

**MINUTES OF THE TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEENTH REGULAR
MEETING MAY 19, 2025**

On May 19, 2025, the above meeting was held at the City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, and was called to order by the President of the Council at 7:00 p.m. Vice President Ptashnik led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called with the following result: Martha Ptashnik, Carrie Budzinski, Lynda Scheel, Scott Morgan, Rob Donovic, Brandon McCullough. Absent: Laura Toy.

Elected and appointed officials present: Carter Fisher, City Attorney; Lori L. Miller, City Clerk; Mark Taormina, Planning and Economic Development Director; Sara Kasprovicz, Program Supervisor of Council Office; and Todd Zilincik, City Engineer.

On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, supported by Councilmember Budzinski, and unanimously adopted, it was:

#156-25 RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the 2016th Regular Meeting of the Council held May 7, 2025 are approved as presented.

President McCullough presented a commendation to the Livonia Knights, on behalf of City Council.

During Audience Communication, Christina Sheldon, 32640 Ohio, requested a revision to an Ordinance regarding cloth fence coverings after receiving a violation. Christina explained the benefits her fence cover provides for her family.

Christopher Martin, Resident, spoke about an uncomfortable situation with an Ordinance Enforcement employee, and noted that he is grateful for the opportunity for residents to speak at these meetings.

Judy Weiser, 19718 Sussex, inquired about the possibility of opening the bathrooms at Bi-Centennial Park.

Steve King, Coventry Gardens, stated his concern regarding the subject of council candidates as spoke upon at the Committee of the Whole meeting. Secondly, expressed concern regarding the funding of police station facilities before the millage passed.

Deb Christiansen, Resident, requested for Council to announce pride month at the beginning of June.

Ellen Dorman, 17211 Mayfield, requested action regarding the senior housing 'businesses' near her home, stating they are businesses on residentially zoned land.

Jim Biga, 35354 Lancashire, asked for public clarification on what a millage is, reiterated the opening of park bathrooms, and inquired on whether or not ground preparation has been made to make sure the proposed millage can be executed.

Lynn Mills, Plymouth Rd., expressed concern over the demolition of buildings and began to speak upon a ballot item from 1984 before running out of time.

Nicholas Scott, 32620 Ohio, spoke upon the wording regarding the Ordinance that pertains to cloth coverings on fences.

Eileen McDonnell, 36099 Brookview, requested information regarding the policies in place of how Council addresses issues brought up at meetings.

President McCullough announced there was New Data for Agenda Items #3 and #8.

Vice President Ptashnik addressed the issue of cloth coverings on fences, stating one possible route could be to bring the issue to the Zoning Board of Appeals to request a Waiver Use, and noted that she would like to talk about the issue further.

On a motion by Vice President Ptashnik, supported by Councilmember Budzinski, and unanimously adopted, it was:

#157-25 RESOLVED, that upon the motion by Council Vice President Martha Ptashnik, seconded by Councilmember Carrie Budzinski, at the Regular Meeting held May 19, 2025, the Council does hereby refer the subject matter of potential Ordinance amendment(s) related to cloth coverings on fences to the Law and Education Committee for its report and recommendation.

Vice President Ptashnik explained the proposed millage helps pay for the bonds in regards to the city center project and ensured the explanation will be a talking point in the future.

Councilmember Donovic addressed the bathrooms located at the parks being closed, stated he believes it is due to staffing, gave thanks to the Ordinance Department for the work that they do, and noted that he will be holding a Q&A on May 28th.

Councilmember Budzinski spoke about the subject of the proposed millage and made some clarifications. Secondly, requested information regarding the bathroom schedule located at the parks. Lastly, announced upcoming events including her next Coffee Hour on June 14th, the Livonia Women's Connection on June 1st, and an informative recycling program on June 5th.

President McCullough expressed his happiness with the amount of community events that the Council is involved with.

Vice President Ptashnik asked that item #3 be removed from the Consent Agenda and be put on the Regular Agenda.

On a motion by Vice President Ptashnik, supported by Councilmember Morgan, it was:

#158-25 RESOLVED, that having considered a communication from Rev. Dr. Rodrigue Constantin, Saint Rafka Maronite Catholic Church, dated April 1, 2025, which requests permission to waive Section 8.32.070 (Noise Control) of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, in order to hold a cultural festival with music played by a DJ and live bands at Saint Rafka Maronite Catholic Church located at 32765 Lyndon Street on Friday, August 8, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, August 9, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to midnight, and Sunday, August 10, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., the Council does hereby determine to waive Section 8.32.070 (Noise Control) of the Livonia Code of Ordinances from 5:00 p.m. to midnight on Friday, August 8, 2025, 1:00 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, August 9, 2025, and from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 10, 2025, in connection with this event.

