



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL

Monday, April 28, 2025

7:30 PM

Village Hall – 21 East Church Street, Lake Orion, MI 48362

(248) 693-8391 ext. 102

1. Call to Order

The April 28, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Pro Tem Ford.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

PRESENT

President Pro Tem Stan Ford

Council member Carl Cyrowski

Council member Nancy Moshier

Council member Michael Lamb

Council member George Dandalides

Council member Alex Comparoni Jr

ABSENT

President Teresa Rutt

STAFF PRESENT

Village Manager Darwin McClary

DPW Director Wes Sanchez

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Lynsey Blough

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr., to excuse President Rutt from the April 28, 2025 Village Council Regular Meeting.

VOTING YE: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

4. Presentations

A. Proclamation-Small Business Appreciation Week: May 4-10, 2025

President Pro Tem Ford presented the proclamation recognizing Small Business Appreciation Week.

5. Call to the Public

Chantel Cody expressed concern regarding the Sidewalk Improvement Program and President Pro Tem Ford informed her that the matter would be addressed during the corresponding agenda item later in the meeting.

Donald Kindred voiced frustration over the Village's lack of response to resident concerns, including police services, infrastructure issues, and a blocked manhole near the school. He questioned the need for a Village police boat, citing existing county and DNR resources, and urged the Council to listen to citizens and act on long-standing issues.

6. Approval of Agenda

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr., to add "2025-2026 Village Goal & Objectives Discussion Schedule" to today's meeting agenda.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

MOTION made by Council member Cyrowski, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr., to approve the April 28, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting Agenda and to add "2025-2026 Village Goal & Objectives Discussion Schedule" as Item 10F.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

7. Consent Agenda

All items on the Consent Agenda are approved by one vote.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of Items A (Planning Commission Re-appointment – Henry Lorant & James Barry), F (Receive and File of Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2025), and J (Approval of Special Event – Lake Orion Lions Club Jubilee) for further discussion.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

A. Planning Commission Re-appointment – Henry Lorant & James Barry

Removed for further discussion

B. Approval of Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2025

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to approve the April 14, 2025 Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

C. Approval of Village Council Special Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2025

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to approve the April 16, 2025 Village Council Special Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

D. Approval of Village Council Special Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2025

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to approve the April 21, 2025 Village Council Special Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

E. Approval of Village Council Special Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2025

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to approve the April 22, 2025 Village Council Special Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

F. Receive and File of Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2025

Removed for further discussion

G. Receive and File of DDA Regular Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2025

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to receive and file the Downtown Development Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2025, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

H. Receive and File of Invoice Distribution Report of April 29, 2025

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to receive and file the bills in the amount of \$ 295,744.56 of which \$ 144,322.56 are DDA bills for a net total of \$ 151,422.00 and to receive and file the DDA bills.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

I. Receive and File attached correspondences from various community members in regard to "Save the Lake" initiative

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to receive and file correspondence from community members dated April 3, 2025, through April 12, 2025, pertaining to the "Save the Lake" initiative.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

J. Approval of Special Event – Lake Orion Lions Club Jubilee

Removed for further discussion

8. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

A. Planning Commission Re-appointment – Henry Lorant & James Barry

Council member Lamb thanked Commissioners Lorant and Barry for serving and continuing to serve the Planning Commission.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr., to reappoint Henry Lorant and James Barry to three-year terms on the Planning Commission, with terms expiring April 30, 2028, subject to approval by the Village Council.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr
VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt
MOTION: Carried

Council member Lamb informed the public of a vacancy on the Planning Commission and encouraged interested individuals to submit an application to the Village Administration. Council member Cyrowski asked for clarification on whether applicants must be Village residents.

F. Receive and File of Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2025

Council member Dandalides reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee is reviewing a proposal for a kayak and paddleboard kiosk at Greens Park and is preparing a list of project proposals for October budget consideration. He will provide updates to keep Council informed.

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by Council member Lamb, to receive and file of Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2025, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr
VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt
MOTION: Carried

J. Approval of Special Event – Lake Orion Lions Club Jubilee

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by Council member Dandalides, to adopt Resolution 2025-011 to approve the Lake Orion Lions Club Jubilee Special Event Application and the License Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and the Lake Orion Lions Club for the use of various Village properties from Thursday, June 19, 2025, through Sunday, June 22, 2025, and to authorize the Village Council President and Village Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village subject to prior approval by the Fire Department for this event.

MOTION was withdrawn.

Council member Lamb raised concerns about approving the Lions Club Jubilee without Fire Department approval, citing safety risks and potential liability due to blocked access for emergency vehicles. He emphasized that approval from the Fire marshal was essential to avoid legal risks and to ensure public safety. Council member Dandalides expressed similar concerns, particularly over Fire Marshal objections and the potential obstruction of emergency access, while Council member Moshier supported the event but highlighted safety risks, suggesting the relocation of rides.

Council member Cyrowski emphasized the importance of the event for the community and local businesses, noting that the Lions Club's insurance mitigated liability. President Pro Tem Ford supported the Jubilee but stressed the need for legal clarity and fire approval. Council member

Lamb reiterated the need for fire marshal approval to avoid negligence and protect the Village's insurance coverage.

