



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL

Monday, February 23, 2026

6:30 PM

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

(248) 693-8391 ext. 102

1. Call to Order

The February 23, 2026 Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order by President Pro Tem Ford at 6:30 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

PRESENT

President Pro Tem Stan Ford
Council Member Michael Lamb
Council Member Alex Comparoni Jr
Council Member Eric Papacek

ABSENT

President Teresa Rutt
Council Member Nancy Moshier
Council Member George Dandalides

STAFF PRESENT

Village Manager Darwin McClary
Police Chief Mark Amundson
Clerk/Treasurer Sonja Stout
DPW Director Wes Sanchez

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to excuse President Rutt, Council Member Dandalides, and Council Member Moshier from the February 23, 2026, Village Council Regular Meeting.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

4. Presentations

None.

5. Call to the Public

None.

6. Approval of Agenda

MOTION made by Council Member Comparoni Jr, Seconded by Council Member Lamb to approve the agenda for the February 23, 2026, Village Council Regular Meeting with the following change:

- *Addition of Item 10. D. Cemetery Discussion*

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

7. Consent Agenda

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to approve the February 23, 2026 Village Council Regular Meeting Consent Agenda with the following changes:

- Removal of Item L. (*Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-03- Investment Policy*) for further discussion.
- Removal of Item O. (*Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-06 Fund Balance Reserve Policy*) for further discussion.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

A. Approval of Village Council Special Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2026

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to approve the Village Council Special Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2026, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

B. Approval of Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2026

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to approve the Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2026, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

C. Receive and File of DDA Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2026

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to receive and file the Downtown Development Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2026, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

D. Approval of Special Event – Children’s Easter Egg Hunt

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to adopt Resolution No. 2026-006 to approve the Children’s Easter Egg Hunt Special Event Application and the License Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and Robert Gritzinger of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #233 for the use of Children’s Park on April 4, 2026, and to authorize the Village Council President and Village Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

E. Approval of Special Event – Memorial Day Ceremonies and Parade

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to adopt Resolution No. 2026-007 to approve the Memorial Day Ceremonies and Parade Special Event Application and the License Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and Jeremy Lemon of the American Legion Squadron #233 for the use of various Village properties on May 25, 2026, and to authorize the Village Council President and Village Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

F. Approval of Special Event – Orion Veterans Memorial Day Run/Walk

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to adopt Resolution No. 2026-006 to approve the Orion Veterans Memorial Day Run/Walk Special Event Application and the License Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and Jenny Bhatti of the Charter Township of Orion and Orion Veterans Memorial for the use of various Village properties on May 25, 2026, and to authorize the Village Council President and Village Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier
MOTION: Carried

G. Receive and File of Orion Township Building Permit Report from January 15, 2026 to February 15, 2026

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to receive and file the Orion Township Building Permit Report from January 15, 2026 to February 15, 2026, as presented.

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

H. Receive and File of Invoice Distribution Report for February 24, 2026

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To receive and file the bills in the amount of \$ 67,597.40 of which \$ 15,086.28 are DDA bills for a net total of \$ 52,511.12 and to receive and file the DDA bills.

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

I. Acceptance of Donated Funds from Michigan Masonic Charitable Fund and Corresponding Budget Amendment

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To accept the \$1,000 donation from the Lake Orion & Oxford Masonic Lodge #46 and approve the corresponding budget amendments increasing account 207-000-694-000 (Miscellaneous Revenue) and account 207-301-740-000 (Operating Supplies) in the amount of \$1,000.

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

J. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-01 – Automated Clearing House (ACH) Arrangements and Electronic Transactions of Public Funds

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To approve Administrative Directive #2026-01 – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT – AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE (ACH) ARRANGEMENTS AND ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS OF PUBLIC FUNDS as presented by the Village Manager, and the same hereby replaces a similar policy adopted on March 4, 2003.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek
VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

K. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-02 – Fixed Asset Capitalization and Reporting Policy

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To approve Administrative Directive #2026-02 – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT – FIXED ASSET CAPITALIZATION AND REPORTING POLICY as presented by the Village Manager, and the same hereby replaces a similar policy adopted on March 8, 2004.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

L. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-03 – Investment Policy

Removed for further discussion.

M. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-04 – Credit Card Use Policy

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To approve Administrative Directive #2026-04 – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT – CREDIT CARD USE POLICY as presented by the Village Manager, and the same hereby replaces a similar policy adopted on January 22, 2007.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

N. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-05 – Financial Transaction Device Payments Policy

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To approve Administrative Directive #2026-05 – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT – FINANCIAL TRANSACTION DEVICE PAYMENTS POLICY as presented by the Village Manager.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

O. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-06 – Fund Balance Reserve Policy

Removed for further discussion.

8. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

L. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-03 – Investment Policy

Village Manager McClary stated the update revised an existing policy to maintain compliance with Act 20, with no substantive changes beyond updated language. President Pro Tem Ford

asked about impacts to the budget process, and the Village Manager noted there would be none aside from potential rate-of-return changes. Council Members Lamb and Papacek inquired about investment risks and opportunities for higher returns, and Village Manager McClary explained that Act 20 limits the Village to certain lower-risk investment types.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To approve Administrative Directive #2026-03 – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT – INVESTMENT POLICY as presented by the Village Manager, and the same hereby replaces a similar policy adopted on April 27, 1998.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

O. Approval of Administrative Directive #2026-06 – Fund Balance Reserve Policy

Village Manager McClary stated the policy was developed in response to auditor recommendations and establishes guidelines for fund balance levels, with excess amounts designated for future projects. Council Member Lamb and President Pro Tem Ford asked how funds would be allocated for projects and unassigned fund balance, and the Village Manager explained that funds would be transferred from fund balance to specific funds for designated projects and could not be moved back once transferred.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council Member Lamb To approve Administrative Directive #2026-06 – FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT – FUND BALANCE RESERVE POLICY as presented by the Village Manager.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

9. Public Hearings

None.

10. Other Items

A. Schedule Public Hearing – 2026 Sidewalk Improvement Program District #2

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to schedule a public hearing for Monday, March 23, 2026, at 6:30 PM, on the necessity for the Village of Lake Orion 2026 Sidewalk Improvement Program District #2, proposed to be defrayed in whole or in part by special assessments, pursuant to Sections 11.5 and 12.2(a) of the Village Charter, and to direct the Village Clerk to publish and mail the required public notices.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

B. Schedule Public Hearing – 2026 Street Improvement Program

Council Member Lamb expressed support for the project. Council Member Papacek asked how the project scope was determined, as he was not present during earlier discussions. Village Manager McClary explained that the Pavement Asset Management Program (PAMP) identified roads in the poorest condition, and Council added additional roads to improve overall project cost efficiency.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr To schedule a public hearing for Monday, March 23, 2026, at 6:30 PM, on the necessity for the Village of Lake Orion 2026 Street Improvement Project, proposed to be defrayed in whole or in part by special assessments, pursuant to Section 12.2(a) of the Village Charter, and to direct the Village Clerk to publish and mail the required public notices.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

C. 2026 Street Improvement Program Ad Hoc Committee

Council Member Lamb proposed forming a committee consisting of himself, Council Member Papacek, Council Member Comparoni Jr., the Village Manager, and DPW Director Sanchez to review the current assessment policy and provide recommendations to Council. President Pro Tem Ford expressed opposition to changing the policy or forming a committee, citing uncertainty about the program's effectiveness and concerns about additional meetings during the budgeting process. Council Member Lamb noted the special assessment policy has not been utilized and clarified the committee would consist only of council members. President Pro Tem Ford suggested tabling the item until a full Council was present, which Council Member Comparoni Jr. supported. Village Manager McClary recommended tabling the item to the next meeting, noting a full Council would not be present for several meetings and the project timeline required timely action.

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Comparoni Jr to move the 2026 Street Improvement Program Ad Hoc Committee to the next scheduled Regular Council meeting agenda on March 9, 2026.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

D. Cemetery Discussion

Village Manager McClary reported Cemetery Fund totals of \$37,740 in revenues and \$72,094 in expenditures for 2024, and \$58,788 in revenues and \$70,253 in expenditures for 2025. Council Member Lamb noted that expenditures continue to exceed revenues and asked about directing the Village Manager to increase grave costs. Council Member Papacek stated it was important not to operate at a loss. The Village Manager explained that a review of cemetery lot pricing had been completed by DPW Director Sanchez and cautioned that while rates could be

increased, adjustments should be made carefully as they may impact supply and demand. He added that many municipalities operate cemeteries at a deficit and suggested Council consider the community benefit of maintaining the cemetery. The Village Manager stated he would present potential rate adjustments during upcoming budget work sessions. Council Member Comparoni Jr. expressed support for continuing cemetery operations.

11. Call to the Public

None.

12. DDA Executive Director Comments

None.

13. Council Comments

Council Member Comparoni Jr. stated the Village should take steps to assist residents with future water bills and thanked President Pro Tem Ford for chairing the meeting.

Council Member Lamb expressed support for Council Member Comparoni Jr.'s comments and discussed using upcoming funds to help offset water costs.

Council Member Papacek addressed rising water and sewer costs, noting increasing living expenses and the need to reevaluate spending priorities.

President Pro Tem Ford shared updates regarding a job opening with the Paint Creek Trail and upcoming Detroit Institute of Arts installations along the trail, and spoke about the need to balance water bill impacts with upcoming project costs while noting his appreciation for approval of the special events on the consent agenda.

14. Village Manager Comments

Village Manager McClary provided an update regarding utility bill complaints related to local Postal Service challenges in Pontiac and reviewed alternative payment options for residents, including paperless billing and online autopay. He also discussed the potential purchase of video conferencing equipment for the conference room and shared upcoming meeting dates.

15. Closed Session Items

16. Business From Closed Session

17. Adjournment

MOTION made by Council Member Comparoni Jr, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford to adjourn the February 23, 2026, Village Council Regular Meeting.

VOTING YEA: Ford, Lamb, Comparoni Jr, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Rutt, Dandalides, Moshier

MOTION: Carried

The February 23, 2026, Village Council Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Stan Ford
President Pro Tem

Sonja Stout
Clerk/Treasurer

Date Approved: as presented on March 9, 2026