, which were carried by such other Bond.

Section 7. Appointment of Bond Registrar. The Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to serve as authenticating agent, bond registrar, transfer agent, and paying agent for the Bonds (the "Bond Registrar") or to execute on behalf of the Council a Bond Registrar Agreement with such bank or other appropriate financial institution as shall be acceptable to the Finance Director and the Original Purchaser, pursuant to which such bank or financial institution shall agree to serve as the Bond Registrar for the Bonds. If at any time the Bond Registrar shall be unable or unwilling to serve as such, or the Finance Director in such officer's discretion shall determine that it would be in the best interest of the City for such functions to be performed by another party, the Finance Director may, and is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with a national banking association or other appropriate institution experienced in providing such services, to perform the services required of the Bond Registrar hereunder. Each such successor Bond Registrar shall promptly advise all bondholders of the change in identity and new address of the Bond Registrar. So long as any of the Bonds remain outstanding, the City shall cause to be maintained and kept by the Bond Registrar, at the office of the Bond Registrar, all books and records necessary for the registration, exchange and transfer of Bonds as provided in this Section

(the "Bond Register"). Subject to the provisions of hereinabove, the person in whose name any Bond shall be registered on the Bond Register shall be regarded as the absolute owner thereof for all purposes. Payment of or on account of the principal of and interest on any Bond shall be made only to or upon the order of that person. Neither the City nor the Bond Registrar shall be affected by any notice to the contrary, but the registration may be changed as herein provided. All payments shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon the Bonds, including the interest thereon, to the extent of the amount or amounts so paid.

Any Bond, upon presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar, together with a request for exchange signed by the registered owner or by a person authorized by the owner to do so by a power of attorney in a form satisfactory to the Bond Registrar, may be exchanged for Bonds of the same form and of any authorized denomination or denominations equal in the aggregate to the unmatured principal amount of the Bonds surrendered, and bearing interest at the same rate and maturing on the same date.

A Bond may be transferred only on the Bond Register upon presentation and surrender thereof at the office of the Bond Registrar, together with an assignment executed by the registered owner or by a person authorized by the owner to do so by a power of attorney in a form satisfactory to the Bond Registrar. Upon that transfer, the Bond Registrar shall complete, authenticate and deliver a new Bond or Bonds of any authorized denomination or denominations equal in the aggregate to the unmatured principal amount of the Bonds surrendered, and bearing interest at the same rate and maturing on the same date.

The City and the Bond Registrar shall not be required to transfer or exchange (i) any Bond during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption of Bonds, and ending at the close of business on the day of such mailing, or (ii) any Bonds selected for redemption, in whole or in part, following the date of such mailing.

In all cases in which Bonds are exchanged or transferred hereunder, the City shall cause to be executed and the Bond Registrar shall authenticate and deliver Bonds in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance. The exchange or transfer shall be without charge to the owner; except that the City and Bond Registrar may make a charge sufficient to reimburse them for any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the exchange or transfer. The City or the Bond Registrar may require that those charges, if any, be paid before it begins the procedure for the exchange or transfer of the Bonds. All Bonds issued upon any transfer or exchange shall be the valid obligations of the City, evidencing the same debt, and entitled to the same benefits under this Ordinance, as the Bonds surrendered upon that transfer or exchange.

Section 8. Debt Service Levy. There shall be and is hereby levied annually on all the taxable property in the City, in addition to all other taxes and inside the ten mill limitation, a direct tax (the "Debt Service Levy") for each year during which any of the Bonds are outstanding, for the purpose of providing, and in an amount which is sufficient to provide, funds to pay interest upon the Bonds as and when the same falls due and to provide a fund for the repayment of the principal of the Bonds at maturity or upon redemption. The Debt Service Levy shall not be less than the interest and sinking fund tax required by Article XII, Section 11 of the Ohio Constitution; provided, however, that in each year to the extent that funds are available from other sources and are lawfully appropriated for the payment of the Bonds, the amount of the Debt Service Levy shall be reduced by the amount of such funds so available and appropriated.

