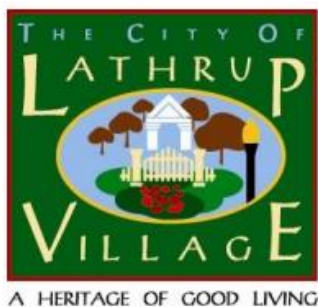




City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, July 20, 2026, at 7:00 PM

27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

1. **Call to Order** by Mayor Kantor at 7:06 pm

2. **Roll Call**

Present: Kantor, Garrett, Sousanis, Jennings, Hammond

Also Present: City Administrator Greene, Clerk Emanuel, Attorney Baker

Absent: n/a

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councilmember Sousanis, seconded by Councilmember Jennings, to approve the Agenda with the amendment of tabling item 8.F., the removal of Sarrackwood Park playscape.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

5. **Presentations**

A. Introduction of New City Staff

6. **Public Comment for Items on the Agenda** (speakers are limited to 3 minutes)

Jonathan Tara expressed in part: that the City should consider making the Code Enforcement Officer full-time instead of part-time, and that the DDA is relatively well funded compared to the City.

Rick Wisz commented in part: inquiries regarding what Giffels Webster work on Rainbow Circle was worth \$34,000 and close to \$5,000 for Southfield Road.

7. **Consent Agenda**

A. Approval of Minutes

i. 6-10-26 - Joint Southfield & Lathrup Village Special Meeting

ii. 6-15-26 - City Council Study Session

iii. 6-15-26 - City Council Regular Meeting

iv. 6-25-26 - City Council Special Meeting

- B. Building & Code Enforcement Reports
- C. Finance Department Monthly Reports
- D. Lathrup Village Police Department Monthly Report
- E. Community & Economic Development Monthly Report

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, seconded by Councilmember Hammond, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

8. Action Requests - For Consideration / Approval

A. Request to Approve DDA & City Cost Share Agreement Amendment

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, seconded by Councilmember Hammond, to approve the 2026-2031 DDA & City Cost Share Agreement Amendment 1.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

B. Request to Approve 1-Year Verkada License Renewal

Moved by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, to approve a one-year extension for Verkada Licenses with Trendset Communications Group for a cost of \$6,872.40.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

C. Request to Approve LVPD Patrol Vehicle Purchase

Moved by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, to approve the Tahoe purchase through Berger Chevrolet for \$55,337.00 with a not-to-exceed upfit cost of \$20,000 through Canfield Equipment; and authorize the Finance Department to utilize \$10,000 from the City's Federal Forfeiture Fund Balance to offset the purchase cost of the Tahoe.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

D. Request to Approve MML Property & Liability Insurance Renewal

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, seconded by Councilmember Jennings, to approve the renewal of the MML Liability & Property Pool Renewal Proposal at the annual rate of \$111,775 effective September 1, 2026, and authorize the City Administrator to sign related documents.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

E. Request to Approve CIPP Change Order

Moved by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Jennings, to approve the CIPP (Cure In Place Pipe) Change Order request to add approximately 435 liner feet of sewer lining off of Guy Street for an estimated cost of \$35,670.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

~~**F. Request to Approve the Removal of the Sarrackwood Park Playscape**~~

G. Request to Appoint Communication & Engagement Committee Member

Moved by Councilmember Sousanis, seconded by Councilmember Jennings, to appoint Diane Damskey to the Communication & Engagement Committee for a term expiring December 31, 2028.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

9. City Administrator Report N/A

10. City Attorney Report N/A

11. Reports of Boards, Commissions, and Committees

- a. Downtown Development Authority – Approved a Cost Share and approved Liquor sales for LVMF
- b. Parks & Recreation – the DNR Grant for \$400,000 was officially included into the State budget and it requires a \$200,000 match, we have \$100,000 and we are applying for a grant with Game Time, hopefully to have all \$600,000 without a cost to the City, the Committee also recommended removing the playscape at Sarrackwood Park, and there was discussion of having sponsored signs to find the City Parks, and since the Parks & Recreation has taken over the Children’s Garden they held a successful weeding event.
- c. Planning Commission – Welcome to new DDA Director Janet Bloom, on Tuesday, July 21st there will be an Open House from 4-7 pm and a Mayor’s State of the City Address, then the

regular Planning Commission meeting will start at 7 pm, with discussions of Zone amendments, artisan manufacturing for the Maker's Spaces, and Town Hall review goals for the Master Plan, with the hope of having well defined updated objectives as we move to finalize the review of the Master Plan.

d. Tree Committee N/A

e. Communications & Engagement- Since City Council agreed to pay 50% and DDA to pay the other 50% of the survey, the target date is next Tuesday to have that in the field. The Chair stepped down, and the vote to replace them was put off until full membership is in attendance.

f. Southfield School Board – held a groundbreaking for University High School last Tuesday, and Mayor Kantor and DDA Director Bloom attended

g. Chamber of Commerce N/A

12. **Unfinished / New Business**

Fatherhood Month Proclamation

- The City Council discussed whether they should rescind the Fatherhood Month proclamation that was included in the last meeting.
- Discussion occurred where there was a majority that wished to proceed with including a resolution to rescind at the next regular meeting.

