



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL

Monday, June 09, 2025

7:30 PM

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

(248) 693-8391 ext. 102

1. Call to Order

The June 9, 2025 Village Council Regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Rutt.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

PRESENT

President Teresa Rutt

President Pro Tem Stan Ford

Council member Carl Cyrowski

Council member Michael Lamb

Council member George Dandalides

Council member Alex Comparoni Jr

ABSENT

Council member Nancy Moshier

STAFF PRESENT

Village Manager Darwin McClary

Police Chief Mark Amundson

DPW Director Wes Sanchez

Clerk/Treasurer Sonja Stout

MOTION made by Council member Dandalides, Seconded by Council member Comparoni to excuse Council member Moshier from the June 9, 2025 Village Council Regular Meeting for personal matters.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

4. Presentations

A. Introduction and Swearing in of New Lake Orion Police Officers

Chief Amundson gave a brief presentation introducing new part-time officers Matt Mihacsi and Ryan Hammond. Clerk/Treasurer Stout administered the oath of office to both officers before Council.

5. Call to the Public

Dan Hartwell, representing the Lions Club Jubilee, requested that Council consider the Jubilee Insurance matter during tonight's agenda. This request was based on an email sent to Council earlier that same day.

Harry Stephens reviewed the current size of the agenda packet and provided recommendations for streamlining it in future meetings.

Rosemary Ford expressed appreciation to the Lake Orion Lake Association (LOLA) for organizing a successful fishing event and also thanked the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for their contributions to the recent Trails Day event.

6. Approval of Agenda

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by Council member Cyrowski to approve the amended agenda with item 10.A 2025 Engineering Design and Construction Standards to be postponed to the June 23, 2025 and adding Jubilee insurance consideration in lieu of the current agenda item.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

7. Consent Agenda

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

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of item E. Redevelopment Liquor License Application- Sagebrush Cigar Bar, and item F. Approval of Joint off-Premises Tasting Room License for further discussion.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

A. Approval of Village Council Special meeting minutes of May 29, 2025.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to approve the May 29, 2025 Village Council Special meeting minutes as presented.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier
MOTION: Carried

B. Receive and File of BZA Regular Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2025

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to receive and file the BZA Regular Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2025, as presented

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

C. Michigan Municipal League (MML) Insurance renewal 2025-2026

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to approve the liability and property insurance renewal proposal of the Michigan Municipal League (MML) in the amount of \$73,713 and authorize the Village Manager to sign the contract subject to review by the Village Attorney.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

D. MML Worker's Compensation Renewal

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to approve the Workers' Compensation renewal and to distribute monies to the Workers' Compensation for renewal period for July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

E. Redevelopment Liquor License Application – Sagebrush Cigar Bar

Removed for further discussion.

F. Approval of Joint Off-Premises Tasting Room License

Removed for further discussion.

G. Receive and File of Invoice Distribution Report for June 10, 2025

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to receive and file the bills in the amount of \$ 77,790.18 of which \$ 16,718.90 are DDA bills for a net total of \$ 61,071.28 and to receive and file the DDA bills.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

H. Receive and File Financial Statements- May 2025

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to receive and file the financial reports for May 2025.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

I. Receive and File Investment Report- April 2025

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to receive and file the Investment report for April 2025.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

J. Budget Amendments-Variou

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to approve budget amendments BA-2025-101-253-002, BA-2025-101-260- 04, BA-2025-101-964-002, BA-2025-207-13, BA-2025-101-964-001, and BA-2025-490-001 as presented by administration.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

K. Receive and File of May 2025 Police Department Activity Report

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Dandalides to receive and file the May 2025 Police Department Activity Report.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

8. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

E. Redevelopment Liquor License Application – Sagebrush Cigar Bar

Chris Tower, the attorney representing Dan Zaraga for the Sagebrush Cigar Bar, answered questions relating to the Liquor license application from council.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Rutt that the application from Sagebrush Cigar Bar for the following license: Class C license under MCL 436.1521A1b to be located at 34 S. Broadway Street, Lake Orion, Michigan; it is the consensus of this body that it recommends this application be considered for approval by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

F. Approval of Joint Off-Premises Tasting Room License

Paul Hamelin provided a background on the current business requesting the Liquor license and answered council questions pertaining to the license.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Comparoni, Jr to adopt Resolution No. 2025-019 recommending approval of the Joint Off-Premises Tasting Room License at 146 S Broadway, Suite 150 for the 15 listed Michigan wineries, and authorize the Village Clerk to complete and sign the Local Government Approval section (Form LCC-106c) of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission application.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

9. Public Hearings

None.

10. Other Items

A. Jubilee Insurance Consideration

Council Member Lamb stated that he had previously consulted both the Lions Club's insurance provider and the Village's insurance company, and noted that there is overlapping coverage between the two policies. Council Member Comparoni Jr. encouraged the Lions Club to submit their application earlier in the future. President Rutt thanked the Lions Club for all their efforts in organizing the event.