The Debt Service Levy shall be and is hereby ordered computed, certified, levied and extended upon the tax duplicate and collected by the same officers, in the same manner, and at the same time that taxes for general purposes for each of such years are certified, extended and collected. The Debt Service Levy shall be placed before and in preference to all other items and for the full amount thereof. The funds derived from the Debt Service Levy shall be placed in a separate and distinct fund, which shall be irrevocably pledged for the payment of the interest and principal of the Bonds when and as the same falls due.

Section 9. Income Tax Pledge. The City hereby covenants, pursuant to Section 133.05(B)(7), Ohio Revised Code, to appropriate annually from lawfully available municipal income taxes, and to continue to levy and collect municipal income taxes adequate to produce, amounts necessary to meet the debt charges on the Bonds in each year until full payment is made.

Section 10. Sale of the Bonds. The Bonds shall be sold to a financial institution selected by the Finance Director to directly purchase the Bonds as identified in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer (the "Original Purchaser"), at the purchase price set forth in the Certificate of Fiscal Officer, plus interest accrued, if any, to the date of delivery of the Bonds to the Original Purchaser. The Finance Director and the City Administrator, or either of them individually, are authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the City a bond purchase agreement, term sheet, or other similar document (collectively, the "Purchase Agreement") with the Original Purchaser, setting forth the conditions under which the Bonds are to be sold and delivered, which Purchase Agreement shall be in such form, not inconsistent with this Ordinance, as the Finance Director shall determine.

Section 11. Escrow Fund; Use of Proceeds. There is hereby created and established, as an account within the Bond Retirement Fund of the City, a trust fund to be designated "City of Groveport - 2020 Various Purpose Refunding Bonds Escrow Fund" (the "Escrow Fund"), or as otherwise designated by the Finance Director, which account may be in the custody of a bank or trust company as escrow trustee, if desired. The portion of proceeds from the sale of the Bonds allocated to refunding the Refunded Bonds, except the accrued interest thereon, and premium thereon, if any, shall be deposited in the Escrow Fund, along with such funds, if any, as the Finance Director may transfer from the bond retirement fund. Such moneys deposited in the Escrow Fund may be (i) held as cash or (ii) used to purchase direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed as to payment by the United States of America of such maturities and interest payment dates and bearing interest at such rates as will, as certified by such independent public accounting firm as shall be acceptable to the Finance Director and the Original Purchaser without further investment or

reinvestment of either the principal amount thereof or the interest earnings therefrom, be sufficient to pay the interest on, and the redemption price (including any redemption premium) of, the Refunded Bonds on the earliest optional redemption date for the Refunded Bonds. The Finance Director is also authorized, if necessary or desirable to facilitate the refunding of the Refunded Bonds, to engage a consultant to verify the sufficiency of the cash or other obligations held in the Escrow Fund to refund the Refunded Bonds on such redemption date.

The Finance Director is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the City an Escrow Agreement (the "Escrow Agreement") with a bank or trust company to be selected by the Finance Director (the "Escrow Trustee"), setting forth the terms by which the Escrow Fund shall be held and disbursed, if the Finance Director determines that an Escrow Agreement is necessary or beneficial to facilitate the refunding of the Refunded Bonds. Such an Escrow Agreement shall be in such form, not inconsistent with this Ordinance, as the Finance Director shall determine.

The portion of proceeds from the sale of the Bonds allocated to refunding the Outstanding Notes, except the accrued interest thereon, and premium thereon, if any, shall be deposited in the bond retirement fund of the City and used to pay principal of the Outstanding Notes on their maturity date. Any accrued interest received from the sale of the Bonds shall be transferred to the bond retirement fund to be applied to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, or other obligations of the City, as permitted by law. Any premium received from the sale of the Bonds may be used to pay the financing costs of the Bonds within the meaning of Ohio Revised Code Section 133.01(K) or be deposited into the bond retirement fund, including the Escrow Fund contained therein, in the manner provided by law.

Section 12. Federal Tax Law Compliance. The City hereby covenants that it shall comply with the requirements of all existing and future laws which must be satisfied in order that interest on the Bonds is and will continue to be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, including without limitation restrictions on the use of the property financed with the proceeds of the Bonds so that the Bonds will not constitute "private activity bonds" within the meaning of Section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). The City further covenants that it shall restrict the use of the proceeds of the Bonds in such manner and to such extent, if any, as may be necessary, after taking into account reasonable expectations at the time the Bonds are issued, so that they will not constitute arbitrage bonds under Section 148 of the Code and the regulations prescribed thereunder (the "Regulations").

