



MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL - FY 2026-2027 GOAL SETTING AND OBJECTIVES

Monday, January 26, 2026

5:30 PM

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

(248) 693-8391 ext. 102

1. Call to Order

The January 26, 2026 Village Council Special Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by President Rutt.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

PRESENT

President Teresa Rutt

President Pro Tem Stan Ford

Council Member Nancy Moshier

Council Member Michael Lamb

Council Member George Dandalides

Council Member Eric Papacek

ABSENT

Council Member Alex Comparoni Jr

STAFF PRESENT

Acting Village Manager/Police Chief Mark Amundson

DPW Director Wes Sanchez

DDA Executive Director Matthew Gibb

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Lynsey Blough

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING: To hold a work session focused on FY 2026–2027 Village Council Goal Setting and Objectives.

3. Call to the Public

None.

4. Other Items

A. Goal Setting and Objectives FY 2026-27

President Rutt led a review of the Village's 2025–2026 Goals and Objectives, with Council focusing on determining which Objectives to retain, modify, or remove. The Vision, Mission, and Core Values were not reviewed further. Council then worked on the 2026–2027 consolidated list.

Goal 1: Promote Sound and Prudent Financial Management

- **Objective 1.1 Downtown Parking and Budget Development:** *(This objective is a continuation from previous year's goals.)* Council discussed narrowing the objective to focus on on-street paid parking. Council Member Dandalides emphasized the need to address budget shortfalls and consider revenue-generating measures. President Pro Tem Ford noted that the objective should reflect ongoing financial management efforts. Council Member Lamb suggested renaming the category to better reflect actionable financial goals and noted that clear direction to administration is needed. Council Member Moshier and Council Member Papacek discussed considerations for paid parking, including potential revenue and community impact. President Rutt proposed formalizing an objective to investigate paid parking, assess impacts in comparable communities, review potential providers, and determine whether to implement paid parking by the end of the year. Council Member Lamb supported this approach.
- **Objective 1.2 Establish a revised process for budget development:** *(This objective was added.)* For the coming fiscal year Council will (1) establish pre-set expenditure targets; (2) eliminate funding and operational redundancies; and (3) establish new revenue sources or cost reductions to reduce residents' financial burden for capital improvement costs. Council decided to leave this objective to be further honed.
- **Objective 1.3 Cityhood/Township Consolidation Study:** *(This objective was updated from previous year.)* The Cityhood investigation was removed, as it has already been completed. Council discussed the potential to investigate combining the Village and Township. Council Member Dandalides noted redundancies between Village and Township operations and the potential to assess legal, cost, and service impacts. Council Members Moshier, Lamb, and President Pro Tem Ford expressed support for continuing the investigation while noting practical considerations, including previous Cityhood discussions and the potential need for a committee. President Rutt designated this as Objective 1.3.
- **Objective 1.4 Water Usage and Sewer Discharge Analysis:** *(This objective is a continuation from previous year's goals.)* Council discussed the imbalance between purchased water and sewer discharge, noting it is over 50 percent higher than expected. Council Members Dandalides and Lamb emphasized investigating the issue, quantifying the impact, and determining corrective actions, including potential studies and budget implications. President Rutt designated this as Objective 1.4.
- **Objective 1.5 Update Standardized Village Staff Contracts:** *(This objective was removed after discussion.)* Council discussed standardizing staff contracts to ensure consistency and finite durations. Council Members Dandalides and Lamb noted the distinction between setting policy and administering contracts, emphasizing that Council's role is policy-setting while contract administration is handled by the Village Manager. President Rutt and Council Members Moshier and Papacek expressed caution regarding overstepping authority.

Council consensus was to remove this objective, with potential future policy review for consultant contracts as a separate matter. Council agreed to separate CIP Management into a new goal.

