

City of Groveport

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Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 16, 2026

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Committee of the Whole

Mayor Lance Westcamp

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

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Cleary 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, Brian Strayer - Public Services Director, Mike Poirier - Chief Building Official, Steve Farst - City Engineer, Seth Bower - Recreation Director, Kelsey Valine - Aquatics Manager, Brent Ebright - Communications Manager, Casey Adams - Chief of Police, Mindy Kay - Clerk of Council

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

II. Moment of Silence

Committee Chair Cleary asked everyone to join him in a moment of silence.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Sergeant Bell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

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

V. Approval of Minutes

The January 20, 2026 Committee of the Whole Minutes were approved as submitted.

[#023-2026](#)

January 20, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [2026.01.20 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

VI. Business of Guests**A. Madison Township Representative**

Commander Nick Tiller from the Madison Township Police Department welcomed newly appointed members Mrs. Fraser and Mr. Hise. He announced that Madison Township would host their annual National Night Out on August 4, 2026, at Teays Middle School North. Commander Taylor expressed appreciation for the working relationship between Madison Township Police Department and the Groveport Police

Department and thanked the city for their support.

[#024-2026](#)

MTFD Monthly Report

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

VII. New Business

A. Potential Renaming of KidSpace

A discussion was held regarding potentially renaming KidSpace. Mr. Lockett opened the discussion by noting that some people think the current name doesn't accurately depict all the activities that occur in the space.

Mr. Hise inquired about what activities are currently held in the space. Staff clarified that in addition to children's activities, there are also adult classes including knitting and quilt-making, cooking classes, and a large meeting area. It was also noted that a children's museum is planned for the space, which will be part of an upcoming budget amendment.

Communications Manager Ebright suggested "Cultural Arts Center" as a potential new name since it would encompass both arts and culture programs as well as crafts and creativity activities. He noted that municipalities typically use "activity center" to focus on recreation or fitness.

Mrs. Fraser asked if the space would ever be open to community use beyond structured programs, similar to how the town hall is rented out. Administration indicated that this could be a possibility in the future.

There was consensus that the name "KidSpace" should be maintained somewhere within the facility, such as designating a specific room as KidSpace. Mrs. Grandstaff, a resident who initially raised the issue, explained that her concern was that the current name doesn't encompass the whole place, noting promotional materials say "adult programs held inside of KidSpace," which might discourage adults without children from participating.

Administration agreed to work with Council to develop name suggestions. Council decided to revisit the topic at the April Committee of the Whole meeting rather than soliciting community input through social media, which might generate too many varied responses.

B. Citizens Academy Recap

Rachel Ricker, Clerk of Court, presented a recap of the inaugural Citizens Academy program. She explained that the Academy was created to help residents better understand local government operations. The 8-week program allowed participants to meet with city leaders and staff to learn about the roles of different departments.

Mrs. Ricker shared positive feedback from participants, noting that every session provided new information and allowed citizens to get their questions answered. She emphasized how the Academy showcased the exceptional quality of city services relative to Groveport's size.

The presentation included the proposed schedule for the 2026 Citizens Academy, which would begin September 15 and run for 8 weeks on Tuesday evenings. Ms. Ricker suggested holding some sessions at city facilities like the police department to provide more engaging, hands-on experiences. She recommended limiting participation to city residents (not township residents) to avoid confusion about jurisdictional differences and suggested capping attendance at around 20 people to maintain quality interaction.

Council members expressed strong support for the program, with several noting they had received positive feedback from participants. Mrs. Fraser, who participated in the first Academy, shared that it gave her confidence to run for Council and a better understanding of city operations.

[#025-2026](#) Citizens Academy Recap

Attachments: [Recap Citizens Academy.pptx](#)

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. 3rd Readings

B. 2nd Readings

[Ord. 2026-003](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,300,000 IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING PART OF THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING A RECREATIONAL FACILITY CONSISTING OF PICKLEBALL COURTS, SHELTERS, BLEACHERS, AND RELATED EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS, ALONG WITH ANY NECESSARY SITE

IMPROVEMENTS THERETO, AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS

Sponsors: Lockett

Finance Director Carr provided a summary of ordinances 2026-003 through 2026-006, explaining that in 2025 the city issued \$6,000,000 in bond anticipation notes, and in 2026 will issue \$7,850,000. The increase is attributed to finalizing costs for the Wirt Road project and parking lot. He noted that they had previously issued \$1,300,000 in 2023 for golf course cart path improvements which were paid off in three years instead of the planned five years.

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

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

[Ord. 2026-004](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$1,175,000 IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING PART OF THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING AND/OR RECONSTRUCTING ONE OR MORE PUBLIC PARKING LOTS AND ADJACENT ALLEYS WITHIN THE CITY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PAVING, REPAVING, RESURFACING, CURBING, DRAINAGE, LIGHTING, AND ALL NECESSARY SITE IMPROVEMENTS AND APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS

Sponsors: Ansar-Barsa

A motion was made by Ansar-Barsa, seconded by Council Member Hilbert, to recommend approval to the City Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

[Ord. 2026-005](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$5,375,000 IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING PART OF THE COST OF STREET, WATER, SEWER, AND/OR STORMWATER PROJECTS ON, ADJACENT TO, OR IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO WIRT ROAD, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO (I) CONSTRUCTING, RECONSTRUCTING, GRADING, PAVING, REPAVING, ALIGNING, REALIGNING, CURBING, DRAINING, LIGHTING, AND RELATED STREET PROJECTS WITH ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, (II) ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, AND INSTALLING A NEW WATER MAIN AND ALL NECESSARY

