



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL

Monday, June 23, 2025

7:30 PM

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

(248) 693-8391 ext. 102

1. Call to Order

The June 23, 2025 Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Rutt.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

PRESENT

President Teresa Rutt

President Pro Tem Stan Ford

Council member Carl Cyrowski

Council member Nancy Moshier

Council member Michael Lamb

Council member Alex Comparoni Jr

ABSENT

Council member George Dandalides

STAFF PRESENT

Village Manager Darwin McClary

DPW Director Wes Sanchez

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Lynsey Blough

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to excuse Council member Dandalides from the June 23, 2025 Village Council Regular Meeting due to a prior commitment.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

4. Presentations

None.

5. Call to the Public

Orion Township Fire Chief Ryan Allen provided information about a joint training exercise on the lake simulating an oil spill. The training, coordinated with the Village of Lake Orion Police Department, the Village DPW, and the Oakland County HazMat Team, is scheduled for Sunday, June 29, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

6. Approval of Agenda

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Moshier, to approve the agenda with June 23, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting Agenda with the addition of 10E Budget Amendments – 2025 Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) District #1 Project and 10F Ceiling Project.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

7. Consent Agenda

All items on the Consent Agenda are approved by one vote.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to approve the June 23, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting Consent Agenda.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

A. Board of Zoning Appeals Regular Member Re-Appointment – Brad Mathisen and Hank Lorant

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to re-appoint Brad Mathisen and Hank Lorant to three-year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), term to expire on June 30, 2028.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

B. FY 2025-26 Village Manager Salary Adjustment

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to approve a four percent (4%) increase in the Village Manager's annual salary from \$95,500 to \$99,320.00

for FY 2025-26 and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk to execute the addendum to the Village Manager's employment agreement to effectuate the same.

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

C. Approval of Special Event: America in Bloom

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to adopt Resolution No. 2025-022, approving America in Bloom Special Event Application and the License Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and Julia Dalrymple of Orion Township for the use of the Village right-of-way in the parking lot adjacent to Fire Station #1 and the Orion Art Center of Lake Orion on Friday, September 26, 2025, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM; and to authorize the Village Council President and Village Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village.

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

D. Approval of Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to approve the May 27, 2025 Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented.

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

E. Approval of Village Council Special Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to approve the June 9, 2025 Village Council Special Meeting Minutes, as presented.

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

F. Approval of Village Council Regular meeting minutes of June 9, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to approve the June 9, 2025 Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented.

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

G. Receive and File of DDA Regular Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to receive and file the DDA Regular Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2025, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Rutte, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

H. Receive and File Ad Hoc DDA Public Infrastructure Meeting Minutes April 29, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to receive and file the April 29, 2025 Ad Hoc DDA Public Infrastructure Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Rutte, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

I. Receive and file Ad Hoc DDA Public Infrastructure Meeting Minutes May 13, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to receive and file the May 13, 2025 Ad Hoc DDA Public Infrastructure Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Rutte, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

J. Receive and file Ad Hoc DDA Public Infrastructure Meeting Minutes May 14, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to receive and file the May 14, 2025 Ad Hoc DDA Public Infrastructure Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Rutte, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

K. Receive and File of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to receive and file the May 27, 2025 Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented.

VOTING YEA: Rutte, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

L. Receive and File of Invoice Distribution Report for June 24, 2025

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to receive and file the bills in the amount of \$ 229,063.45 of which \$ 1,151.74 are DDA bills for a net total of \$ 227,911.71 and to receive and file the DDA bills.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

8. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

9. Public Hearings

A. FY 2025-26 Water and Sewer Rates

Village Manager McClary summarized the financial impact of the water and sewer rate increases, primarily driven by the \$3.5 million Phase I Sanitary Sewer Pump Stations Improvement Project. Due to technical difficulties, the DPW Director was unable to present additional information using the projector, so printed copies were distributed to residents in attendance. Residents began asking questions from their seats rather than approaching the podium. President Rutt addressed the crowd and proceeded with a motion to open the public hearing.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr., to open the public hearing to receive public comments on the proposed FY 2025-26 water and sewer rates.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

President Rutt opened the public hearing at 7:59 PM.

Rachel Redmond raised concerns about the Village's long-term infrastructure strategy and questioned how increased tax revenue from rising home values is being used. She called for fairness in water and sewer rates, especially for part-time residents.

Kirstin Barber, a longtime resident with a large family, strongly opposed the rate increases, citing unaffordable quarterly bills over \$700. She criticized paying for past infrastructure neglect, the decline in services, and tax funding for the Downtown Development Authority, which she feels does not benefit her family.

Rick Meyers, a senior on a fixed income, expressed concern over water and sewer bills now exceeding other household costs. He questioned the removal of summer watering relief and suggested that maintenance on infrastructure could have been phased in more gradually.

