

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, STRATEGIC PLANNING
AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2025
7:00PM**

An Economic Development, Strategic Planning and Technology Committee meeting was held on August 18, 2025, at Livonia City Hall in the Gallery on the 5th floor.

Committee Members Present: Carrie Budzinski, Chair
Lynda L. Scheel, Member

Committee Members Absent: Scott Morgan, Vice Chair

City Officials Present: Brandon McCullough, Council President
Martha Ptashnik, Council Vice President
Laura M. Toy, Councilmember
Maureen Brosnan, Mayor
Carter Fisher, City Attorney
Debra Lichtenberg, Finance Director
Robb Drezwicki, Director of Government Affairs

Additional attendees: See the attached list.

1. The subject matter of the Noble facility and its future development. (CR 132-25)

The Committee meeting commenced at 7 PM.

Councilmember Carrie Budzinski opened the meeting with a quick background that Noble is in three committees: The Committee of the Whole (topic Noble and Shelden); Capital Outlay and Infrastructure Committee (facility condition) and Economic Development and Strategic Planning Committee (to discuss future use for the site). It was noted that audience members would be allowed 2 minutes to speak on the topic of future use for the site.

The meeting was held on the 5th floor instead of City Council Chambers due to the expected number of attendees. The Auditorium wasn't used in an effort to be more accessible and provide a collaborative atmosphere; unfortunately, there were sound issues because no microphones were set up and there was resident concern.

The Mayor made opening remarks reaffirming the pledge to talk about Noble after the primary election and create space for a community-led strategy. She noted the limited funding for the building but offered that entities including the Save Alfred Noble non-profit, Plymouth Road Development Authority, Livonia Chamber and neighborhood associations including Old Rosedale Gardens can come together to find a future use for the site. She noted the possibility of a public-private partnership that would not sell the land but would offer community benefit.

Councilmember Budzinski introduced the proposal for a Noble Taskforce. The Taskforce can be created by the Administration without outside approval and would be a 7-member body overseen by the Mayor's Office and include voices from the community, specifically the Save Alfred Noble non-profit.

This body will have 3 key roles:

- The ability to fundraise and apply for grants for the Noble site.
- Support to host community events to create a gathering space and activate the property as an amenity
- Serve as a recommending body to the Administration in the review of proposals for future development of the Alfred Noble site.

Councilmember Budzinski noted the Taskforce was designed to address concerns brought forward by residents in the past. This includes the ability to fundraise and apply for grants for the site; activate currently vacant space to benefit the neighborhood and be a test site for placemaking events that could be replicated in other parts of the city; additionally, the direction for future use will actively include those who have been advocating for the site for many years.

Regarding future use, Councilmember Budzinski asked Finance Director Debra Lichtenberg to explain the Request for Qualification (RFQ) process as a means of finding a partner for public-private development. Mrs. Lichtenberg explained that the city currently has access to thousands of vendors via Mitten and can submit an RFQ that would outline desired use and available space to allow vendors to submit proposals by a deadline that would then be reviewed at no commitment by the city.

Councilmember Lynda Scheel asked a series of questions:

1. Has there been any interest in the building?
Mayor Brosnan shared there had been a discussion with a local investor who has created community reuse of old buildings but there was no interest.
2. Would the Taskforce fall under the Open Meetings Act?
Councilmember Budzinski stated the meetings would be public.
3. Would members be paid?
Councilmember Budzinski replied that it would be a volunteer position outside of payment received by staff involved in the taskforce.
4. Is there a timeline for the Taskforce?
It was shared that the goal is to form the Taskforce quickly and the RFQ process would have a timeline (30 to 60 days).
5. What are the costs related to the RFQ?
Mrs. Lichtenberg explained the costs for the RFQ would be time to develop specifications for the proposal.

Council President Brandon McCullough made remarks on the proposal.

Council Vice President Martha Ptashnik made a motion for a report and recommendation from the Administration on pursuing an RFQ for the Noble site

The audience was given an opportunity to speak. Approximately 16 residents spoke on a variety of aspects including but not limited to offering assistance, concern with Taskforce size, and ideas for future use (including selling property and recommissioning it as a library).

Council President McCullough asked that all three remaining Council members be appointed to the Taskforce and made a series of motions

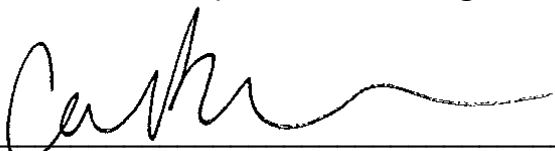
The Committee meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

The following motions were made by Council Vice President Ptashnik and Council President Brandon McCullough respectively.

- For the Administration to provide a report and recommendation on pursuing an RFQ for the Noble site
- For the Administration to include installation of a positive grade around the foundation of the building, cut gutters at the grade and roof drains to include downspouts pointing away from the grade, clean gutters, remove debris, and patch holes in roof, as needed, to prevent water entry.

Note: This item will remain in Committee.

This item is to be placed on the **Regular Meeting Agenda of August 25, 2025**



Carrie Budzinski, Chair

ECONOMIC DEV., STRATEGIC PLANNING & TECH COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2025 - 7:00PM

NAME

DEPT OR CONTACT INFO FOR NOTIFICATIONS*

*PERTAINING THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS MEETING

DAVID LEAR

ENGINEERING

Dana Wright

Jusrin Gao

LAURA JANNIKAS

Aeb Chrystiansen

charlieboy323@yahoo.com

Cindy Fleming

cindy.phleming@gmail.com

Eileen McDonnell

emcdonn126@gmail.com

JANE LESAGE

le-jane@att.net

Frances Tunis

francesjans@hotmail.com

Lori Nersesian

lanersesian@gmail.com

Alex King

Kinger2314@gmail.com

Vicki Johnson

Colleen Canolly

Canollyco@gmail.com

NANCY GASK

NTGASK@gmail.com

Debbie Pinnell

dpinnell20@gmail.com

Jill Bryn

Denise Mike

Laurence Centley

Janaveve Lenoir

Julia Peronis

Jan Vendramini

jvendram@hotmail.com

CHRISTINA SPELDON

Christinasheldon82@gmail.com