~~**Goal 2: Promote Proper Management of Capital Assets and Infrastructure**~~ was changed to
Goal 2: Management of CIP

- **Objective 2.1 Children's Park Pedestrian Bridge:** *(This objective was called "Objective 2.1" during this meeting.)* Council Member Lamb asked whether the project was budgeted and scheduled for the current year. DPW Director Sanchez confirmed the project is budgeted, partially purchased, and planned for completion during the current fiscal year. Council Member Dandalides noted the importance of including a timeframe. Council consensus was to retain the objective to track completion.
- **Objective 1.1 Village-Owned Properties:** *(This objective was moved here from Goal 1 during this meeting.)* Council discussed whether this objective should remain, noting that work is already underway. It was agreed to retain the objective, with discussion emphasizing the need to include measurable outcomes and timeframes. Council Member Lamb suggested that this item might better fit under Goal 2, Capital Assets and Infrastructure, and Council consensus was to move it to that goal.
- **Objective 2.1 Review Water Rates and Billing Practices:** Council discussed strategies to reduce the financial impact of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) on residents, including reviewing water rates and billing practices. Council emphasized analyzing funding allocations, maximizing outside funding sources, and minimizing resident financial burden.
- **Objective 2.2 Conduct a review of Village water rates and billing:** Council discussed reviewing rates/billing further.
- **Objective 2.3 Analyze 75/25 Infrastructure Funding:** Council discussed evaluating the CIP to determine appropriate use of the 75/25 infrastructure funding allocation.
- **Objective 2.4 Investigate Alternative Funding Strategies:** Council discussed exploring alternative funding strategies to support CIP projects and reduce the financial burden on residents.

Council also discussed "small wins" for Village maintenance projects, such as sidewalks, sprinklers, and minor park improvements. Council Members Papacek, Lamb and President Rutt noted budget allocation processes and the importance of public awareness of reporting issues, including highlighting the reporting link on the Village website in a newsletter.

Goal 3: Promote Quality Recreation Services and Environmental Stewardship

- **Objective 3.1 Lake Drawdown and Infrastructure:** Council Member Lamb stated support for the drawdown but emphasized focusing on the repair of the drawdown structure. He asked whether funding or a plan was in place. DPW Director Sanchez stated the structure was reviewed as part of the dam inspection and that further evaluation by engineers is planned, though no funding has been budgeted at this time. Council Member Dandalides recommended paring the objective down to relevant repair items and adding specific timelines. President Rutt concurred.
- **Objective 3.2 Parks and Recreation Funding:** President Pro Tem Ford stated it should remain as a reminder of ongoing efforts. Council consensus was to retain the objective with further refinement.

Goal 4: Promote Positive Community Image

- **Objective 4.1 Administrative Office Hours and Inclement Weather Policy:** Council agreed this objective has been completed and should be removed.
- **Objective 4.1 Promote Positive Collaborative Working Relationships with DDA and Township:** Council started to discuss the importance of improving working relationships with both the DDA and township to align on common objectives, leadership capabilities, and adequate funding. Council Member Dandalides noted opportunities for better communication and collaboration, referencing past observations of inefficiencies.
- **Objective 4.2 Ordinance Enforcement and Codification:** Council Member Lamb recommended separating ordinance codification, engineering standards, and enforcement efforts into distinct objectives to allow for clearer tracking and completion.

5. Call to the Public

President Rutt noted time constraints for the current session and encouraged public comment during the regular meeting.

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Dandalides, to excuse Council Member Comparoni, Jr from the January 26, 2026, Village Council Special Meeting.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Comparoni, Jr

MOTION: Carried

6. Adjournment

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by President Rutt, to adjourn the January 26, 2026, Village Council Special Meeting.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Moshier, Lamb, Dandalides, Papacek

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Comparoni, Jr

MOTION: Carried

The January 26, 2026, Village Council Special Meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

Teresa Rutt
President

Lynsey Blough, CMC
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Sonja Stout
Clerk/Treasurer

Date Approved: as presented on February 9, 2026