

City of Groveport

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Groveport, OH 43125
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Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 27, 2026

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

City Council

Mayor Lance Westcamp

*Council Members - Shawn Cleary, Jean Ann Hilbert, Scott Lockett, Abdullah
Ansar-Barsa, Karen Fraser, Jamie Hise*

I. Call to Order

Mayor Lance Westcamp called the City Council meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Staff Present: BJ King - Administrator, Kevin Shannon - Law Director, Jason Carr - Director of Finance, Kurt Blevins - Acting Chief of Police, Michael Loges - Development Director, Mike Poirier, Chief Building Official, Mindy Kay - Clerk of Council

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

Acting Chief Blevins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

Present: 6 - Shawn Cleary, Jean Ann Hilbert, Scott Lockett, Abdullah Ansar-Barsa, Karen Fraser, and Jamie Hise

V. Approval of Minutes

The April 13, 2026 City Council Minutes stand approved as submitted.

[#092-2026](#) April 13, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [2026.04.13 City Council Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

VI. Business of Guests**A. Sean Sprouse**

Sean Sprouse addressed Council regarding permit fees for work being undertaken at 2600 London Groveport Road, a property he owns. Mr. Sprouse contended that his planned scope of work - replacement of existing rubber membrane roofing on multiple buildings and installation of a continuous exterior weather-resistive barrier membrane (Tyvek and metal rain-shield cladding) on buildings A through G - should be classified and permitted under the "membrane" category of the City's commercial building permit application (Sections D and E of the fee schedule), rather than as a general commercial alteration under Section

A. He presented documents, including plans stamped by a licensed Ohio architect, asserting that the Ohio Building Code defines his scope of work as a membrane assembly. Mr. Sprouse argued that the total project cost was approximately \$15,000, and that the fees being assessed amounted to approximately \$6,000, compared to what he characterized as a much lower fee if classified as a membrane.

Chief Building Official Mike Poirier responded that Groveport's fee schedule is governed by municipal ordinance, not the Ohio Building Code, and that by longstanding practice and ordinance, all commercial alterations regulated by the Ohio Building Code - including roofing and siding replacement - are assessed under Section A of the building and plan examination fee schedules. He further clarified that Section D of Plans Examination Fees and Section E of Building Permit Fees in the fee schedule originate from a 2008 city ordinance (§1321.22) specifically addressing tents, membrane structures, awnings, and canopies - i.e., fabric or plastic-supported freestanding structures - and were never intended to apply to roofing and siding work on permanent buildings. He noted that the City's current practice is to charge only the base fee for such projects without breaking down costs per unit or per square foot, which already represents a more favorable interpretation for the applicant.

City Administrator BJ King clarified that the matter was directed to Council because neither the Chief Building Official nor the City Administrator has authority to modify or waive established fees; any change to the fee structure requires Council to direct the Director of Law to draft legislation amending the applicable ordinance. Law Director Kevin Shannon confirmed this, noting that the only path forward for the applicant - if seeking a fee adjustment - would be a Council-directed ordinance or resolution.

Mr. Sprouse ultimately requested that Council either approve his application as submitted under the membrane classification, or direct staff to waive the assessed fees. Administrator King recommended that Council stand firm on the existing fee determination as calculated by the Chief Building Official. No Council Member made a motion to direct staff to draft legislation to waive or modify the fees. The matter was thus resolved in favor of the City's assessed fee structure, and Mr. Sprouse was informed that his recourse, should he disagree, would be outside the Council process.

VII. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. 3rd Readings

B. 2nd Readings**C. 1st Readings**[Ord. 2026-016](#)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A VARIANCE AS TO THE PERMITTED USES IN THE ESTABLISHED ZONING DISTRICT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6027 GROVEPORT ROAD, PARCEL NO. 185-000916, CURRENTLY ZONED COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (CC), SOLUTIONS STAFFING, APPLICANT

Sponsors: Hise

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-016 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was referred to the Planning & Zoning Commission

[Ord. 2026-017](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING GROVEPORT CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTIONS 123.03, 145, AND 1321.27 TO SET CREDIT CARD CONVENIENCE FEES FOR PAYMENTS RECEIVED BY COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, THE RECREATION CENTER, AND THE BUILDING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT.

Sponsors: Hilbert

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-017 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

[Ord. 2026-017 Exhibit B.pdf](#)

[Ord. 2026-017 Exhibit C.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was referred to the Committee of the Whole

VIII. Reports**A. Mayor - Lance Westcamp**

Mayor Westcamp reported that final interviews for the Police Chief position are scheduled for Wednesday morning, with Council Member Cleary included in the interview panel. The Mayor indicated his intention to meet individually with the two finalists following the interviews and proposed scheduling a special Council meeting for Thursday at 5:00 PM to vote on the appointment, contingent on a suitable candidate being identified. Council confirmed availability for the Thursday meeting, with the understanding it could be cancelled if necessary. The Mayor encouraged anyone inquiring about the search to reach out directly, noting the names of the two finalists are available upon request.

B. Administrator - BJ King

Administrator King noted that upon the selection and hiring of the new Police Chief, staff intends to formally introduce the individual to the community through a public notice that explains the full selection process, emphasizing its open and transparent nature. Mr. King also acknowledged that Arbor Day had been a success and that a video recap had been released on City social media platforms.

