

**MINUTES OF THE TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIFTH REGULAR
MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 2025**

On September 22, 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. Councilmember Morgan led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll was called with the following result: Scott Morgan, Laura Toy, Rob Donovic, Martha Ptashnik, Carrie Budzinski, Lynda Scheel, and Brandon McCullough. Absent: None.

Elected and appointed officials present: Carter Fisher, City Attorney; Lori L. Miller, City Clerk; Jacob Uhazie, Assistant Planning Director; Sara Kasprowicz, Program Supervisor of Council Office; and Todd Zilincik, City Engineer.

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

#293-25 RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the 2024th Regular Meeting of the Council held September 8, 2025 are approved as revised.

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

#294-25 RESOLVED, that upon the motion by Councilmember Rob Donovic, seconded by Councilmember Carrie Budzinski, at the Regular Meeting held September 22, 2025, the Council does hereby refer the subject matter of the need for updating various blight ordinances in the Code of Ordinances vis a vis residential upkeep particularly as it relates to residents parking cars in grassy areas and “junk yards” in front yards to the Department of Law for its report and recommendation.

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

#295-25 RESOLVED, that upon the motion by Council Vice President Martha Ptashnik, seconded by Councilmember Laura Toy, at the Regular Meeting held September 22, 2025, the Council does hereby refer the subject matter of ordinances governing disrepair in commercial parking lots around the City and a review of whether these ordinances need to be updated to allow more effective enforcement to the Department of Law for its report and recommendation.

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

#296-25 RESOLVED, that upon the motion by Councilmember Laura Toy, seconded by Council Vice President Martha Ptashnik, at the Regular Meeting held September 22, 2025, the Council does hereby refer the subject matter of the City investigating the potential of investing in a "Recycling Coach" to the Committee of the Whole for its report and recommendation.

During Audience Communication, Debra Guerrero, Resident, expressed concern over ordinance updates regarding parking vehicles in grassy areas.

Maureen Chandler, 9242 Bassett, echoed concern over vehicles being parked in grassy areas and hopes ordinances can be updated.

Raymond Kirchner, 35820 Veri Ct., stated the City Hall building is unique and should not be demolished, and Busch's Fresh Food Market has cracked cement, which is a hazard for residents.

Steve King, Coventry Gardens, backed concern over cement issues in business parking lots, and spoke about free speech regarding clapping at meetings being protected under the 1st Amendment.

Denise Mica, Resident, calls for residents to vote for council candidates against the millage and welcomes residents to come to an upcoming event to meet the candidates.

Nicole Hefty, Rosedale Gardens, announced an upcoming community survey event in which she welcomes anybody to attend and ask questions.

Cindy Fleming, Woodring, asked to allow audience participation at committee meetings.

Jim Biga, Resident, noted the amount of money spent by the Administration regarding the Livonia Built Project and how it could have been better spent.

President McCullough addressed statements regarding free speech, stating he does not intent to infringe upon those rights, and if residents want to clap during the meeting to do so when warranted and in a respectful manner.

President McCullough announced the upcoming Public Hearing on Monday September 29th.

President McCullough announced a Citizens Road Advisory Committee Meeting on Thursday October 9th at 6:30 pm.

A communication from the Department of Finance dated September 2, 2025, forwarding the Departmental Purchases Report for the month ending August 31, 2025, was received and placed on file for the information of the Council.

On a motion by Councilmember Toy, supported by Councilmember Scheel, it was:

#297-25 RESOLVED, that having considered an application from Jennifer Checcobelli, received by the Office of the City Clerk on August 27, 2025, requesting permission to close from 19031 Irving Street to Clarita Street on Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., for the purpose of conducting a block party, the Council does hereby grant permission as requested, including therein permission to conduct the said affair on Sunday, September 28, 2025, in the event of inclement weather, the action taken herein being made subject to the approval of the Police Department.

#298-25 RESOLVED, that having considered an application from Vanessa Mink, dated August 26, 2025, requesting permission to close Pollyanna Drive from Pollyanna Court to Carl Drive, on Sunday, October 19, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m., for the purpose of conducting the 13th Annual Windridge Village Halloween Block Party, the Council does hereby grant permission as requested, the action taken herein being made subject to the approval of the Police Department.

#299-25 RESOLVED, that having considered an application from Jason Pipgras, President, Livonia Stevenson High School Booster Club, the Council does hereby take this means to indicate that the Livonia Stevenson High School Booster Club is recognized as a non-profit organization operating in the community, and the action herein being taken for the purpose of affording the Livonia Stevenson High School Booster Club the opportunity to qualify for a charitable gaming license or registration from the State of Michigan in accordance with provisions of state statute.