13. **Public Comment** (speakers are limited to 3 minutes)

Jonathan Tara, expressed in part: thanks to Chief Zang for the company that passed out the Save On flyers being cited and had “Zang” brand snack chips

Lauren Beras, expressed in part: about the creation of the LVMF-Lathrup Village Music Foundation and the funding of \$1,000 seed money, the DDA budget and sponsorships, and that it is not funded by the City's general fund, and that she believes in the event and that it makes Lathrup Village a better place.

Shugmi Shumunov expressed in part: to be careful of rescinding the proclamation; they might strike; asked if there is a reason that the Verkada recordings are only kept for 30 days; is there a way to keep it in-house?

Laurie Kunz, expressed in part: about the Police car purchase, who was blamed for stopping the Study Session recordings, referenced felonies and proper authorities being notified, and about Police reports against her that she felt were untrue.

Autumn Sousanis, expressed in part: about the Siren activated gate and information about it that was shared at the Joint Council meeting, and asked if it works now as well as sharing that she and Shelby are willing to volunteer to help the Children's Garden, and that in the past volunteers have worked at the Park and asked for 3 inches of mulch and they could not get it, and the correct Mulch for playgrounds needs to be processed and shared that certified playground grade mulch 9-12 inches.

Karen Copus, expressed in part: Questions about the Lathrup Village Chamber of Commerce, and asked if some people are affiliated with it, asked if the City has looked into options for the discontinued Chipping Service, commented about staff that work on billing and getting rid of one staff member, cutting down on Giffels Webster fees, and asked if Proclamations represent residents or just sitting City Council members.

14. **Mayor and Council Comments**

Mayor Kantor:

- Letter regarding lead that residents received was because there was a requirement that it went out; it was not indicating a new problem. Our yearly CCR has been published for more information about our water safety.
- Proclamation process discussed and working on putting it into place, and we will discuss it at the next meeting
- Elected officials not to take office until swearing in the Oath of office, which will be December 1st; the old Council will still be the seated Council
- Engineering Rainbow Drive
- Verkada deleted after 30 days; we can increase the retention; it costs more
- Siren gate – CA said it is a functioning gate; issue deals with chirp feature versus what vehicles enable. Every public safety vehicle has a way to open the gate.
- Chipping in Study Session plan to talk about it next month
- Proclamations represent residents because they represent the residents
- Compliment Mike and Michelle on reconciliation report – great job managing the budget
- Can still use volunteers for the LVMF
- Condolences to the family of Jerry Stone; he will be missed
- Water Resource Commission has need-based assistance; you can contact them
- The water billing can pick up the readings remotely, 1600 with one antenna, and will save us about \$25,000 in costs per year

Mayor Pro Tem Garrett commented in part:

- Proclamations are for residents - proclamations express what we stand for as a Community
- Alisa and I are not on the Board of the Lathrup Village Chamber of Commerce
- Expressed that the Police be more diligent and proactive when there are threats that are being said during Council meetings, because we have no idea what someone can do when their anger is heightened
- Mr. Watts is not a City employee; that is a private matter

Councilmember Hammond commented in part:

- Giffels Webster is utilized because the City no longer has an employee that is a Planner, and for every project we get an estimate and they provide oversight and knowledge of this City, we get the benefit from their experience, yet it is worthwhile to do annual reviews to see if they are meeting our expectations

Councilmember Sousanis commented in part:

- Ticket item as big as Giffels Webster behooves us to review their contracted work versus expectations we have of the work, and exploring a full-time employee; the public doesn't understand how it works and why they are there
- If Verkada can access the recordings after 30 days, as well as Flock too

- Data being kept does touch on the Flock Cameras; a lot of good coming out of it, however the company that provides it has come under scrutiny, and we should understand what that is about
- Glad the Siren activated gate is working
- Please come to tomorrow's Open House meeting

15. Request to Enter into a Closed Session per MCL 15.268(a) to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of the City Administrator

Moved by Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, seconded by Councilmember Hammond, to go into Closed Session at 8:21 pm.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

Moved by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Jennings, to come back into the Public Meeting at 8:39 pm.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

A. Open Session - Request to Approve City Administrator Compensation Increase \$3250 bonus effective immediately

Moved by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Sousanis, to approve \$3,250 as a bonus effective immediately, due to a positive performance evaluation.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Sousanis, Hammond

No: n/a

Motion carried

16. Adjourn

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, seconded by Councilmember Hammond to adjourn at 8:40 pm.