C. Acting Chief of Police - Kurt Blevins

Acting Chief Blevins announced that the department's "Cram the Cruiser" food drive is scheduled for the upcoming Saturday, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at two locations: the Recreation Center and First Service Bank at 100 Main Street. He expressed appreciation for the assistance of Development Director Michael Loges in coordinating the event and invited Council members and the public to volunteer. Acting Chief Blevins also expressed confidence in the Mayor and the process being undertaken to select the new Police Chief.

D. Director of Finance - Jason Carr

Finance Director Jason Carr reported that he had placed a memorandum on the Mayor's desk summarizing the bond anticipation note issuance process, including pricing, competitiveness, and placement. He noted the memo serves as an informational summary for Council's reference.

E. Director of Law - Kevin Shannon**F. Development Director - Michael Loges**

Development Director Michael Loges had no formal report but responded to a question from Council Member Cleary regarding the soon-to-open daycare facility on Main Street. Mr. Cleary expressed concern about existing and anticipated traffic and parking conflicts on Main Street, particularly with the adjacent flower shop, and stated that had he been voting again, he would have voted against the project given current traffic conditions.

Mr. Loges recounted that he and Chief Building Official Mike Poirier had met with the daycare's owners on January 14th of the current year to discuss site circulation and parking. The owners had provided a written site circulation and parking operation summary affirming they would not

allow patrons to block the public right-of-way or back onto Main Street. The facility has 10 on-site parking spaces, with 6 designated for staff and 4 for drop-off and pickup, and anticipates an extended drop-off window of 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Anticipated capacity is up to 80 occupants based on building code calculations, with 6 staff members. Mr. Loges noted the daycare's opening, initially targeted for the end of May, will likely be delayed to late June or early July.

Mr. Poirier acknowledged that the City's zoning code addresses parking for daycares differently than for schools, and that the facility met the letter of the code as written. He identified updating the zoning code - particularly aligning daycare parking requirements with those for schools - as a top priority once a Planning Manager is in place. Mr. Loges indicated that staff would offer to broker a conversation between the daycare and flower shop owners regarding any parking conflicts, while recognizing that enforcement options on private property are limited absent a violation.

G. Council Members - Jean Ann Hilbert, Shawn Cleary, Scott Lockett, Abdullah Ansar-Barsa, Karen Fraser, Jamie Hise

Mr. Jean Ann Hilbert had no formal report but remarked that the evening's discussion of permit fees offered useful perspective, noting that the City's current fee practices may warrant a broader review.

Mr. Scott Lockett expressed appreciation to Chief Building Official Poirier, Administrator King, and Law Director Shannon for their professionalism and decisiveness during the evening's permit fee discussion.

Mr. Abdullah Ansar-Barsa reported attending a farewell reception for the Dayton Police Chief during the previous week, noting it was a valuable opportunity to interact with community members, and expressed anticipation for the arrival of Groveport's new Police Chief.

Mrs. Karen Fraser shared that her daughter had recently completed Safety Town and that the experience had been well received. She expressed appreciation for the continued presence of police officers in front of schools and requested that, where possible, officers exit their vehicles to interact with students and parents, as this supports community relations. She also noted that traffic backing up when making left turns out of the elementary school at the end of the day has become a significant concern and asked whether officers could actively direct traffic to assist in clearing the queue.

Mr. Shawn Cleary reported that a Rules of Council meeting had been

held the evening before the regular council meeting, and that an additional session will be scheduled at 5:00 PM prior to a future Committee of the Whole meeting to further orient newer council members. Mr. Cleary also raised a logistics item regarding the need for three golf carts for the upcoming alumni event on May 16, and noted that arrangements for delivery and drivers would need to be coordinated with Mayor Westcamp. He additionally reminded staff and the acting chief of the importance of increased police visibility around graduation season, referencing personal experiences with the dangers of impaired driving among young people.

Mr. Jamie Hise raised the matter of formally naming and physically labeling the two recreation center buildings and the second-floor activity space, which had been previously discussed but not yet acted upon.

Following discussion, Council agreed that the two buildings - already informally designated Wertz Grove and Rary's Port - should be physically labeled with their names on their exteriors, and that the second-floor space in the Rary's Port building should be formally named the "Rary's Port Activity Center," with appropriate signage to be placed.

A motion was made by Council Member Hilbert, seconded by Council Member Hise, to approve physically naming and installing signage on the Rary's Port and Wertz's Grove buildings. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Hilbert, Lockett, Ansar-Barsa, Fraser and Hise

A motion was made by Council Member Fraser, seconded by Council Member Lockett, to approve changing the name of the second floor of the Rary's Port building from KidSpace to Rary's Port Activity Center. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Hilbert, Lockett, Ansar-Barsa, Fraser and Hise

H. Clerk of Council - Mindy Kay

I. Standing Committees

Mr. Cleary noted that he would be attending the Heritage Society meeting the following evening, where experts would be presenting proposals related to the cemetery.

IX. Other Business

Law Director Shannon requested Council consider going into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 121.22(G) to discuss

pending and/or imminent litigation to include the Mayor, Council, Administrator, Finance Director and himself.

A motion was made by Council Member Cleary, seconded by Council Member Hilbert, to go into Executive Session at 7:40pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Hilbert, Lockett, Ansar-Barsa, Fraser and Hise

A motion was made by Council Member Cleary, seconded by Council Member Hilbert, to come out of Executive Session at 7:57pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Cleary, Hilbert, Lockett, Ansar-Barsa, Fraser and Hise

X. Adjournment

Council Member Cleary made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hise to adjourn at 7: 57 p.m. All in favor stated AYE, None Opposed. Motion passed.

Lance Westcamp, Mayor

Mindy Kay, 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.