#300-25 RESOLVED, that having considered a communication from the Fire Chief, dated August 21, 2025, which bears the signature of the Finance Director, and is approved for submission by the Mayor, the Council does hereby authorize the purchase of one (1) power load ambulance cot loading system from Stryker Medical, 3800 E. Center Avenue, Portage, MI 49002 in a total amount not to exceed \$32,001.46; FURTHER, the Council does hereby authorize an expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$32,001.46 after trade-in from unbudgeted funds in Account No: 101-000-683-000 (\$17,524.50) and from funds budgeted in Account No: 101-338-742-000 (\$14,476.96) for this purpose; FURTHER, the Council does hereby determine to authorize the said purchase without competitive bidding inasmuch as Stryker Medical is the sole authorized dealer of Power Load Ambulance Cot Loading Systems for compatibility with the department's existing fleet of Stryker ambulance cots 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.3 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.

#301-25 RESOLVED, that having considered the report and recommendation of the Assistant City Engineer, dated August 26, 2025, which bears the signatures of the Assistant Director of Public Works, the Finance Director, and the City Attorney, and is approved for submission by the Mayor, regarding additional appropriation and expenditure for the Police Station Fuel Tank Replacement, the Council does hereby determine as follows:

1. Award a contract in an amount not to exceed \$394,984.00 to Oscar W. Larson Co., 10100 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, Michigan 48348, as the sole source existing maintenance company, for performing all work required in connection with removing and replacing the police station fuel tanks based on the quote provided;
2. Authorize an appropriation and expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$394,984.00 from Account No: 401-000-987-000

(Emergency Replacement of Leaking LPD/LFD Fuel Tank)
for this purpose; and

3. Authorize the Director of Public Works to approve minor adjustments in the work as it becomes necessary but this authorization does not entitle the Director of Public Works to authorize any increase in the not to exceed amount or to contract with other parties.

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

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

NAYS: None.

Item #6 was moved to the next meeting.

No resolution was offered for Item #7 vis a vis recommendation to Administration, the Administration has committed to working on recommendations about value engineering and rescoping to potentially lower costs for this project.

Denise Mica, Resident, expressed her frustration regarding the lack of audience acknowledgement at the Capital Outlay and Infrastructure Committee Meeting.

Jenny O'Connor, W. Chicago St., echoed concerns over audience participation at committee meetings, stating audience members could provide great assistance.

Chris Lenior, 9063 Beatrice, stated he attended the recent committee meeting with a representative in hopes of being able to speak and mentioned a lot of community members would be willing to help with the Rotary Park pavilion.

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

#302-25 RESOLVED, that upon the motion by Councilmember Carrie Budzinski, supported by Councilmember Laura Toy, the Council does hereby extend the allotted time for speaking to Chris Lenior for an additional two (2) minutes while discussing contracting and skilled trades.

Chris Lenior, 9063 Beatrice, continued to speak about alternative options to repair the Rotary Park pavilion with the help of the community and possibly students.

Eileen McDonnell, Resident, asked Council to consider putting a pause on the project and allow the community to help.

Steve King, Coventry Gardens, spoke about alternative means to repair the pavilion and hopes changes can be made soon.

Laura Janika, Munger St., stated she also finds it frustrating that the community can't give their input regarding items in committee.

Councilmember Scheel took from the table, for second reading and adoption, the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 075, 080,
AND 115 OF CHAPTER 04 (CITY COUNCIL) TO
TITLE 2 OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES,
AS AMENDED

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

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

NAYS: None.

On a motion by Councilmember Donovic, supported by Councilmember Ptashnik, it was:

#303-25 RESOLVED, that having considered a communication from the Department of Law, dated September 12, 2025, approved for submission by the Mayor, the Council does hereby, by a two-thirds roll call vote in accordance with Section 7(1) of the Open Meetings Act, direct that a closed Committee of the Whole meeting be held for the purpose of discussing litigation matters and attorney/client privileged communications in connection with pending litigation, Belmond Properties, LLC v City of Livonia; USDC Case No. 2:25-cv-11720.

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

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

NAYS: None.

President McCullough passed the gavel at 8:12 p.m.

President McCullough, supported by Councilmember Scheel, offered a substitute motion to place Item #10 into the Law and Education Committee.

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

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

NAYS: None.

On a motion by President McCullough, supported by Councilmember Donovic, it was:

#304-25 RESOLVED, that having considered a communication from Council President, Brandon McCullough, dated September 19, 2025, wherein it is requested that Council Resolution 315-24, adopted on September 23, 2024, be amended in order to clarify that Councilmember hosted community outreach events, that are not campaign advocacy events, are not subject to the fees that would normally be charged for rental of City owned properties, and upon the motion by Council President Brandon McCullough, seconded by Councilmember Rob Donovic, at the Regular Meeting held September 22, 2025, the Council does hereby refer this item to the Law and Education Committee for its report and recommendation.

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

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

NAYS: None.

There was no audience communication at the end of the meeting.

On a motion by Councilmember Toy, supported by Councilmember Donovic, and unanimously adopted, this 2,025th Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Lori L. Miller, City Clerk