



City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, November 20, 2023, at 6:00 PM

27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order of 2021-2023 City Council by Mayor Garrett at 6:00 pm

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Garrett, Mayor Pro Tem Kantor, Councilmember Jennings,
Councilmember Kenez, Councilmember Miller

Also Present: Interim City Administrator Pamela Bratschi and City Attorney Scott Baker.
Police Chief Scott McKee, City Clerk Kelda London

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Officials' Comments and Reports

Councilmember Kenez thanked everyone who supported Kenez, Miller, and Weaks and encouraged everyone to participate in a resident-formed committee.

Councilmember Miller thanked the residents who encouraged her to continue to ask questions, knowing that she had the best interest of Lathrup Village at heart. She urged residents to remain vigilant and get involved.

Mayor Garrett thanked all the voters for making her the number one vote-getter in this election. And is looking forward to continuing to show up for Lathrup Village for the next four years.

5. Motion - Adjournment Sine Die of 2021-2023 City Council

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kantor to adjourn the Sine Die of 2021-2023 Council. Mayor Garret seconded the motion.

6. Call to Order of 2023-2025 City Council by City Clerk at 6:24 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Garrett, Mayor Pro Tem Kantor, Councilmember
Barksdale, Councilmember Hammond

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kantor to excuse Councilmember Jennings. Councilmember Hammond seconded the motion.

Yes: Barksdale, Garrett, Hammond, Kantor

No: None

Motion carried.

7. Clerk Announces Election Results and Administers Oath of Office

City Clerk London Administers Oath of Office to Councilmembers Barksdale, Hammond, and Garrett.

Mayor Pro Tem Kantor moved to amend the agenda, 1) Adding the approval of Community Development Block Grant as Action Item 17. A, moving Action Item 17. C to Action Item 17. B, 11 Mile Resurfacing, moving Action Item 18. A to 18 C. the approval of the Audit, moving 18. B to Action Item 18. D City Administrator Negotiations. Adding Item 14 B, the presentation of the audit. Councilmember Hammond seconded the motion—also Closed Session for the Administrator negotiation.

Clerk London announced November 7, 2023, election results.

Dalton Barksdale 566

MyKale Garrett 892

Jason Hammond 752

Barbara Kenez 488

Karen Miller 474

Alan Weeks 516

Yes: Garrett, Hammond, Kantor, Barksdale

No: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kantor to move the election of Mayor to Item 17. and Item 18. Councilmember Hammond seconded the motion.

Yes: Hammond, Kantor, Barksdale, Garrett

No: None

Motion carried.

8. Public Comments for Items on the Agenda (Speakers are limited to 3 minutes)

Ian Ferguson – Thanked Councilmembers Kenez and Miller for their hard work on Council.

9. Presentation

- A. Family Court Awareness Proclamation
- B. Plante Moran Audit Presentation

10. Consent Agenda

All items listed under "Consent Agenda" are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the City Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion. If a discussion is desired, that item(s) will be removed from the consent agenda and discussed separately immediately after consent agenda approval in its normal sequence on the regular agenda.

- A. Approval of Minutes

Study Session 10.16.23

Regular Council Meeting 10.16.23

Special Council Meeting (Administrator Interviews) 10.27.23

- B. Building Department Report
- C. Disbursement Report
- D. Fire Department Report
- E. Monthly Reports
- F. November 2023 CED Report

Motion by Councilmember Hammond to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Barksdale seconded the motion.

Yes: Hammond Kantor, Barksdale, Garrett

No: None

Motion carried.

11. Public Hearing

- A. PY 2023 CDBG Funds Application

Mayor Garrett opened the Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2024 Public Hearing at 8:31 pm.

Clerk London briefly explained the program and where the estimated \$7,000 in funds would be allocated.

Carol Greene asked who was responsible for the execution of the senior projects.

Mayor Garrett closed the Public Hearing at 8:33 pm.

12. Action Requests - For Consideration / Approval

A. Approval of the Community Development Block Grant

Mayor Pro Tem Kantor moved to approve the Community Development Block Grant application for \$7,000. Councilmember Jennings seconded the motion.

Yes: Kantor, Barksdale, Garrett, Hammond, Jennings

No: None

Motion carried.

B. 11 Mile Resurfacing

Oakland County Road Commission will reconstruct Southfield Road at the intersection of Eleven Mile Road. Lathrup Village has asked the Commission if there is an opportunity to reconstruct the Eleven Mile Road portion that Lathrup Village is responsible for as a part of the overall project. This would be an excellent cost-saving for Lathrup Village.