Tracy Woodrum, a single parent and homeowner, shared her struggle with affording high water bills and criticized tax abatements for new developments that don't help with rising utility

costs. She questioned the value of village services and called for alternative solutions to reduce the burden on residents.

Bill Whedon, a part-time resident, voiced frustration about paying a \$300 quarterly bill despite minimal use of water, sewage, and garbage services for half the year. He compared the value of services unfavorably to those in the township and empathized with full-time residents facing cost increases.

Harry Stephens, also a part-time resident, echoed Whedon's concerns. He pointed out a technical issue during the hearing and suggested better public notice and communication for such meetings.

Caren Otto agreed with previous speakers and proposed exploring the option of dissolving the Village and joining the township to potentially reduce costs. She also raised concerns about the lack of notice for the meeting.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Lamb, to close the public hearing on the proposed FY 2025-26 water and sewer rates.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

President Rutt closed the public hearing at 8:14 PM.

President Rutt addressed resident concerns about rising water and sewer rates, explaining that dissolving the Village into the township would be a complex process requiring approval from both entities. She acknowledged the high base water charges and explained they are necessary to ensure stable funding for maintenance, especially when residents conserve water. She emphasized that water and sewer systems must be funded through user fees—not taxes—and highlighted the urgent need to replace 16 aging pump stations at a cost of \$13 million. Rutt assured residents that the Village is actively applying for grants and exploring long-term infrastructure solutions. She also encouraged residents to contact federal representatives to help advocate for funding support.

Council Member Lamb provided historical context, explaining that the sewer system, built in the 1970s. The county has now required the Village to replace the pump stations. He detailed the Village's current strategy of issuing bonds to fund improvements and clarified that, by law, utility systems must be funded through user fees. He acknowledged further rate increases would be necessary as the debt is paid off.

DPW Director Sanchez explained that maintaining the system in-house would require costly equipment and staffing and would still not eliminate the need for the \$13 million in infrastructure improvements.

Village Manager McClary added that about \$300,000 is currently set aside annually through rates to fund system depreciation. He also confirmed that the Village applied for Congressional

Community Project grants, securing just under \$2 million for Phase I and applying for additional funds for Phases II and III. Although 2025 funding was cut due to federal budget issues, they plan to reapply and are working with Rep. Lisa McClain’s office to pursue more funding.

Council Member Cyrowski inquired about delaying the rate increase to pursue more grants. Village Manager McClary responded that bond covenants tied to the already issued \$3.5 million in bonds require the rate increase by July 1st. While grant funding was originally intended for Phase I, it will now be applied to Phase II due to timing.

President Pro Tem Ford acknowledged the financial burden on residents but argued that delaying rate increases would only prolong the issue. He supported the administration’s efforts and emphasized the need for long-term planning over short-term fixes.

Council Member Comparoni Jr., a 68-year resident, sympathized with those affected by the rate increases and acknowledged his own financial strain as a senior. Despite his reservations, he felt compelled to vote in favor of the rate increase to ensure critical infrastructure improvements continue, particularly after past progress like lake cleanup.

Harry Stephens noted that the Village has historically relied on bond sales for major projects and praised the current effort to plan proactively rather than reactively. He reminded the public that such bond costs are paid over time through fees or taxes.

Kristin Barber raised concerns about tax abatements, arguing that funds given to businesses like the Ehman Center could instead help pay down infrastructure bonds. She urged that businesses contribute more to ease the burden on residents.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by President Rutt, to adopt as presented the resolution established the FY 2025-26 sewer and water fees and charges pursuant to Chapters 51 and 53 of the Village of Lake Orion Code of Ordinances.

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

B. Proposed 2025-2031 Capital Improvement Plan

Village Manager McClary presented the 2025-2031 Capital Improvement Plan, which outlines \$26.1 million in capital needs over the next six years. The plan will be reviewed by the Planning Commission before being finalized for the Village Council. While the plan includes proposed funding sources, it is subject to change based on project priorities and available funding.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to open the hearing to receive public comments on the proposed Village of Lake Orion 2025-2031 Capital Improvement Plan.

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

President Rutt opened the public hearing at 8:51 PM.

There were no public comments made.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to close the public hearing on the proposed Village of Lake Orion 2025-2031 Capital Improvement Plan.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

President Rutt closed the public hearing at 8:52 PM.

Council Member Lamb thanked Village Manager McClary for the capital improvement plan but criticized it as unfunded and reliant on special assessments or bonds. He suggested using general tax dollars and limiting the DDA's tax capture for road repairs, though residents seem to prefer special assessments.

President Rutt explained the plan covers multiple projects funded by various sources and that road repairs follow a special assessment policy allowing residents to opt out. She welcomed further discussion.