Roger Brodeur, representing the Lions Club, argued that the Jubilee has been a safe event for 60 years and warned that it could end if not approved for downtown. He mentioned that alternative locations were explored but deemed unsuitable. Harrison Ford and Donald Kindred suggested considering alternative locations, such as the former lumber yard or nearby state parks.

Brenda Beyer expressed concern over the tone of the meeting, perceiving some comments as threatening, while Rosemary Ford defended the Lions Club's safety efforts. Art Schrah questioned whether the fire marshal's restrictions applied to all downtown events, not just the Lions Club. Council member Cyrowski emphasized the Jubilee's positive impact on downtown businesses and the Lions Club's safety measures, urging the event to proceed.

Village Manager McClary recommended delaying the decision for further consultation with the Village Attorney on liability and public input. Council member Cyrowski expressed frustration with the timing of the discussion and suggested proceeding with the event this year, addressing any issues for future events. Mr. Brodeur clarified that the application had been submitted months ago and expressed frustration over the uncertainty.

Chris Ophus and Dan Hartwell from the Lions Club highlighted their cooperation with the fire department and their commitment to safety. Fire Chief Ryan Allen explained concerns about the placement of carnival rides obstructing fire truck access and the aging village infrastructure, while emphasizing the fire department's position based on fire codes. Council member Comparoni supported moving forward with the event, suggesting that risks should sometimes be taken to keep the community active. He proposed approving the event now and revisiting the decision if necessary.

MOTION made Council member Lamb, Seconded by Council member Dandalides, to AMEND the previous motion and to postpone any action on the Jubilee Special Event pending recommendation from the Village Attorney after discussion with the Fire Department, DPW, Police and representatives from the Lake Orion Lions Club.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides

VOTING NAY: Cyrowski, Comparoni Jr

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

9. Public Hearings

A. Hearing on Proposed Special Assessment Roll – Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) 2025 District #1

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to open the public hearing on Proposed Special Assessment Roll – Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) 2025 District #1.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt
MOTION: Carried

President Pro Tem Ford opened the public hearing at 8:51 PM.

Chantel Cody from 59 North Washington Street, reported sidewalk damage caused by a utility company's vehicle two years ago while replacing a telephone pole. She provided photos of the damage and mentioned that the utility company had parked on her sidewalk. She came to the meeting to request that the Village invoice the utility company for repairs. The DPW Director confirmed the damage was caused by the utility company.

Harrison Ford from 80 Perry Street questioned the replacement of two sidewalk squares marked with blue X's, as they showed no signs of damage. He noted that six other squares had pooling water but weren't marked for repair. Mr. Ford raised concerns about the underlying drainage issue causing the pooling, suggesting that replacing the sidewalk without addressing the cause would only lead to recurring problems. The Village Administration acknowledged his concerns and will investigate further.

Jason Hout from 111 West Church Street raised concerns about the randomness of the sidewalk squares marked for replacement, noting that some areas, like the sidewalks behind the Irish Tavern, appeared worse but weren't marked. He also asked if property owners could replace additional slabs beyond those marked, expressing a preference for a more cohesive approach. The Village responded by clarifying that if property owners want to replace more slabs, a change order could be made with the contractor to take advantage of the project's economies of scale. Mr. Hout was advised to email the DPW Director with his request.

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to close the public hearing on Proposed Special Assessment Roll – Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) 2025 District #1.

VOTING YE: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr
VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt
MOTION: Carried

President Pro Tem Ford closed the public hearing at 9:00 PM.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr, to direct the Assessor to correct the Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) 2025 – District #1 proposed special assessment roll utilizing the low bid unit costs submitted by Santos Concrete 1, Inc., of Lincoln Park, Michigan, for consideration for confirmation by the Village Council at its May 12, 2025, Regular Meeting.

VOTING YE: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr
VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt
MOTION: Carried

10. Other Items

A. Amendments to Sidewalk Improvement Program Policy

Council member Lamb reviewed a document and suggested a potential correction regarding the 6% interest rate. He recommended allowing for the interest rate to be adjusted annually or alongside other fee structures, in case rates change in the future. However, Village Manager McClary disagreed, explaining that keeping the interest rate fixed at 6% would provide consistency and fairness across the program, ensuring uniformity for property owners in all districts. President Pro Tem agreed with the Village Manager.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to adopt the amendments to the Village of Lake Orion Sidewalk Improvement Program Policy to reduce the number of special assessments for any one improvement cycle from five to three and to clarify the spreading of sidewalk special assessments evenly over a three-year period.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

B. 2025-2027 Tax Collection Services Agreement – Orion Township

Council members Dandalides and Lamb raised concerns about the rising tax collection costs and the fairness of the fee structure. Council member Dandalides questioned the method used to calculate the fee, suggesting it should be based on the number of properties rather than property values. Council member Lamb pointed out a clause allowing a fee increase beyond the 1% statutory limit. Village Manager McClary explained the Township's cost allocation study and agreed that while the Village should honor the current agreement, it should also explore the feasibility of bringing tax collection in-house, with the flexibility to terminate the agreement with six months' notice.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Cyrowski, to approve the "Agreement Between Charter Township of Orion and Village of Lake Orion Concerning Tax Collection Fee" covering the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, for the Township to provide tax collection services for the Village at a fee equal to one percent (1%) of scheduled collections; and to authorize the Village Manager and Village Clerk to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Village.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

C. Audit Feedback Memo requested per Council

Council member Comparoni Jr. exited the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Council member Dandalides thanked staff for addressing audit findings with clear solutions and emphasized the importance of transparency and learning from the audit.