#159-25 RESOLVED, that having considered a communication from Wafi Barshini and Nesrin Barshini, Festival Chairpersons, The Basilica of St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, regarding the St. Mary's Dormition Annual Festival scheduled for Friday, August 15, 2025 through Sunday, August 17, 2025, to include setup and soft opening celebration of the Dormition on Thursday, August 14, 2025, and take down on

Monday, August 18, 2025, the Council does hereby determine to waive Section 8.32.070 (Noise Control) of the Livonia Code of Ordinances between the hours of 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, 12:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, and 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, in connection with this event to be held Friday, August 15, 2025 through Sunday, August 17, 2025, in the rear parking lot of the Basilica of St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church located at 18100 Merriman Road, subject to the following qualifications: noise decibels measured at church property lines shall not exceed 60 decibels when the event ends and 70 decibels during the days and hours of the festival as set forth above; FURTHER, provided that the appropriate level of amplified music will be controlled by a church-appointed sound engineer who will have total control of the sound system at all times and that the speakers inside the tent will be pointed North (toward the church) and away from neighboring houses in connection with this event.

#160-25 RESOLVED, that having considered the report and recommendation of the Fire Chief, dated April 23, 2025, which bears the signature of the Director of Finance and is approved for submission by the Mayor, wherein a request is made to extend the contract with Bound Tree Medical for the purchase of emergency medical supplies and equipment, the Council does hereby accept the quote of Bound Tree Medical, 5000 Tuttle Crossing, Dublin, OH 43016 for the purchase of emergency medical supplies and equipment, for use by the Fire Department, in an annual amount not to exceed \$130,000.00, for the period February 11, 2025 through February 10, 2026; FURTHER, the Council does hereby authorize an annual expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.00 from funds budgeted in Account No. 101-338-742-000 for this purpose; FURTHER, the Council does hereby authorize this purchase without competitive bidding inasmuch as the same is made through the Farmington Hills Cooperative Purchasing Consortium, Southeast Michigan Emergency Medical Supplies Cooperative (SMEMS), under Contract No. FH-19-20-2164, and no advantage to the City would result from competitive bidding, and such action is taken in accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 3.04.140.E.4 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.

#161-25 RESOLVED, that having considered the report and recommendation of the Information Systems Director, dated April 22, 2025, which bears the signature of the Director of Finance and is approved for submission by the Mayor, in connection with the renewal of the contract between the City of Livonia and ESRI, Inc. for the City's Geographic Information System (GIS), the Council does hereby approve a renewal of the contract between the City of Livonia and Esri, INC., 380 New York Street, Redlands, California

92373, to provide software maintenance for the City of Livonia's Geographic Information System (GIS), for a one (1) year period from July 17, 2025 to July 16, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$32,933.97, the same to be expended from funds budgeted in Account No. 101-228-851-020 (Computer Software Maintenance) for this purpose; FURTHER, the Council does hereby authorize the action herein without competitive bidding in accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 3.04.140.E.3 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended, for the reason that ESRI, Inc. is a sole source supplier and no advantage would result from requiring competitive bidding.

A roll call vote was taken on the foregoing resolutions with the following result:

AYES: Ptashnik, Budzinski, Scheel, Morgan, Donovic, McCullough.

NAYS: None.

President McCullough reported on the subject matter of an investigation into City Departments and their procedures as it relates to the City's Charter, as discussed at the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 12, 2025, and indicated the matter will remain in committee. (CR 131-25)

Councilmember Budzinski reported on the subject matter of blighted and vacant businesses on Plymouth Road, as discussed at the Economic Development, Strategic Planning, and Technology Committee Meeting of May 12, 2025, and indicated the matter will remain in committee. (CR 90-25)

On a motion by Councilmember Scheel, supported by Councilmember Budzinski, and unanimously adopted, it was:

#162-25 RESOLVED, that upon the motion by Councilmember Lynda Scheel, seconded by Councilmember Carrie Budzinski, at the Regular Meeting held May 19, 2025, and having considered the report and recommendation of the Economic Development, Strategic Planning and Technology Committee, dated May 12, 2025, submitted pursuant to Council Resolution 90-25, regarding blighted and vacant businesses on Plymouth Road, the Council does hereby refer the subject matter of an updated fee schedule and compounded annual penalty for blighted/vacant properties to the administration for its review, report and recommendation.

Vice President Ptashnik gave first reading to the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 240 AND 250 OF
TITLE 1, CHAPTER 08 (ELECTION PRECINCTS) OF THE
LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.

The foregoing Ordinance, when adopted, is filed in the Journal of Ordinances in the Office of the City Clerk, and is the same as if word for word repeated herein.

