

**GROVE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023
4:30 PM**

The Grove City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 4:30 PM with Mayor Ed Trumbull, presiding. Members present were Steven Thomas, Andy Stewart, Marty Dyer, and Ivan Devitt. Also present was City Manager, Debbie Bottoroff; City Attorney, Darren Cook; Public Works Director, Deric Douthit; Human Resources Director, Kristi Ford; and Municipal Clerk, Laura Davila.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Trumbull read a Proclamation in its entirety proclaiming October 'Domestic Violence Awareness Month.'

Herb Manning respectfully addressed the council regarding the Vacation Rental Home Regulations. Manning reported that the Grove/Grand Lake Area has over 500 Vacation Rental Homes, but only 40 of those properties are in Grove. Manning reported he has several Vacation Rental Properties in Grove and paid approximately \$50,000 in hotel taxes last year. He reported that he has had several complaints filed by his neighbors on Leisure Lane related to violation of the number of vehicles and trailers allowed to be parked on the property. The complaints have resulted in him being issued citations.

Dustin Haffner respectfully addressed the council regarding the Vacation Rental Home on Leisure Lane owned by Herb Manning. He stated that he follows the procedure to report complaints and violations. He asked the council to consider the residents who live next to the vacation rental homes and addressed that the council had previously discussed the regulations regarding parking.