Council member Comparoni Jr. returned at 9:18 PM.

Council member Lamb raised concerns about a previously undisclosed DDA bank account and potential conflicts of interest involving businesses paid by the DDA. Village Manager McClary clarified that the Village is not responsible for DDA accounts, and staff had already identified and addressed the concerns with the DDA leadership. No motion was made, as the item was for discussion only.

D. Contract for Preparation of FY 2026 Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category B Grant Application – NFE

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr, to approve a contract with Nowak & Fraus Engineers to prepare and submit a grant application for the Village of Lake Orion under the State of Michigan FY 2026 Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category B Community Service Infrastructure Fund grant program in accordance with the firm’s proposal dated April 7, 2025, in the lump sum amount of \$4,500.00, and authorize the Village Manager to execute all necessary documents relating to this contract on behalf of the Village.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr
VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt
MOTION: Carried

E. Local Road Improvement Matching Fund Program Cost Participation Agreement

Council member Lamb inquired about the cost and efficiency of crack sealing and whether the Village performs it in-house. DPW Director Sanchez clarified that crack sealing is currently contracted out. He noted that purchasing equipment could allow the Village to handle the work internally, potentially saving money, and agreed to look into it further. Regarding street sweeping, it was discussed that purchasing and maintaining a sweeper may not be cost-effective at this time.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council member Cyrowski, to approve the Local Road Improvement Matching Fund Program Cost Participation Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and the Oakland County Board of Commissioners for the Crack Sealing of Roads in the Downtown District (Board Project No. 2024-15), and authorize the Village Manager to execute the agreement and submit the required invoice to Oakland County.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr
VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt
MOTION: Carried

F. 2025-2026 Village Goal & Objectives Discussion Schedule

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by Council member Lamb, to schedule a Special Meeting at 6:30 PM on May 12, 2025, discussing the Goals and Objectives of the Village.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides

VOTING NAY: Comparoni Jr

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

11. Call to the Public

None.

12. Council Comments

Council member Cyrowski expressed support for the Jubilee and hopes it will be both successful and safe.

Council member Lamb apologized to the Lions Club for the delay in their permit approval and emphasized the need to resolve the ongoing issue after four years. He also thanked the Fire Chief for attending the meeting and assisting with the matter.

Council member Moshier thanked residents for attending and shared an update from the Orion Community Cable Communications Commission, noting that their finances are strong and they are exploring investment options. She also gave special thanks to Council Member Dandalides for his efforts in organizing the Village Manager's evaluation materials, which she found very helpful.

Council member Comparoni Jr thanked the Fire Chief, Village staff, and colleagues for their work and collaboration. He expressed concern about the Township's handling of tax-related processes and suggested that the Village consider bringing more operations in-house to maintain control and reduce reliance on the Township.

Council member Dandalides announced a May 10 community cleanup with free refreshments from Cookies and Cream, a CPR/AED class hosted by LOLA and the Fire Department, and the first lake subcommittee meeting with Township reps set for May 7.

President Pro Tem Ford reported that Paint Creek Trail is seeking a manager and exploring county support while preserving its identity, praised a local student's performance in a high school play, and thanked Council member Dandalides for organizing the lake subcommittee with Township participation.

13. Village Manager Comments

Village Manager McClary thanked Orion Township Fire Chief Ryan Allen for attending the meeting. He also provided the Village Council with a written update covering the Quiet Title Action, Municode Ordinance Codification Project, Engineering Design and Construction Standards Project, Village Property Inventory and Mapping, Master Plan Strategic Action Plan Project, FY24

Congressional Community Projects Grant, and the Downtown Parking Metering Project, along with a list of upcoming important dates.

14. Closed Session Items

A. Consider Periodic Personnel Evaluation of Village Manager – MCL 15.268(1)(a)

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by Council member Lamb, to convene into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(a) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, being MCL 15.268(1)(a) for the purpose of considering the periodic personnel evaluation of the Village Manager as requested by the Village Manager.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

The Village Council convened to a Closed Session at 9:43 PM.

15. Reconvene to Open Session

MOTION made by Council member Cyrowski, Seconded by Council member Lamb, to reconvene into Open Session.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

The Village Council reconvened to Open Session at 9:57 PM.

16. Business From Closed Session

17. Adjournment

MOTION by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to adjourn the April 28, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides

VOTING NAY: Comparoni Jr

ABSENT: Rutt

MOTION: Carried

The April 28, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:58 PM.

Sonja Stout
Clerk/Treasurer

Date Approved: as presented on May 12, 2025