APPURTENANCES THERETO, (III) ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, AND INSTALLING A NEW SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND (IV) ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, AND INSTALLING A NEW STORMWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM AND ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND ANY NECESSARY SITE IMPROVEMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS

Sponsors: Fraser

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

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

[Ord. 2026-006](#) AN ORDINANCE CONSOLIDATING UP TO THREE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE ISSUES OF THE CITY OF GROVEPORT, OHIO INTO A CONSOLIDATED NOTE ISSUE, AND ESTABLISHING THE TERMS OF SUCH CONSOLIDATED NOTE ISSUE

Sponsors: Hise

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

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

[Ord. 2026-008](#) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH TREMCO / WEATHERPROOFING TECHNOLOGIES, INC AND/OR KALKREUTH ROOFING AND SHEET METAL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF SECTIONS OF THE ROOF AT THE GROVEPORT MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE UNDER THE OMNIA PARTNERS COOPERATIVE PURCHASE PLAN, THEREBY WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING PURSUANT TO GROVEPORT CITY CHARTER SECTION 9.02(B)

Sponsors: Lockett

Public Services Director Strayer explained that this project would replace the remaining sections of the leaking roof at the golf course and was budgeted in the approved 2026 budget. He noted that the warranty would include 2 years on labor and 30 years on materials from the manufacturer.

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

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

X. Financial Report

Mr. Carr reported that income tax collections for January 2026 were down 3% compared to last year, with withholding collections up but net profit down due to lower estimated tax payments. He noted that the city reinvested about \$244,000, and that interest collections were lower due to changes in interest rates year over year, with an average investment portfolio return of approximately 3.8%. The general fund remains higher by \$6,900,000 compared to last year, with both recreation center and golf course collections showing positive growth year over year.

[#026-2026](#) Financial Report

Attachments: [Financial Report.pdf](#)

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

Mayor Westcamp confirmed that the Fourth of July celebration would proceed despite ongoing construction. The festivities will be relocated to Groveport Elementary/Central School, with fireworks still being launched from the same location as previous years. The celebration will be held on July 3rd with the parade on July 4th.

B. Administrator - BJ King**C. Director of Law - Kevin Shannon****D. Director of Finance - Jason Carr**

Mr. Carr informed Council that there would be ordinances next week to amend the original budget, and that the administration would request waiving the three readings.

[#027-2026](#) Finance Director Report

Attachments: [Finance Director Report.pdf](#)

E. Chief of Police - Casey Adams

[#028-2026](#) PD Council Report

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

F. Economic Development Director - Michael Loges

[#029-2026](#) EDEV Council Report

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

G. Public Services Director - Brian Strayer

Mr. Strayer noted that while the recent snowstorm required significant labor for snow removal, the city should have adequate salt supplies to make it through March.

[#030-2026](#) PS Council Report

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

H. Chief Building Official - Mike Poirier

[#031-2026](#) B&Z Council Report

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

I. Director of Golf - Danny Sorgini

[#032-2026](#) GOLF Council Report

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

J. Recreation Director - Seth Bower

Recreation Director Bower addressed concerns about the indoor pool temperature at the recreation center. He explained that the pool temperature is maintained between 84-86°F, which is a compromise to accommodate various users including lap swimmers, swim teams, and water aerobics participants. He noted that higher temperatures could pose safety risks for more active swimmers.

Mr. Bower also mentioned that the dehumidifier unit that controls air temperature in the aquatic center is being repaired, with work scheduled for March. This repair will improve the air temperature but not directly affect the water temperature. Aquatics Director Valine informed Council that the pool currently has three thermometers monitoring water

temperature, which averages 84.5°F.

Council discussed the balance between accommodating different user groups, with Mr. Lockett noting that the 1-degree temperature difference can be significant for seniors or those on blood thinners. Administration emphasized that they are operating within recommended safety parameters for multi-use pools, while acknowledging that specialized therapy pools typically maintain higher temperatures.

[#033-2026](#)

REC Council Report

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

K. Community Affairs Director - Jessica Wyke

[#034-2026](#)

COM Council Report

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

L. City Engineer - Steve Farst

City Engineer Farst reported that he participated in a meeting with ODOT, Canal Winchester, and Madison Township regarding plans to eliminate the left turn movement at the intersection of US-33 and Bixby Road for safety reasons. The closure would occur 12-18 months earlier than originally planned.

He also mentioned participation in a preliminary stakeholder meeting regarding a conceptual study for future improvements to Williams Road from SR-317 west to High Street, being conducted by the City of Columbus with federal funding support.

[#035-2026](#)

ENG Council Report

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

M. Director of Transportation / Senior Services - Bob Dowler

[#036-2026](#)

DOT Council Report

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

N. Personnel Director / Human Resources - Annie Short

[#037-2026](#)

HR Council Report

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

O. Director of Information Technology - Chris Snyder

[#038-2026](#) IT Council Report

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

P. Communications Manager - Brent Ebright

[#039-2026](#) COM Council Report

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

Q. Clerk of Council - Mindy Kay

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

Law Director Kevin Shannon requested Council to consider making a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G) to consider the employment of a public employee/official or the investigation of charges/complaints against public employees/officials, to include all members of Council, the Mayor, himself, the Administrator, and Finance Director.

A motion was made by Council Member Cleary, seconded by Council Member Fraser, to go into Executive Session at 6:49pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

A motion was made by Council Member Lockett, seconded by Ansar-Barsa, to come out of Executive Session at 7:58. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

XIII. Adjournment

Council Member Hilbert made a motion, seconded by Council Member Lockett, to adjourn at 7:58p.m. All in favor stated AYE, None Opposed. Motion passed.

Shawn M. Cleary, President Pro Tem

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.