

City of Groveport

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Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 13, 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: 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, Rachel Ricker - Deputy 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

Elijah from Boy Scouts Lithopolis Troop 241 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 March 23, 2026 City Council Minutes stand approved as submitted.

[#075-2026](#) March 23, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [2026.03.23 City Council Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

The March 23, 2026 City Council Minutes stand approved as submitted.

VI. Business of Guests

VII. Ordinances and Resolutions

A. 3rd Readings

[Ord. 2026-010](#)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A VARIANCE AS TO THE PERMITTED USES IN THE ESTABLISHED ZONING DISTRICT FOR THE PROPERTY

LOCATED AT 537 MAIN STREET, PARCEL NO. 185-000037 & 185-000159, CURRENTLY ZONED COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (CC), JOSH BISHOP, APPLICANT

Sponsors: Ansar-Barsa

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-010 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

Law Director Shannon requested a motion to amend the ordinance regarding the variance for 537 Main Street. The amendment modified section 1 to require that conditions set forth by the Planning and Zoning Commission be satisfied, including: all major repair activities conducted within enclosed bays, no outdoor storage of inoperable vehicles or parts, and requirement for site improvement plans reviewed by the City Engineer for any site changes. A new section 2 was added granting an area variance for parking space requirements.

A motion was made by Council Member Ansar-Barsa, seconded by Council Member Hise, to amend. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

A motion was made by Council Member Ansar-Barsa, seconded by Council Member Hise, to adopt. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

[Ord. 2026-015](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GROVEPORT MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER.

Sponsors: Fraser

Attachments: [Ord. 2026-015 Exhibit A.pdf](#)

Mrs. Fraser confirmed this is the same agreement as in the past for two school resource officers with no changes.

A motion was made by Council Member Fraser, seconded by Council Member Ansar-Barsa, to adopt. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

B. 2nd Readings

C. 1st Readings

VIII. Reports

A. Mayor - Lance Westcamp

Mayor Westcamp updated Council on the Police Chief search,

reporting they have narrowed it down to four applicants. An assessment is scheduled for Saturday for all candidates, conducted by an independent consultant. The process involves scenarios, online testing, and other evaluations in separate rooms. One internal candidate applied for the position. Following the assessment, the top two candidates will be interviewed. The Mayor expressed satisfaction with the independent nature of the process and hopes to have a new Police Chief by the first week of May.

B. Administrator - BJ King

Administrator King provided several updates: Tax day with free Kona Ice is Wednesday, April 15; Groveport Day is Friday with new logo materials being released; Arbor Day events are April 24th at 1:30 PM at Glendenning and 2:30 PM at Groveport Elementary/Groveport Park. He reported on Wirt Road construction challenges, including water issues that have been resolved and current soft soil problems. The contractor is working through these issues, and residents have been cooperative. Core samples and environmental assessments were completed before the project began, but underground conditions can vary. He offered tours of the construction site with proper safety equipment.

C. Acting Chief of Police - Kurt Blevins

Acting Chief Blevins announced plans for a food drive on Saturday, May 2nd at 100 Main Street at First Service Credit Union. Council discussed the possibility of moving the location to Kroger's parking lot for better visibility and convenience, with Administrator King agreeing to explore this option by Wednesday. Mr. Lockett complimented the police presence during school pickup and drop-off times, noting it effectively controls speeding.

D. Director of Finance - Jason Carr

Finance Director Carr reported on the annual school sharing payment delivered on March 31st totaling \$1,417,427.96, approximately 13% higher than last year due to new businesses and increased withholdings. Since 2005, the City has provided \$24,817,805 to the school district to compensate for property taxes abated in CRA warehouse areas. The payment comes from income tax withholdings from employees at these locations.

E. Director of Law - Kevin Shannon

Law Director Shannon reported obtaining a final injunction on March 24th against 350 Clark Court regarding the RV situation. The

injunction prevents the RV from returning to the property or being used for habitation anywhere within city limits, with provisions for seizure if violations occur.

F. Development Director - Michael Loges

Development Director Loges reported on property tax abatement activities, noting they receive annual reports from about 80 abated properties. He highlighted successful job creation payments, particularly noting KDC/One now employs over 350 people and is performing exceptionally well. Weatherables also received a payment. He promoted Groveport Day with about ten Main Street businesses participating.

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

Mrs Fraser Announced a color run by the three Groveport Madison Middle Schools on Friday, May 1st at the Rec Center around 3:00 PM to bring schools together before high school. She requested council participation in throwing color onto students. She also attended her first school board meeting and reported they seem supportive of holding the Fourth of July celebration at the middle school property.

Mr. Lockett complimented the City's beautiful flowers and landscaping, crediting Brian Strayer. He appreciated the police presence during school times and thanked the City for providing Council t-shirts.

Mrs. Hilbert expressed gladness to be back from vacation.

Mr. Cleary echoed compliments about the City's appearance and noted he will miss the April 24th Arbor Day event and possibly the April 27th meeting due to a medical procedure.

H. Clerk of Council - Mindy Kay

I. Standing Committees

IX. Other Business

Law Director Kevin Shannon requested Council consider going into executive session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 121.22(G) (1), to discuss the employment of a public employee and/or public official, and pending litigation, to include the Mayor, Council, Administrator, Finance Director and himself.

A motion was made by Council Member Cleary, seconded by Council Member

Hise, to go into Executive Session at 7:15pm. 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 Lockett, to come out of Executive Session at 8:01pm. 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 Barsa to adjourn at 8:02 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.