

**OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES
GROVE CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025**

Visitors Present: 10

I. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Lokken.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call –

- a. Debra Anderson Bergstrom: Present
- b. William Houselog: Present
- c. Gabra Lokken: Present
- d. Michael Sordahl: Present

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes of September 8, 2025 meeting
- C. Claims Approval for September 2025: \$169,452.24
Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

V. Visitor Recognition and Public Comment –

- a. Stephanie Pautzke – Asked if the City had an ordinance for licensing THC Sales.
- b. Dan Pehle – Asked if the City would removal stump and repair sidewalk in front of his house.

VI. Staff and Council Reports

A. Staff Reports

- 1. Rescue/Fire: FD had 2 calls and Rescue had 5 calls for the month. Talked about the grain bin training the dept. recently had. They had an excellent turnout for Fire Prevention Week. Fire Fest on Oct. 25 will include chili, gumbo and smores and bonfire.
- 2. Sheriff – Answered concerns about Jake Brake usage within City limits and the difficulty in issuing citations. Currently there is no county ordinance. Council will continue to investigate solutions.
- 3. Clerk – Informed the Council that she will be out the rest of the week. Told the Council that the City Engineer and a City Planner will be at the next workshop.

Recommended calling the City attorney concerning the cannabis ordinance.
Motion by Houselog, seconded by Anderson Bergstrom to call City attorney.
Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

4. Public Works – The City clean-up was successful.

B. Council Reports

1. Lokken – Informed Council of the increase in Facebook views and followers. Will be adding educational posts concerning City. Council will be scheduling employee reviews in November and December. November workshop will start at 2PM in order to conduct employee reviews. Mentioned meeting with a resident concerning drainage issues. Drainage issues are not unique to this location as many areas in town have encountered drainage issues due to heavy summer rains.
2. Sordahl – Asked if Public Works got a quote for new metal on shed. Public works have received a quote and will include it in the 2026 Budget.
3. Anderson Bergstrom – Requested that the City crew mow more frequently around the water tower, as the grass was very long.
4. Houselog – Said he had met a neighbor of the trailer park who was excited for the changes happening. Will continue to host monthly FIKA with refreshments sponsored by Lions Club.

VII. Old Business

- a. Chipper/Shredder – To approve purchase for \$22,738.80.
Motion by Anderson Bergstrom, second by Houselog.
Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

VIII. New Business

- A. WEST CENTRAL SANITATION ASSESSMENTS: To accept list of delinquent payers and to have the delinquent amounts assessed to their property taxes.
Motion by Houselog. Seconded by Anderson Bergstrom.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0.
- B. ACGC Superintendent Kip Lynk: Presented information on upcoming levy vote.
- C. LMC Webinar – Gabra requests \$30 to attend webinar: “Handling Difficult Conversations”.
Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Anderson Bergstrom.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0.

- D. October 25 Events – Fire Fest sponsored by GC Fire Department. Community Center will have Artisan Market. Trunk-n-Treat and the Enchanted Forest sponsored by the EDA.
- E. Ordinances: City Council wants to encourage people to fix and paint homes to comply with ordinances. Knows that residents will need time to prepare for fixes. City Clerk will send out letters.
- F. Grant Updates: The City was approved for the outdoor AED and will pursue a bench purchase with remaining grant funds to be installed in one of the City's parks.
- G. Artisan Market Donation to Fire Department: Request \$350 from the Artisan Market fees be donated to the Fire Department.
Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0
- H. MN Paid Leave: Will the city pay half or require employees to pay half (.88%). – TABLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.
- I. EDA President Permission to speak to City Attorney concerning trailer court purchase.
Motion by Anderson Bergstrom. Seconded by Houselog.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0
- J. David Spencer: Continue consultation work at same rate (\$50/hr., 10 hours per month) for 2026.
Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0
- K. Jake Brake Signs – TABLED FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION.
- L. RESOLUTION 2025-9: Consolidate the Fire Department and Rescue Squad in a unified emergency services department.
Motion by Lokken. Seconded by Sordahl.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0
- M. RESOLUTION 2025-10: Combine Fire Truck Replacement Fund and Rescue Van Replacement Fund into a single Emergency Vehicle Replacement Fund.
Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0
- N. RESOLUTION 2025-10: Combine Fire Truck Replacement Fund and Rescue Van Replacement Fund into a single Emergency Vehicle Replacement Fund.
Motion by Lokken. Seconded by Sordahl.
Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

O. RESOLUTION 2025-12: Transfer budgeted enterprise funds into bond funds to cover debt repayment.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

P. RESOLUTION 2025-13: Additional transfer of funds within the City Funds.

Motion by Lokken. Seconded by Sordahl.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

Q. City Council Applications: Open application period until November 1, 2025.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Anderson Bergstrom.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

R. Accept 2024 Audit as presented by Westburg Eischens.

Motion by Houselog. Seconded by Anderson Bergstrom.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

S. OTHER –

IX. Announcements – Workshop is November 5th @ 2PM

- Next Council meeting is November 10th at 6:30 PM

- Special Meeting TBD for cannabis ordinance

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Anderson Bergstrom. Adjourned: 7:51 pm

Mayor: Gabra Lokken City Clerk: Elizabeth Ammermann

Approved: 11/10/2025
Date