Motion by Councilmember Hammond to authorize city staff to work with the Road Commission of Oakland County to prepare specifications for the resurfacing of East and Westbound Eleven Mile Road, to bid the project with the Southfield road work and fund paving of this project with the Local and Major Road Fund. Councilmember Jennings seconded the motion.

Yes: Barksdale, Garrett, Hammond, Jennings, Kantor

No: None

Motion carried.

C. Presentation of the 2022-2023 Audit Report

Due to the proposed changes to the draft regarding the budget amendments, Mayor Pro Tem Kantor moved the audit approval to the table. Councilmember Hammond seconded the motion.

Yes: Garrett, Hammond, Jennings, Kantor, Barksdale

No: None

Motion carried.

D. City Administrator Negotiations

Provisions of the Open Meeting Act that provide for the employment review to be done in closed session.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem to move into Closed Session to consider the contents of an employment application Pursuant to Section 15.268 (1) paragraph f. Councilmember Jennings seconded the motion.

Yes: Hammond, Jennings, Kantor, Barksdale, Garrett

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Kantor moved to close the Close Session. Motion seconded by Councilmember Jennings.

Yes: Jennings, Kantor, Barksdale, Garrett, Hammond

No: None

Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Kantor moved to direct the City Attorney to continue negotiations with the Administrator candidate based on the discussion in the Closed Session. Councilmember Hammond seconded the motion.

Yes: Kantor, Barksdale, Garrett, Hammond, Jennings

No: None

Motion carried.

13. Election of Mayor

A. Election of Mayor by Ballot

After ballots were distributed to each member of the Council for the election of Mayor, the votes were tallied, electing MyKale Garrett as Mayor of Lathrup Village for the 2023-2025 Council session.

Election of Mayor Pro Tem

After ballots were distributed to each member of the Council for the election of Mayor Pro Tem, the votes were tallied, and Bruce Kantor was elected as Mayor Pro Tem of Lathrup Village for the 2023-2025 Council session.

14. Oath of Office for Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem

The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Mykale Garrett, Mayor, and Bruce Kantor, Mayor Pro Tem.

15. **Discussion Item**

A. Treasurers' Position

Interim Administrator Bratschi informed the council that she, along with representatives from the auditing firm Plante Moran, did conduct interviews. After some discussion, the candidate who was offered the position declined. Interim Administrator Bratschi will defer the decision to the new City Administrator. In the meantime, a Request for Proposal will be sent out for accounting services until a new Treasurer is hired.

16. City Administrator Report

17. City Attorney Report

Litigation updated for the Lathfield Companies (JMC Corp.) lawsuit. Federal Court issued an opinion granting the motion for summary of disposition, meaning we won. All nine counts have been dismissed. The city can proceed with code enforcement actions.

18. Reports of Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Planning Commission scheduled Tuesday, Nov 21, 2021.

19. Unfinished / New Business

20. Public Comment (speakers are limited to 3 minutes)

Carol Greene, concerning 11 mile project, what is the plan for cut-through traffic?

Unnamed Resident - Disappointed in the Public Comment procedure.

Lauren Bares – Congratulated new Council. Residents are doing Light Up Lathrup for the second year; lightuplathrupvillage.com for more information.

Ian Ferguson - Shared appreciation for Treasurer Pamela Bratschi. Water billing updates

21. Mayor and Council Comments

Mayor Garrett stated she is confident that this council will be a cohesive unit dealing with the hard decisions. The council is tasked with the heavy lift not only financially but also helping the community to heal. Hopefully, the work can be done by implementing the four-point agreement: 1) be impeccable with your word, 2) don't assume, 3) don't take it personally, and 4) always do your best. I look forward to working with everyone for the next two years and appreciate everyone's vote. She continued by saying let's let the past be in the past and move forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Kantor asked the Interim Administrator to give an update on the back billing program, and she stated that the Water Billing Clerk is working on it. Kantor congratulated The Event House, the new event space recently opened in Lathrup, and congratulations to all new and reelected council members.

Councilmember Jennings expressed his excitement about working with the new council.

Councilmember Hammond thanked all residents and looked forward to working with the new council, “cohesive but not always unanimity, “ all while keeping our eye on the ball transparently and confidently where the finances are concerned.

Barksdale thanked the residents for trusting and being willing to take the risk. “I hope to be approachable and neutral and help citizens be heard.”

22. **Adjourn**

Motion by Councilmember Hammond to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.