Thomas made the motion to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2023, Special Meeting. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Dyer made the motion to approve the Purchase Order Register. Seconded by Thomas. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to an Ordinance of The City of Grove, Oklahoma, relating to the imposition of a city excise tax (sales tax) of six tenths of one percent (.60%) (In addition to any and all other excise taxes now in force) to be levied upon the gross proceeds or gross receipts derived from all sales taxable under the Oklahoma sales tax code providing for the use of the proceeds of said excise tax for capital expenditures in connection with the acquiring, construction, furnishing and equipping of a new fire station and a new police state; providing for the April 1, 2024, effective date and a March 31, 2039 termination date of said excise tax; providing for subsisting state permits; providing for payment of tax; providing that the tax is in addition to taxes currently levied; incorporating certain provisions of prior city ordinances; providing for amendments to this ordinance; providing that the provisions of this ordinance are cumulative and in addition to any and all taxing provisions of other ordinance; providing for severability of provisions; and containing other provisions related thereto. Staff reported that several public meetings and guided tours of the facilities have been held, and a survey was posted on-line with several citizens responding. During the meetings and responses of the survey, it was a consensus of the citizens of Grove that there is a need for new Public Safety facilities and the best option to pay for facilities is through a sales tax, not a property tax. Devitt made the motion to approve the Ordinance authorizing and calling of a special election as discussed. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve a resolution authorizing the calling and holding of a special election in the City of Grove, Oklahoma on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the registered qualified electors of said city the question of approval or rejection of Ordinance No. 839 of the city relating to the levy and collection of an additional sixth tenths of one percent (0.60%) excise tax (sales tax) to be used to fund capital expenditures in connection with the acquiring, constructing, furnishing and equipping of a new fire station and an new police station (in addition to any and all other excise taxes now in force), all as more specifically set forth in ordinance NO. 839; and containing other provisions related thereto. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Devitt made the motion to approve an Agreement with Grove Public Schools to use the city owned U12 and U19 Soccer Fields located at the Sports and Recreation Complex. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to a Tournament Host Agreement, with MLFLW, LLC to host the Phoenix Bass Fishing League (BFL) Tournament at Wolf Creek Park, Grand Lake O' the Cherokees, Grove, OK on February 10, 2024. Staff reported MLF-BFL Okie Division tournament stop #5, would like to end their season at Grand Lake/ Wolf Creek Park February 10, 2024. This tournament will average between 175-200 boats. The City of Grove would host this event for the amount of \$3000, and the CTB will pay for the Complimentary (4) rooms for 2 nights. Devitt made the motion to approve the Tournament Host Agreement with MLFLW, LLC. Seconded by Thomas. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to a Tournament Host Agreement with World Fishing Tour (WFT) to host a multi-day tournament at Wolf Creek Park, Grand Lake o' the Cherokees, Grove, OK, - February 17-24, 2024. Convention and Tourism Director Brent Malone reported that this is a reentry format and the only one of its kind. If you do not succeed on the first day you can reenter the tournament for as many days as you would like. This multi day tournament will keep people throughout the week trying to qualify for the last day of competition. Devitt made the motion to approve the Tournament Host agreement with World Fishing Tour (WFT). Seconded by Thomas. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to a tournament Host Agreement with MLFLW, LLC to host a Toyota Series at Wolf Creek Park, Grand Lake o' the Cherokees, Grove, OK April 11-13, 2024. Staff reported that MLF Toyota Plains Division #2, would like to bring their tournament to Grand Lake/Wolf Creek Park April 11-13th, 2024. This tournament will average between 175-200 boats. Devitt made the motion to approve the tournament Host Agreement with MLFLW, LLC. Seconded by Thomas. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to a Site Agreement with Midwest Fish Tournaments, LLC to host the Big Bass Bash Tournament at Wolf Creek Park, Grand Lake o' the Cherokees, Grove, OK, June 1-2, 2024. Staff reported the Big Bass Bash has been coming to the lake for several years and has a huge economic impact, bringing roughly 600 boats from all over the country. Devitt made the motion to approve the Site Agreement with Midwest Fish Tournaments, LLC. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to a Host Agreement with MLFLW, LLC to host a Phoenix Bass Fishing League (BFL) Tournament at Wolf Creek Park, Grand Lake o' the Cherokees, Grove, OK, September 14-15, 2024. Staff reported that MLF_BFL Okie Division tournament stop #5, would like to end their season here with their Championship Super tournament at Grand Lake/ Wolf Creek Park September 14-15, 2024. This tournament will average between 125-150 boats. Devitt made the motion to approve the Host Agreement with MLFLW, LLC as presented. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to a Memorandum of Understanding with Cherokee Nation and City of Grove/Emergency Management. Emergency Management Director Frank Close reported this MOU is for the \$50,000 Cherokee Nation Partners ARPA grant that Cherokee Nation is giving to all the emergency service agencies. Devitt made the motion to approve the memorandum of understanding with Cherokee Nation. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull opened the floor with respect to approval of a Resolution selecting a bridge Inspector as required by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT). Staff reported the City of Grove is responsible for the maintenance, safety and inspection of five (5) bridges located within the corporate limits. Staff recommends using the same contractor as Delaware County. Devitt made the motion to approve a resolution selecting a Bridge Inspector as required by the ODOT. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

STAFF REPORTS:

Bottoroff reported that a big 'Thank YOU' goes out to the members of the Grove Garden Club for the many years they designed and maintained the flower beds at the Grove community Center. The club members will continue to provide ideas, but they will no longer be maintaining the beds. They will be greatly missed.

WARD REPORTS:

Trumbull thanked the Buildings and Grounds crews for cleaning up the dead foliage and shrubs on Highway 59. He also thanked the Boy Scouts and Leadership group for coming out to the City Council meeting.

Stewart expressed his thanks for Deric and the streets crews on the street maintenance.

Devitt expressed his gratitude for the work GMSA crews did working through the night to repair a water line.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:05 PM Devitt made the motion for the Council to go into Executive Session:

1.) For the Purpose of Conferring on Matter Pertaining to Confidential communications between a public body and its attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the public body, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest, Pursuant to Title 25 O.S. Section 307. B.4. (Confidential Communication). Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

At 5:53 Thomas made the motion for the Council to come out of executive session. Seconded by Devitt. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

Trumbull announced that in regard to agenda item E.1 above mentioned. No action taken.

At 5:54 Devitt made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dyer. AYE: Thomas, Stewart, Dyer, Devitt, Trumbull. NAY: None. Motion Carried.