

**SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES
GROVE CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, September 14, 2026**

Visitors Present: 1

I. Call Meeting to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call –

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

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Agenda - change by Lokken to add Public Works Assistant
- B. Minutes of Aug 10, 2026 meeting
- C. Claims Approval for August 2026: \$267,179.79

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

V. Visitor Recognition and Public Comment –

- a. Tanner Rogers – clarified that he is requesting permission for a prepared surface in his backyard and not a driveway. This will be used for parking a trailer.
- b. Vince Robinson from DSI
 - i. Resolution 2026-5: Identifying “Slum and Blight” conditions in a targeted area of the City of Grove City

Motion by Sordahl Seconded by Houselog

Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- ii. Motion to move forward with the DSI contract for the grant in 3 categories (homeowner, commercial properties and Streetscape), at the cost of \$3,300, and approve the application to the State of MN.

Motion by Sordahl Seconded by Chupp

Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

VI. Staff and Council Reports

A. Staff Reports

1. Rescue/Fire: Fire Dept asked about traveling to Illinois to view fire truck before taking possession. Motion to pay up to \$1500 in travel expenses by Sordahl, 2nd be Chupp. Vote: 4-0, motion carried.
 - a. Mayor Lokken asked about the Fire Fest on Oct 24 at 4pm and if the FD was still planning on serving soup. FD said they were planning it.
2. Sheriff: 42 calls for the month of August, concerned about a house on 5th st N that is for sale and the unpermitted 3rd apartment,
3. Clerk: Told council that she will be absent Sept 24. Planning the meeting with the townships and Fire/Rescue. Mentioned a hiring incentive from Heartland Energy for the Public Works Assistant.
4. Public Works: Continuing to talk with Xcel energy concerning the poles and lines. Mayor Lokken mentioned mirrored windows to hang in the Cardinal Room at South Grove, and hanging faces on trees on the hiking trail for Trunk n Treat.

B. Council Reports

1. Lokken: Received good feedback on the WMD parade. Commissioner Schmidt will be at the October Council meeting. Will draft a response to McCoy's email concerning the ADA and the use of microphones at the Council meetings.
2. Sordahl: Spoke to the Council of the need to be cautious about increasing the City's spending, ask where the money is coming from. The EDA/WMD meeting will be at 5:45 on Oct 12 and possibly move WMD to the 4th weekend in Aug. The SG Handbook will have to be updated concerning the emergency key. The meeting concerning the CEDA grant will be Oct 7 at 2:30.
3. Anderson Bergstrom: absent
4. Houselog: no report, willing to be a write-in candidate for Council.
5. Chupp: Reiterated the difficulty with the Meeker Co building inspector. Asked if he was willing to be a write-in candidate for Council and Chupp said he would.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

- A. 2027-2028 Meeker County Law Enforcement Contract: 2027 for \$138,880, 2028 for \$152,360.

Motion by Houselog. Seconded by Chupp.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

- B. 101 South Ave driveway; Tanner Roger's property: Approve the prepared surface request.

Motion by Chupp. Seconded by Houselog.

Motion carried. Vote:

- C. 117 3rd St N retaining wall; decision of what to do with the wall: Motion to give owner the choice of the city removing the retaining wall or she will have to fix it herself.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Chupp.

Motion carried. Vote:4-0

- D. City Assessment Fee: Change the city assessment fee to \$10, from the current amount of \$75.

Motion by Houselog. Seconded by Chupp.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

- E. Liquor License: To approve the liquor license for Samantha and Eric Schultz, with the fee prorated for the remaining months of 2026.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

- F. Mediacom Franchise Agreement: To approve the franchise agreement with Mediacom for the term of 10 years. The fee is 5% of gross revenues.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Chupp.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0

- G. Xcel Energy – a representative is unable to attend tonight's meeting. See letter in packet.

- H. Resignation: Accept the resignation of Public Works assistant, Jack Ramthun. Last day of work was Sept 9, 2026.

Motion by Chupp. Seconded by Sordahl.

Motion carried. Vote:4-0

- I. 2027 Preliminary Levy: Set the preliminary levy at 9% with the understanding that the amount can be made lower but not raised. The final levy will be approved in December.

Motion by Chupp. Seconded by Houselog.

Motion carried. Vote:3-1, opposed Sordahl.

- J. Public Works Assistant: job posting. Salary range \$25-30, application deadline of October 12.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Chupp.

Motion carried. Vote: 4-0.

K. OTHER –

- IX. Announcements – City Clean up – Oct 10, Workshop – Oct 7, Council/EDA – Oct 12

- X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Lokken.

Adjourned: 8:14 pm

Mayor: Sabra Lokken City Clerk: Elizabeth Ammermann

Approved: October 12, 2026
Date