

OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBERS

BRANDON McCULLOUGH, President
MARTHA PTASHNIK, Vice President
CARRIE BUDZINSKI
ROB GJONAJ DONOVIC
SCOTT MORGAN
LYNDA L. SCHEEL
LAURA M. TOY



COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Brandon McCullough, Chair
All Councilmembers

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LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154-3097
(734) 466-2250
citycouncil@livonia.gov

OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL

**MEETING PACKET FOR THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

MAY 19, 2025

6:00 P.M.

**The electronic packet is compiled, produced and distributed
by the City Council Staff. (734) 466-2250**

The official documents are on file in the City Clerk's office.

PUBLIC MEETING - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
May 19, 2025
Livonia City Hall Council Chambers
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI 48154
6:00 PM

Members:

Brandon McCullough, Chair
All Councilmembers

AGENDA ITEM(S)

1. [The subject matter of an investigation into City Departments and their procedures as it relates to the City's Charter. \(CR 131-25\)](#)

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

**THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING AND
ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

This meeting will be reported at the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2025

Minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office not more than eight business days following the date of the meeting.

In accordance with Title II of the American with Disabilities Act as it pertains to access to Public Meetings, the City Clerk's Office of the City of Livonia, upon adequate notice, will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. Please call (734) 466-2236 or email clerk@livonia.gov if you need assistance. Council agendas are available on the City's website – www.livonia.gov - under Government, City Council, Agendas.

LORI L. MILLER, CITY CLERK



LETTER TO THE LIVONIA CITY COUNCIL

1.

Council Office
May 8, 2025

MEETING DATE

PRESENTED BY

COW051225/R051925/COW051925/R061625

AGENDA ITEM

The subject matter of an investigation into City Departments and their procedures as it relates to the City's Charter. (CR 131-25)

BACKGROUND DETAILS

A discussion was held at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on May 12, 2025, with a report of the meeting to be made at the Regular Meeting of May 19, 2025.

A follow-up Committee of the Whole Meeting was requested by Council President Brandon McCullough to be held on May 19, 2025, with a report of the meeting to be made at the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2025.

At the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2025:

RESOLVED, that upon the motion by Councilmember Laura Toy, seconded by Council Vice President Martha Ptashnik, at the Regular Meeting held May 7, 2025, THE COUNCIL DOES HEREBY REFER THE SUBJECT MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO CITY DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR PROCEDURES AS IT RELATES TO THE CITY'S CHARTER TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FOR ITS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION.

PREFERRED COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION (Please complete this field. Attachments are not to be used in lieu of the recommendation)

To discuss the subject matter as presented.

ATTACHMENTS

1. COW051225 LTC Department investigation

APPROVED BY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MAY 12, 2025
6:00PM

A Committee of the Whole meeting was held on May 12, 2025, in the Council Chambers at Livonia City Hall.

Committee Members Present: Brandon McCullough, Council President and Chair
Martha Ptashnik, Council Vice President
Carrie Budzinski
Rob Gjonaj Donovic
Scott Morgan
Lynda L. Scheel
Laura M. Toy

Committee Members Absent: None

City Officials Present: Lori Miller, City Clerk
Susie Nash, City Treasurer
Carter Fisher, City Attorney
Jeannine Laible, Civil Service Director
Robb Drezwicki, Governmental Affairs Director

Additional attendees: See the attached list.

- | |
|---|
| 1. The subject matter of an investigation into City Departments and their procedures as it relates to the City's Charter. (CR 131-25) |
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The Committee meeting commenced at 6:02 PM.

Council President Brandon McCullough introduced the item.

Councilmember Scheel requested the list of candidates on the August 2025 ballot from the City Clerk.

Councilmember Toy spoke deeper on the concerns regarding the City Clerk and Deputy Clerk.

Questions were asked to Clerk Miller by Council President McCullough, Council Vice President Ptashnik and Councilmembers Toy, Donovic, Budzinski and Scheel.

Questions were asked to City Attorney Fisher and Civil Service Director, Jeannine Laible regarding a shift of the Council agendas to be completed from start to finish by the Council Office.

Livonia resident, Steve King, commented on the errors made on affidavits and mentioned that City Council has an oversight on the City departments.

President McCullough suggested a follow up Committee of the Whole meeting to allow Clerk Miller time to respond to the list of questions brought before her.

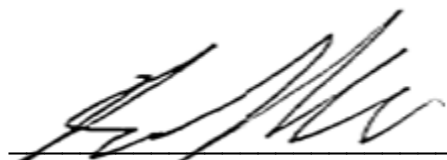
The Committee recommends:

That Clerk Miller provides answers to the (attached) questions asked during this meeting.

The Committee meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.

Note: This item will remain in Committee.

This item is to be placed on the **Regular Meeting Agenda of May 19, 2025**



Brandon McCullough, City Council President

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 6:00PM

NAME

DEPT OR CONTACT INFO FOR NOTIFICATIONS*

*PERTAINING THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS MEETING

Lori Miller

Clerk's Office

John Allesh

Susan N.L.

Jack^Q Graham

Deb Christiansen

Eileen McDonnell

Ellen Dorman

Cindy Fleming

Carol Poenisch

Northville Twp EDC/BRA

Patricia Wolfe Warren

Marlene Kataras

Suggested talking points for COW of May 12, 2025.

Let's work together and look forward to helping each other stay informed on how and why there needs to begin a process of transparency and accountability.

The Clerk's Office will be a big part of the focus today so we can gain a deeper understanding of what the Clerk and Deputy Clerk are doing to bring new and innovative processes while gaining an understanding of the current process and past practices.

Lack of communication impacts the cost to the city, not only financially, but also time, as well as the domino effect to the public and others. Some of the following items are concerns:

1. Business licenses – loss of revenue by not processing licenses.
 - Why are they behind and what is going to be done moving forward
2. Animal licenses – Council still receives calls from residents
 - Staff yelled at by residents with no support from management
 - Staff told to adhere to old ordinance during amendment change when an announcement by City Clerk was made otherwise. Staff continued to be yelled at by residents.
3. Election errors
 - What will be done moving forward so the errors don't continue
4. Clerk's Notary – expired since Dec 1, 2024
 - What action has been taken to prevent legal documents from being notarized illegally?
5. Contracts are not being processed correctly or efficiently
 - What will be done moving forward to prevent contracts being held up in the future?
6. Intent to issue bond was not published
 - What will be done moving forward to prevent this from happening in the future?
7. Physical contact with employees (Todd escorted physically out of Clerk's Office)
 - What measures were taken?
8. Bully behavior towards employees in different departments creates a divide among departments working with Clerk's Office
 - What measures are being taken, if any?
9. Constant Study and Regular agenda errors from Clerk's Office
 - What measures are being taken, if any?
10. Clerical errors
 - Study agendas removing Councilmember motions on items (done by Clerk Nov 2024 to April 2025)
 - Documents have been changed, removing Dept. Head signatures
11. Questions pertaining to Council/Council Office being routed to other departments for answers.
 - What is the reason for not answering the questions or not routing directly to the Council Office?



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