Kristin Barber questioned the village's financial exposure to the DDA, especially regarding bond defaults. President Rutt clarified the village's guarantor role. Village Manager McClary noted the DDA contributes about \$1 million annually to infrastructure projects from tax revenue since 2022. Tracy Woodrum emphasized the DDA helps the village control local tax funds for community projects.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to refer the proposed Village of Lake Orion 2025-2031 Capital Improvement Plan to the Planning Commission for review and comment and to schedule the plan for consideration for adoption at the Village Council's July 14, 2025, Regular Meeting.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

C. Future of Public Works Department Leaf Collection Services

Village Manager McClary and DPW Director Sanchez explained that the 2024 leaf collection program costs about \$32,000 annually and involves labor, fuel, equipment, and disposal. Eliminating the program wouldn't save much since the equipment is still needed for other maintenance, and any savings would likely be redirected. Leaves are collected twice yearly across different village districts, with schedules adjusted for weather and volume. President Rutt emphasized no decision has been made yet and invited public input on the program's value. She proposed a show of hands for residents who want to register their support without speaking at the microphone, but still encouraged anyone who wished to speak to do so.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to open the hearing to receive public comments on the Public Works Department Leaf Collection Services.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

President Rutt opened the public hearing at 9:08 PM.

Nineteen residents raised their hands in support of keeping the leaf collection service. Brenda Beyer opposed it, asking about leaf disposal and costs. DPW Director Sanchez explained leaves go to the cemetery and hauling costs about \$3,000 annually.

Rick Myers strongly supported the program, noting the labor costs are \$23,000 and explaining the convenience compared to his cabin's leaf disposal. Bill Whedon said the cost is minimal compared to his taxes and viewed the service as goodwill from the village.

Rachel Redmond appreciated the service for helping her elderly neighbors and suggested a website sign-up to improve efficiency. Doug Hobbs, with no leaves to rake, questioned how many residents use the service.

Kirstin Barber thanked the village and expressed support. John Ranville, involved since the program began, called the \$23,000 cost minimal and fully supported continuing it. Harry Stephens highlighted leaf pickup as a visible, valued service that reflects the village's role in serving residents.

Rosemary Ford supported the service but asked about cost transparency and potential increases if replaced by yard waste pickup. Village Manager McClary clarified the cost is about \$26 per property annually. Tracy Woodrum, Tara Spearing, and Jeff Synor also voiced strong support, noting the service's convenience and importance to busy residents.

Via email, Kyna Getsinger, Lloyd Coe, Joan Sheridan, Beth and Jeff Lofay, Alta Dantzler, Brandon Barr expressed support, while Amy Tunney asked questions and the Bradley Family shared their thoughts.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to close the hearing to receive public comments on the Public Works Department Leaf Collection Services.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

President Rutt closed the public hearing at 9:23 PM.

President Rutt stated that no vote is needed since the leaf pickup program is already in place and will continue. She thanked everyone for sharing their opinions, emphasizing that community input is how local government works best.

10. Other Items

A. Discussion on Monthly versus Quarterly Water and Sewer Utility Billing

Village Manager McClary reviewed the option of switching the village's water and sewer billing from quarterly to monthly. Monthly billing would increase postage costs by about \$8,000 annually but could help residents budget by spreading payments over 12 months instead of 3.

Doug Hobbs suggested a bimonthly option (every other month) as a middle ground.

Most residents and council members preferred to keep quarterly billing, citing satisfaction with the current system, budgeting ease, and concerns about increased costs and administrative work. Payment flexibility was noted, allowing residents to pay anytime or carry credit balances.

Council Member Lamb and President Pro Tem Ford opposed monthly billing due to the added cost to residents and potential billing confusion during transition.

No motion was made on this agenda item as the discussion was intended to gather public opinion only.

B. 2025 Engineering Design and Construction Standards

Council Member Lamb thanked Village Manager McClary for allowing more time to review a complex update of the Engineering Design and Construction Standards and emphasized the need for clearer requirements for residential construction, including site plans and drainage oversight. He raised concerns about the lack of inspection protocols for exterior work on new homes and questioned the Village's coordination with the Township.

Village Engineer Spence confirmed that clearer guidelines are being developed to ensure proper stormwater management and grading. She noted that coordination between zoning, engineering, and permitting is in progress. Council member Lamb also asked whether the Village might resume handling building oversight due to increased construction activity. Village Manager McClary said those discussions are planned for later in the summer.

Both Council member Lamb and President Rutt acknowledged the document's complexity but appreciated its thoroughness and focus on public infrastructure oversight.