Dan Hartwell, representing the Lions Club Jubilee, expressed his appreciation to the Council for their support in approving the event.

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, seconded by President Rutt, to rescind the previous motion adopted by the Council at the May 12, 2025 meeting and to reduce the current insurance liability amount to \$1 million per occurrence with \$10 million dollars aggregate, while maintaining all other conditions of the previous approval.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

B. Adoption of FY 2025-26 Budget and Millage Rates

Council Member Lamb discussed taxable values and the amount of tax revenue collected by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). President Rutt clarified that the millage rate has

remained unchanged, and that any increase residents are seeing in their property taxes is due to the rise in their home's taxable value, not an increase in the millage rate.

Harry Stephens recommended that the Village consider adopting a zero-based budgeting process in the future. He also raised concerns regarding employee raises and Parks and Recreation expenditures.

Village Manager McClary and President Rutt responded to these concerns, clarifying the budgeting process and the rationale behind raises. They also emphasized that the Parks and Recreation Department is a public service, not a revenue-generating entity.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford to adopt the FY 2025-26 General Appropriations Act resolution which approves the FY 2025-26 Budget for the Village of Lake Orion and adopts the FY 2025-26 general operating, police operating, and Headlee override millage rates.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

C. FY 2025-26 Council Goals and Objectives

President Rutt and Council Member Lamb noted that the Goals and Objectives have been significantly reduced compared to previous years, and expressed appreciation to the Council for their efforts in reaching this point. Council Member Lamb also identified an error on page 321.

Harry Stephens commented on the lack of references to lake activity within the Council's Goals and Objectives. President Rutt responded that a committee is currently addressing those concerns.

Steve Samet provided comments on Item 10.B, *Adoption of the FY 2025–26 Budget and Millage Rates*, specifically regarding tax revenue.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Cyrowski to adopt the FY 2025-26 Village Council goals and objectives as presented.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

D. Sick Leave Policy

A discussion took place between Council Member Lamb and Council Member Dandalides, Village Manager McClary, and President Rutt regarding the current sick leave policy and its relation to the new state-mandated requirements. It was concluded that while most employee contracts already include provisions for sick leave, the state policy serves as a default for employees not covered by a contract, such as seasonal, temporary, and part-time staff.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Rutt to adopt the Village of Lake Orion sick leave policy as presented to comply with Michigan's Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA), Public Act 338 of 2018, as amended by Act 2 of 2025, effective February 21, 2025.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

E. Fee for Handling and Auditing of DDA Funds

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by Council member Cyrowski to adopt the resolution 2025-020 assessing a reasonable pro rata share of the funds of the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority for the cost of handling and auditing the funds of the DDA against the funds of the Authority pursuant to MCL 125.4228(2).

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

F. Discussion on Monthly versus Quarterly Water Billing

Discussion took place about transitioning from quarterly to monthly billing. Topics included concerns about budgeting impacts for residents, the potential for hidden costs in monthly bills, the benefits of monthly billing, and the associated costs of shifting from quarterly to monthly billing. Council agreed to wait until after the Public Hearing on June 23, 2025, to gather public input on the matter. Residents were encouraged to contact Council members via email to share their feedback. No action was taken at this time, but Council requested that the item be added to the next meeting agenda.

Harry Stephens commented on water and sewer increases along with the newsletter being an avenue to get more information to residents.

11. Call to the Public

None.

12. Council Comments

Council Member Dandalides acknowledged the recent graduation of police officers and congratulated Matt and Ryan on successfully completing the academy.

Pro Tem Ford echoed the congratulations and also extended thanks to the Lions Club Jubilee for their contributions.

Council Member Cyrowski announced that the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 75th anniversary and promoted the upcoming event scheduled for June 17, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Council Member Comparoni Jr. expressed gratitude to Village staff and the *Lake Orion Review*, and encouraged public engagement by suggesting that “keyboard warriors” attend the special joint meeting between the Township and the Village Planning Commission on June 18, 2025.

Council Member Lamb thanked the Lions Club for their responsibility in organizing events and spoke about Police Department funding and the broader issue of long-term funding for the Village.

President Rutt encouraged the public to attend the upcoming Public Hearing on June 23, 2025, regarding leaf pickup, and urged residents to email their concerns about water and sewer services to Council members.

13. Village Manager Comments

Village Manager McClary provided a brief update on the attorney’s opinion regarding the DDA tax increment revenues, the Sidewalk Improvement Program District #1, and shared upcoming relevant dates.

14. Closed Session Items

15. Business From Closed Session

16. Adjournment

MOTION made by Council member Cyrowski, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr., to adjourn the June 9, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting.

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

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Moshier

MOTION: Carried

The June 9, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Teresa Rutt
President

Sonja Stout
Village Clerk/Treasurer

Date Approved: as presented on June 23, 2025.