

**JANUARY MEETING MINUTES
GROVE CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026**

Visitors Present: 0

- 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. Joseph Chupp: Present
 - c. William Houselog: Present
 - d. Gabra Lokken: Present
 - e. Michael Sordahl: Present
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Agenda
 - B. Minutes of December 8, 2025 meeting
 - C. Claims Approval for December 2025: \$394,701.18Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Chupp.
Motion carried. Vote: 5-0
- V. Visitor Recognition and Public Comment – none present
- VI. Staff and Council Reports
 - A. Staff Reports
 1. Rescue/Fire: Chief Dahl reported 7 Rescue Squad calls, and 1 Fire Department call for December. The Holiday parade was a success in spite of the frigid temperatures. Also, there was a new furnace installed in the Fire Hall.
 2. Sheriff: Deputy Swisher reported 34 calls for December. Meeker County Sheriff's Department has a new paging system – Rave phone app.
 3. Clerk: Requested permission to attend MCFOA Annual Conf in March for \$495 plus mileage and lodging. Motion by Anderson Bergstrom, second by Houselog. Approved by Council, 5-0.
 - Budget Discussion. Council voted to set up a short term Budget Committee to finalize the 2026 Budget with a January 20 meeting with David Spencer

and a Special Council Meeting on January 26 to approve the Budget.

Approved by Council.

4. Public Works: Have been removing damaged boulevard trees. Lions will be placing lights on Windmill Blades.

B. Council Reports

1. Lokken – Thanks to everyone for making 2025 a good year for the Council and Grove City. The Lions have added new members, the EDA has been revitalized and there has been greater community involvement. Also, we have added the new City website and payment system.
2. Sordahl – Requested names of 2-4 local attorneys for City/EDA. Asked about the land annexation. Wants EDA and the new outdoor AED added to website.
3. Anderson Bergstrom – No report
4. Houselog – FIKA will be sponsored by the Lions and be held on the 3rd Monday of the month changing to the morning, 9:30-11:00.
5. Chupp – Asked who to contact about more information concerning Council duties. The Mayor will mentor him.

VII. Old Business - none

VIII. New Business

- A. 2028 Sidewalk and Lighting Engineering Proposal: Accept the engineering proposal by Bolton & Menk of \$29,040 for the upcoming MnDOT sidewalk and street lighting project.

Motion by Chupp. Seconded by Houselog.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-0

- B. 2026 FEE SCHEDULE: To accept Utility fees as followed:

1. Electric base rate: Residential-\$30, Commercial-\$50, Three Phase-\$60
2. Water base rate: Residential-\$35, Commercial-\$38
3. kWh rate: Residential, Commercial, Three Phase (no demand)-\$.127/kWh;
Demand Three Phase-\$.055/kWh
4. Electric Meter surcharge: \$3.50
5. Water Meter surcharge: \$3.50

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Chupp.

Motion carried. Vote:5-0

C. Human Resources Committee – Move discussion to January 26 special meeting.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Anderson Bergstrom.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-0

D. Approval of Official Appointments:

- a. Bank for City of Grove City: Grove Bank
- b. Newspaper: The Litchfield Rail
- c. Attorney: Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, P.A.
- d. Engineer: Bolton & Menk
- e. Health Inspector: Meeker County Public Health

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Houselog.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-0

E. Social Media Policy and Disclaimer: Approve and adopt the City of Grove City Social Media Policy and Disclaimer, in order to ensure transparency, limit liability, and clearly distinguish official City communications from personal or third-party content on social media platforms and to clarify that content does not necessarily reflect the views, policies, or positions of the City.

Motion by Houselog. Seconded by Chupp.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-0

F. Adverse Weather Policy: Approve Policy with adjustment to #3, remove severe weather, exchange with closures.

Motion by Chupp. Seconded by Sordahl.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-0

G. Employee Wage Increases: To approve the wage increases as follows: Park Maintenance PT - \$22/hr.; Custodian PT - \$22/hr.; Deputy Clerk PT - \$26.50/hr.; Public Works Assistant - \$28.50/hr.; Public Works Supervisor - \$40.25/hr.; City Clerk - \$32.25/hr.; with said wages to begin January 1, 2026, per City Personnel Policy.

Motion by Sordahl. Seconded by Lokken.

Motion carried. Vote: 5-0

H. OTHER –

- IX. Announcements – City Office will be closed on January 19 and February 16 for Federal Holidays.
- X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Sordahl.

Adjourned: 7:59 pm

Mayor: Sabra Lokken City Clerk: Elizabeth Ammermann

Approved: February 9, 2026
Date