

City of Groveport

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Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 26, 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 6:30 p.m.

Staff Present: Kevin Shannon - Law Director, Jason Carr - Director of Finance, Kurt Blevins - Acting Chief of Police, 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

Sergeant Westhoven 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 May 11, 2026 City Council Minutes stand approved as submitted.

[#124-2026](#)

May 11, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [2026.05.11 City Council Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

VI. Business of Guests

John Hougland addressed Council regarding Ordinance 2026-019 on its second reading. Mr. Hoagland expressed concern that rescinding the double permit fee for work commenced without proper permits sends the wrong message to contractors and homeowners, potentially encouraging them to begin projects without obtaining the required permits in hopes of avoiding fees-which can be significant especially when a licensed architect's drawings are required. He respectfully requested that Council reconsider and not adopt the provision.

Chief Building Official Mike Poirier was present and responded to Council's questions. Council Member Fraser asked how frequently work is discovered to have begun without proper permits. Mr. Poirier explained that Property Maintenance inspector Courtney Shisler actively

monitors for unpermitted work in the field, and the fire department also flags compliance issues during annual inspections. He noted, however, that the double fee provision has not been actively enforced during his tenure. The department's primary goal is compliance-ensuring work is inspected and completed to code-rather than penalization. He acknowledged that many homeowners are unaware their contractors failed to pull permits, and that doubling fees on large commercial projects could result in penalties in the tens of thousands of dollars for parties who may have had no knowledge of the requirement. Mayor Westcamp added that the Building Department is diligent in identifying unpermitted work through routine observation, citing hot water tank replacements and roofing projects as common examples.

Mr. Hougland returned to the podium to reiterate his concern that, absent a financial deterrent, some contractors will deliberately avoid the permitting process. Mr. Poirier acknowledged that those who intentionally circumvent the process and are never discovered would never be assessed any penalty regardless, and that the city's enforcement focus remains on achieving compliance once unpermitted work is identified.

Greg Miller addressed Council regarding traffic and signage issues arising from the first day of the Main Street construction closure. Mr. Miller described observing multiple vehicles attempting to turn at the Main and Front Street intersection despite signage, drivers making U-turns on side streets, and increased traffic cutting through an alley off Elm Street at unsafe speeds. He raised specific concerns about the absence of speed limit signage in the alley, the potential danger to children in the area, and the lack of detour signage on Front Street advising drivers not to proceed toward the closed section of Main Street.

Finance Director Carr responded that wayfinding signage had been ordered but delayed in delivery, and was expected to be installed by Dan Burke Construction the following day. He noted that City Engineer Steve Farst had independently observed the same traffic issues that day before leaving for urgent care, and that the city was aware of the concerns and actively working to address them. Acting Chief of Police Kurt Blevins indicated he would direct officers to monitor traffic in the affected area. Council Member Hise suggested the situation would likely stabilize as drivers adapted to the new pattern and as additional signage was posted.

VII. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. 3rd Readings[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](#)

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

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

B. 2nd 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 read by title

[Ord. 2026-019](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING GROVEPORT CODIFIED ORDINANCE SECTION 1321.10 TO RESCIND THE DOUBLE PERMIT FEE PROVISION FOR WORK COMMENCED WITHOUT NECESSARY PERMITS AND TO MODIFY THE REINSPECTION FEE

Sponsors: Lockett

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-019 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was read by title

[Ord. 2026-020](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART ONE - ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, TITLE FIVE- ADMINISTRATIVE, CHAPTER 137 -BOARD OF CEMETERY TRUSTEES, SECTION 137.02 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

Sponsors: Cleary

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-020 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was read by title

[Ord. 2026-021](#)

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2002-010, PASSED MARCH 11, 2002, AND THE DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY

Sponsors: Fraser

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-021 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was read by title

C. 1st Readings

[Ord. 2026-022](#)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A VARIANCE AS TO THE PERMITTED USES IN THE ESTABLISHED ZONING DISTRICT FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4601 HOMER OHIO LANE, PARCEL NO. 185-001429, CURRENTLY ZONED COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (CC), ARDENT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, APPLICANT

Sponsors: Hise

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-022 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

Mr. Hise noted that this property, formerly the old police station, had been occupied by a similar environmental remediation company approximately one year prior, and inquired why a new use variance was required. Mr. Poirier indicated that the applicant would be able to address that question directly when appearing before Council.

This Ordinance was referred to the Planning & Zoning Commission

[Ord. 2026-023](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO PURCHASE A VAC-CON SEWER JETTER FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT UNDER THE OHIO STATE TERM SCHEDULE COOPERATIVE PURCHASE PLAN, THEREBY WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING PURSUANT TO GROVEPORT CITY CHARTER SECTION 9.02(B)

Sponsors: Hilbert

Mrs. Hilbert requested that the ordinance be referred to the Committee of the Whole, noting a difference of opinion regarding the emergency declaration language in Section 2 and indicating that a proposed amendment to that section had been prepared. It was confirmed that the purchase, budgeted at \$125,000, was included in the current year's budget.