The Finance Director, or any other officer, including the City Administrator, is hereby authorized and directed (a) to make or effect any election, selection, designation, choice, consent, approval or waiver on behalf of the City with respect to the Bonds as permitted or required to be made or given under the federal income tax laws, for the purpose of assuring, enhancing or protecting favorable tax treatment or the status of the Bonds or interest thereon or assisting compliance with requirements for that purpose, reducing the burden or expense of such compliance, reducing any rebate amount or any payment of penalties, or making any payments of special amounts in lieu of making computations to determine, or paying, any excess earnings as rebate, or obviating those amounts or payments, as determined by the Finance Director, which action shall be in writing and signed by the Finance Director, or any other officer, including the City Administrator, on behalf of the City; (b) to take any and all actions, make or obtain calculations, and make or give reports, covenants and certifications of and on behalf of the City, as may be appropriate to assure the exclusion of interest from gross income and the intended tax status of the Bonds; and (c) to give an appropriate certificate on behalf of the City, for inclusion in the transcript of proceedings, setting forth the facts, estimates and circumstances, and reasonable expectations of the City pertaining to Section 148 and the Regulations, and the representations, warranties and covenants of the City regarding compliance by the City with Sections 141 through 150 of the Code and the Regulations.

The Finance Director shall keep and maintain adequate records pertaining to investment of all proceeds of the Bonds sufficient to permit, to the maximum extent possible and presently foreseeable, the City to comply with any federal law or regulation now or hereafter having applicability to the Bonds which limits the amount of bond proceeds which may be invested on an unrestricted yield or requires the City to rebate arbitrage profits to the United States Department of the Treasury. The Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to file such reports with, and rebate arbitrage profits to, the United States Department of the Treasury, to the extent that any federal law or regulation having applicability to the Bonds requires any such reports or rebates.

Section 13. Transcript of Proceedings; Execution of Additional Documents. The officer having charge of the minutes of the Council and any other officers of the Council, or any of them individually, are hereby authorized and directed to prepare and certify a true transcript of proceedings pertaining to the Bonds and to furnish a copy of such transcript to the Original Purchaser. Such transcript shall include certified copies of all proceedings and records of the Council relating to the power and authority of the City to issue the Bonds and certificates as to matters within their knowledge or as shown by the books and records under their custody and control, including but not limited to a general certificate of the Clerk of Council and a no-litigation certificate of the City Administrator and the Finance Director, and such certified copies and certificates shall be deemed representations of the City as to the facts stated therein.

The Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to take such action and to execute and deliver, on behalf of this Council, such additional instruments, agreements, certificates, and other documents as may be in his discretion necessary or appropriate in order to carry out the intent of this Ordinance. Such documents shall be in the form not substantially inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance, as he in his discretion shall deem necessary or appropriate.

Section 14. Appointment of Bond Counsel and Municipal Advisor. The Council hereby approves the appointments of

the law firm of Bricker & Eckler LLP to serve as bond counsel and Bradley Payne Advisors, LLC to serve as a municipal advisor to the City with respect to the issuance of the Bonds. The respective fees to be paid to such firms shall be subject to review and approval by the Finance Director and shall not exceed the fees customarily charged for such services.

Section 15. Satisfaction of Conditions for Bond Issuance. It is hereby found and determined that all acts, conditions and things necessary to be done precedent to and in the issuing of the Bonds in order to make them legal, valid and binding obligations of the City have happened, been done and been performed in regular and due form as required by law; that the faith, credit and revenue of the City are hereby irrevocably pledged for the prompt payment of the principal and interest thereof at maturity; and that no limitation of indebtedness or taxation, either statutory or constitutional, has been exceeded in issuing the Bonds.

Section 16. Compliance with Open Meeting Requirements. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 17. Filing of Bond Ordinance. The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this Ordinance to the County Auditor of Franklin County, Ohio.

Section 18. Effective Date. That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto which are made a part hereof, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force at the earliest date permitted by law.

Lance Westcamp, Mayor

Ruthanne Sargus Ross, CMC
Clerk of Council

Approved as to form:

Kevin C. Shannon, Law Director