On a motion by Councilmember Donovic, supported by Councilmember Budzinski, and unanimously adopted, it was:

#163-25 RESOLVED, that having considered a communication from the City Planning Commission, dated April 10, 2025, approved for submission by the Mayor, which transmits its Resolution #04-11-2025, adopted on April 8, 2025, with regard to Petition 2025-02-02-06 submitted by NC Designers and Contracting, requesting waiver use approval to construct a 2,117-square foot, full-service oil change facility at 27410 Joy Road, located at the Northwest corner of Joy Road and Inkster Road in the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 36, the Council does hereby concur in the recommendation made by the City Planning Commission and Petition 2025-02-02-06 is hereby approved and granted, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the Site Plan identified as Sheet No. SP-101, dated May 7, 2025, as revised, prepared by N.C. Designers & Contracting Inc., is hereby approved and shall be adhered to, recognizing that adjustments to the driveway and dumpster enclosure may be needed at North end of the property to accommodate the utility line;
2. That the Elevation Plan identified as Sheet No. A-201, dated January 13, 2025, prepared by N.C. Designers & Contracting Inc., is hereby approved and shall be adhered to;
3. That the Landscape Plan identified as Sheet No. SP-201, dated May 7, 2025, as revised, prepared by N.C. Designers & Contracting Inc., is hereby approved and shall be adhered to;
4. All parking spaces, except the required handicapped spaces, shall be doubled striped at ten feet (10') wide by twenty feet (20') in length as required;
5. The van-accessible barrier-free parking space shall be sized, signed, and marked in accordance with the Michigan Barrier-Free Code;
6. That the three walls of the trash dumpster area shall be constructed out of building materials that shall complement that of

the building. The enclosure gates shall be of solid panel steel construction or durable, long-lasting solid panel fiberglass. The trash dumpster area shall be maintained and, when not in use, closed at all times;

7. That all light fixtures shall not exceed twenty feet (20') in height and shall be aimed and shielded to minimize stray light trespassing across property lines and glaring into adjacent roadways;

8. That there shall be no outdoor storage of auto parts, equipment, scrap material, waste petroleum products, junked, unlicensed or inoperable vehicles, or other similar items in connection with this operation, and the overhead doors, when not in use for vehicles entering or exiting the service facility, shall always be closed;

9. That only conforming signage is approved with this petition, and any additional signage shall be separately submitted for review and approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals;

10. The overall average illumination level for the parking lots shall be 1.0-foot candle as provided under Section 7.22 of the Zoning Ordinance;

11. That unless approved by the proper local authority, any type of exterior advertising, such as promotional flags, streamers or sponsor vehicles designed to attract the attention of passing motorists, shall be prohibited;

12. The dumpster location be modified to not impact the overhead wires to the satisfaction of the Planning Department and Inspection Department;

13. That the specific plans referenced in this approving resolution shall be submitted to the Inspection Department at the time the building permits are applied for; and

14. Pursuant to Section 13.13 of the Livonia Zoning Ordinance, this approval is valid for a period of one year only from the date of approval by City Council, and unless a building permit is obtained, this approval shall be null and void at the expiration of said period.

Christopher Martin, Resident, inquired about the unpaid taxes that were debated at the previous meeting.

President McCullough clarified that the taxes were taken care of.

Councilmember Donovic thanked the community and the petitioner for the conclusion of the situation.

On a motion by Councilmember Budzinski, supported by Councilmember Morgan, it was:

#164-25 RESOLVED, that having considered the report and recommendation of the City Clerk, dated April 7, 2025, which bears the signature of the City Attorney, and is approved for submission by the Mayor, wherein a request is made to approve the early voting plan for the local elections to be held in 2025, pursuant to MCL 168.720(E)(6), the Council does hereby approve the Early Voting Plan, as established by the Livonia Election Commission on February 20, 2025, and hereby sets the early voting site location, days and hours for the 2025 calendar year, as follows:

Location:	Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154
Days:	Saturday and Sunday before each local election to be held in 2025
Hours:	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken on the foregoing resolution with the following result:

AYES: Ptashnik, Budzinski, Scheel, Morgan, Donovic.

NAYS: McCullough.

During Audience Communication, Deb Christiansen, Resident, mentioned a concern of early voting not being ADA compliant.

Laura Jannika, 29635 Munger, thanked the City Clerk for hosting early voting and echoed the problem of early voting not being ADA compliant.

Carter Fisher, City Attorney, stated the issue was addressed at the previous meeting by the City Clerk, that there are plenty of accessibility options that are provided by the City Clerk, and that he does not believe there is any violation of Federal Law.

On a motion by Councilmember Scheel, supported by Vice President Ptashnik, and unanimously adopted, this 2,017th Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Lori L. Miller, City Clerk