This Ordinance was referred to the Committee of the Whole

[Ord. 2026-024](#)

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE ANNEXATION OF 1.07 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PARCEL NUMBER 180-001126, LOCATED IN MADISON TOWNSHIP UPON ANNEXATION OF SAID TRACT TO THE CITY OF GROVEPORT (JACKSON B. REYNOLDS, III, PETITIONER)

Sponsors: Ansar-Barsa

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-024 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

Law Director Shannon informed Council that the applicant had requested the first reading of both annexation ordinances (Ord. 2026-024 and Ord. 2026-025) be postponed to the June 8, 2026 meeting, as a meeting regarding the potential development was anticipated in early June and additional information would be available at that time.

A motion was made by Council Member Ansar-Barsa, seconded by Council Member Hise, to postpone to a to the June 8th City Council Meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

[Ord. 2026-025](#)

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE ANNEXATION OF 3.18 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PARCEL NUMBER 180-001454, LOCATED IN MADISON TOWNSHIP UPON ANNEXATION OF SAID TRACT TO THE CITY OF GROVEPORT (JACKSON B. REYNOLDS, III, PETITIONER)

Sponsors: Cleary

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-025 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Cleary, seconded by Council Member Hilbert, to postpone to the June 8th City Council Meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

VIII. Reports

A. Mayor - Lance Westcamp

Mayor Westcamp recognized Community Affairs Jessica Wyke for her work coordinating the Memorial Day program, noting that the event went smoothly despite weather challenges that prevented the usual pre-event cemetery maintenance. He commended Property Maintenance Inspector Courtney Shisler and the Building Department for their ongoing diligence. The Mayor also announced that incoming Chief of Police mark McDonough will be officially sworn in on June 1st at 8:30 AM, with a second public ceremony planned for June 8th to accommodate guests traveling from Sidney, Ohio. Council members were invited to attend both events.

B. Administrator - BJ King**C. Acting Chief of Police - Kurt Blevins**

Acting Chief Blevins reported that he had met with incoming Chief McDonough earlier that day and expressed confidence that the Chief would be well received by both the department and the community. He also addressed a question from Council Member Hilbert regarding the permissibility of riding bicycles and electric bikes on sidewalks, clarifying that Groveport has no ordinance prohibiting the practice. Class 3 electric bikes, which travel at higher speeds, are technically not permitted on sidewalks, but enforcement is complicated by the difficulty of distinguishing between bicycle classes. Law Director Kevin Shannon indicated a willingness to review the topic further with the police department. Acting Chief Blevins also confirmed that additional police presence would be directed to the Main Street construction area to address the traffic concerns raised during the Business of Guests.

D. Director of Finance - Jason Carr

Finance Director Carr provided a detailed update on the Main Street construction project. Eastbound Main Street was closed as of that day and is expected to remain so until June 22nd, when it will reopen through July 6th. Beginning July 7th, westbound traffic will be reduced to one lane, with that phase of the closure running through approximately July 25th. Work scheduled for the current week included removal of one or two underground storage tanks and any associated contaminated soil, completion of sewer line work, and continued soil boring testing. Dan Burke Construction indicated the project was running close to schedule. Mr. Carr reiterated that wayfinding signage was on order and expected to be posted within days, and encouraged Council members to

communicate any citizen concerns to himself or Engineer Steve Farst as they arise.

E. Director of Law - Kevin Shannon

F. Development Director - Michael Loges

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

Mrs. Fraser recognized the Recreation Center staff, specifically Seth and Kenny, for their collaboration with Groveport Elementary School on "Rec Center Days" held during the last two days of the school year. She explained that the elementary school discontinued its annual zoo field trip due to busing costs and has, for approximately three years, partnered with the Recreation Center as an alternative, with students walking from the school to participate in organized activities including soccer, pickleball, fishing, and games. Council also briefly discussed the possibility of coordinating a student tour of Mott's Military Museum.

Mr. Cleary requested that the topic of data centers and electrical generating plants be placed on the agenda for the next Committee of the Whole meeting. He noted that surrounding communities, including Grove City, Ashville, New Albany, and Hilliard, have encountered significant challenges related to data center development, and expressed a desire for Council to become educated on the issue proactively-before any such proposal might arise in Groveport. He indicated he would ask Development Director Loges to compile background information. Mr. Cleary also commended the veterans and the Memorial Day ceremony at the cemetery.

H. Clerk of Council - Mindy Kay

I. Standing Committees

IX. Other Business

X. Adjournment

Council Member Cleary made a motion, seconded by Council Member Hilbert to adjourn at 7: 15 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.