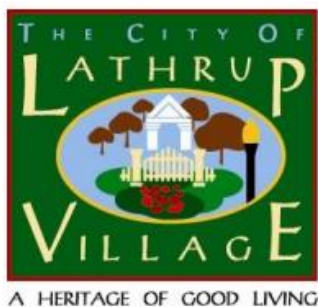




City Council Study Session

Monday, July 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM

27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

1. **Call to Order** by Mayor Kantor at 6:00 PM

Present: Kantor, Sousanis, Jennings, Hammond

Also Present: CA Greene, Clerk Emanuel, Attorney Baker

Absent: Garrett

2. **Discussion Items**

A. Proclamation Procedures

Councilmembers, City Administrator Greene, and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Adopting procedures for Proclamations as a stand-alone policy or as part of Council Rules/Procedures
- Considering an appeal process
- The Proclamation coming from the Mayor or from the Council (names of Council members on the Proclamation)
- Understanding who is asking for the Proclamation – eligibility
- The amount of time to review the requests/applications, having a deadline to submit the applications
- CA Greene giving the initial approval of the request

B. Chipping Services

Councilmembers, City Administrator Greene, and Attorney Baker discussed:

- The estimate of \$2,100 for one day of chipping from Davey Tree Service
- We haven't heard back from Fontenot regarding a once-a-month service
- When people call, do we provide names of services and that we cannot refer companies
- How we define a "storm" for calling in chipping services
- The cost of calling in the service and our budget
- The service was cut as a budget savings measure, and we are still balancing our budget

C. Regular Meeting Agenda Items

Councilmembers, City Administrator Greene, and Attorney Baker discussed:

- The requested purchase of a new Police Patrol Vehicle:
 - engine replacements on current Tahoes and looking at a different brand
 - other repairs needed
 - engine hours (running the engine in park) versus mileage
 - an hour of engine idling is equal to approximately 40 miles of driving
 - pursuit-ready vehicles needed, and there is no EV at this time that qualifies
- Sarrackwood Playscape removal:
 - having it assessed/checked for structural quality
 - giving residents a chance to collect money to repair the playscape

- the cost of repainting the playscape is approximately \$6,000
- delaying the decision to remove the playscape
- possibly having Game Time look at the playscape
- is the plan to keep it until we can afford something new?
- the Parks & Recreation Committee recommended the playscape be removed
- Sarrackwood weeds and Thistle removal
- Communications & Engagement Committee
 - received one application for the Committee

3. **Public Comments**

Jonathan Tara expressed in part: about the discontinuation of the chipping service, conversation with a neighbor regarding tree branches/limbs, unintended consequences of the ending of the chipping service, the City does not own a chipper, and if the chipping can be rolled into a millage for refuse.

Lillian Kyser-Lowery, expressed in part: that she knew the chipping service was ending, drove around after the storm and saw (branches and limbs), different age groups in the City, giving the new Ordinance person a chance to see it, and making people aware that they are now responsible for the tree in front of the house.

Leslie Valiant, expressed in part: that Chief Zang has given enough evidence that we need a new Police car and it is the Police that sets us aside (apart); the Proclamation policy and the wording of the Proclamation policy in relation to it reflecting the Mayor and Council and the final decision on Proclamations; and that Sarrackwood Park, only needs a swing set the whole set does not need to be eliminated.

Shugmi Shumunov, expressed in part: that he is willing to be on the Committee, he didn't know about the chipping service, and he is knowledgeable in the area of IT.

Autumn Sousanis, commented in part: that she paid \$200 to have the park mowed today, the Thistles are bad, weed suppression is needed and it can be cardboard or other material, nine to twelve inches of mulch makes the playground safe and Thistle wouldn't grow, volunteers can spray paint the playscape, please do not poison the weeds, it doesn't stop the weeds, it only poisons people, and that Ordinances along the business district are not being addressed including: three buildings that are not following it with lights shining into Southfield Road, and Food Trucks.

4. **Mayor and Council Comments**

Mayor Kantor and City Council commented in part:

- Trash and Recycling 3 mills specifically for that
- We are working on reaching residents who are not "online"
- The businesses not following the Ordinances – it takes time to enforce it; there is a ticketing process
- Council did talk about being able to appeal an approved Proclamation request
- To Autumn, regarding the Volunteers that will help at the Park, are they looking for the City to pay?
- Established Communication Channels and mechanisms
- It would be nice if the volunteer collecting money and the people that care (Volunteers) about Sarrackwood Park would come together and coordinate with the Parks and Recreation Committee

5. **Adjourn** at 7:00 pm