



City Council Meeting  
April 29, 2025 – 7:00 PM  
Pendergrass City Hall

I. Call to Order

<u>Attendee Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Basak, Sylvia	Councilmember	X	
Bonner, Tara	Councilmember		X
Gomez, Gabriel	Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tem	X	
Bill Ellis	Mayor	X	
Michael Jones	Councilmember	X	
Bob Carter	Councilmember	X	
Laura Bigley	Councilmember	X	

II. The Police Department will be relocating to the City Hall building, while City Hall will resume operations at 75 Glenn Gee Rd.- Mayor Ellis

III. Pledge to the Flag and Invocation

IV. Mayor Ellis swears in newly elected councilmember Laura Bigley.

V. Review Clerks Minutes:

The council reviewed the Clerk's minutes from November 2024, December 2024, February 2025

- MOVER: Gomez
- SECONDER: Basak
- RESULT: Reports received for filing
- AYES: All in favor
- NAYS: None
- ABSTAIN: None

The Council reviewed the Clerk's minutes from the April 8<sup>th</sup> Work Session

- MOVER: Carter
- SECONDER: Bigley
- RESULT: Reports received for filing
- AYES: All in favor
- NAYS: None
- ABSTAIN: None

VI. Treasury Report:

November 2024, December 2024, February 2025, March 2025 to be received for filing

- MOVER: Basak
- SECONDER: Jones
- RESULT: Reports received for filing
- AYES: All in favor
- NAYS: None
- ABSTAIN: None

VII. **Renee Martinez provided the library report for the month of April.**

VIII. **Old Business:**

**Application from Rochester DCCM regarding rezoning request for a wedding venue at parcel Number 102 008:**

**Representatives from DCCM and Walters Wedding Estates presented the council with details on the proposed wedding venue and answered question from the council and public**

- **Traffic Mitigation & Roadway Improvements-** Councilmember Gomez inquired about traffic studies and mitigation efforts. The developer outlined plans to widen Park Street between the venue and Walnut Grove's entrance, dependent on the city's dedication of the right of way and where CSX property begins. There was also discussion about possibly capping the existing road on Park Street.

- A proposed turn lane on Glenn Abby Road would require CSX approval.

- **Neighborhood Access & Safety Enhancements-** Walnut Grove's HOA requested a second neighborhood exit near the pool. The developer agreed to pave and grade this access point, subject to approval from both the city and Walnut Grove's HOA.

- Councilmember Michael Jones expressed safety concerns regarding the height of a proposed four-story hotel. The developer committed to limiting the structure to three stories in accordance with the Fire Department's ladder capabilities.

- **Traffic Management & Emergency Considerations-** Walnut Grove HOA President Keith Ingram emphasized traffic congestion at Glenn Abby's entrance. Mayor Ellis indicated that Pendergrass PD might direct traffic in the future if needed.

- Blackberry Farms resident Terry May had questions concerning a reservoir on the property of the proposed venue. Mayor Ellis confirmed that the city's new planner would review the matter.

IX. **New Business:**

**Personnel & Contracts-** The city is finalizing contracts for the Court Solicitor and City Planner roles, with proposed hourly rates of \$200 and \$125, respectively. These agreements should be wrapped up soon.

**City Attorney Search-** The city is still looking for a new City Attorney, with the search ongoing.

**Staffing Updates-** A new clerk will be brought on to assist Renee Martinez.

**Town Square Development Updates-** Mayor Ellis has been in contact with TDON, the developer, they have decided to change plans for the Town Square. Instead of the originally agreed-upon retail shops, they now want to build townhomes on 4 of the 6 remaining lots. We are still in negotiations with that and we're going over the agreement to see if we can prevent this.

X. **Public Comment:**

Nick Geiman voiced support for the proposed development, emphasizing its potential benefits for the city. He believes it will generate revenue and help turn the area into more of a destination. He urged the council to give the project serious consideration.

Adjourn



Renee Martinez

City Clerk

Adjourn 7:23 PM

April 30, 2025