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Cyrowski, to adopt the 2025 Village of Lake Orion Engineering Design and Construction Standards as presented pursuant to Chapter 151 of the Village of Lake Orion Code of Ordinances and to direct Administration to prepare and submit to the Village Council proposed ordinance amendments to ensure that there is no conflict between the Standards and Village code.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

C. SMART Municipal Credit and Community Credit Interlocal Agreement

Council member Lamb asked for clarification on two funding options. Village Manager McClary explained that the options relate to municipal and community credits. The Village receives community credits, not municipal ones, which is why that option is selected.

MOTION made by President Pro Tem Ford, Seconded by President Rutt, to approve the Municipal Credit and Community Credit Interlocal Agreement between the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation and the Village of Lake Orion to provide annual flowthrough funding received from SMART to NOTA for the provision of public transportation service under Option 1 – 100% of the Community Credits available to the Community pursuant to SMART’S Community Credit Program or 100% of the Municipal Credits that are available to the Community pursuant to law; and to authorize the Village Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the Village.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

D. Approval of Cost Participation Agreement – Oakland County Local Road Improvement Program

Council Member Lamb asked about the source of the Village’s \$9,400 contribution for road striping. DPW Director Sanchez confirmed it comes from the Major Streets fund, which is funded by state money, not local tax dollars.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Pro Tem Ford, to approve the Cost Participation Agreement between the Village of Lake Orion and the Oakland County Board of Commissioners for the Local Road Improvement Program, Board Project No. 2025-36, and authorize the Village Manager to execute the agreement and submit the required invoice for reimbursement not to exceed \$5,589.00.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: Dandalides

MOTION: Carried

E. Budget Amendments – 2025 Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) District #1 Project

MOTION made by President Rutt, Seconded by Council member Comparoni Jr., to approve budget amendment BA-2025-101-964-03 to provide for a supplemental transfer out to the Sidewalk Improvement Fund in the amount of \$22,504 for the 2025 Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) District #1 Project; and to approve budget amendment BA-2025-410-02 to provide for a supplemental revenue transfer in from General Fund to the Sidewalk Improvement Fund in the amount of \$22,504 and a supplemental appropriation of \$22,504 to the Contractual Services Account for the 2025 Sidewalk Improvement Program (SWIP) District #1 Project.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Dandalides
MOTION: Carried

F. Ceiling Project

Council Member Lamb stressed the need to prioritize the task, despite its low priority, and ensure the Village Manager's efforts aren't undermined. Council Member Comparoni Jr. asked about the progress, specifically whether bids have been received.

Village Manager McClary confirmed two bids came in higher than expected, with one being significantly over budget. After a follow-up with the township building official, DPW Director Sanchez noted the scope of work was somewhat appropriate, but the costs were too high. Village Manager McClary welcomed further input, particularly from Council member Lamb's construction expertise.

MOTION made by Council member Lamb, Seconded by President Rutt, to establish a Steeple Committee, composed of Council Member Lamb, Council Member Comparoni Jr., and President Pro Tem Ford, to develop a recommendation to the Village Council on how to proceed with Village Hall repairs, balancing historical preservation with prudent economic considerations, and to submit their recommendation within 90 days.

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

11. Call to the Public

Steve Samet raised concerns about abandoned homes and lost tax revenue.

Jeff Synor criticized poor communication on water/sewer rate increases and the Village for not securing developer contributions, citing the Moceri project, which he believes has added strain to the water and sewer systems without offering financial support.

Kirstin Barber thanked the Council but worried about steep rate hikes, tax breaks for downtown businesses, and the financial strain on residents, while appreciating leaf pickup and Village support for local trails.

Harry Stephens was disappointed that the DDA missed an agenda item about them and recommended technical run-throughs to prevent meeting delays.

12. Council Comments

Council member Cyrowski wished residents a safe and happy Fourth of July and noted that this year's fireworks will take place on July 5. He emphasized that the event is entirely volunteer-run and privately funded by the Lake Orion Fireworks Association, clarifying that it is not supported by Village or Township tax dollars.

Council member Moshier thanked attendees for their input and acknowledged shared concerns about the water rate increase. While she expressed reluctance about the cost, she emphasized the necessity of action to prevent system failure and recognized the situation as part of a larger, broken system.

Council member Lamb addressed concerns about the Moceri development, stating that the project complied with zoning regulations and could not be held to additional contributions. He noted the development's benefits to the water system and supported improving public communication through the upcoming Village newsletter. He also expressed appreciation for residents' engagement and support for leaf pickup.

Council member Comparoni Jr. stressed the importance of public involvement, encouraging residents to attend meetings in person rather than relying on online commentary. He concluded by thanking the residents and wishing everyone a safe Fourth of July.

President Pro Tem Ford thanked residents for participating and emphasized the importance of open communication. He supported the quarterly newsletter as a tool to enhance transparency and awareness. He expressed strong support for Village-level taxation, noting that Village tax dollars stay in the community and fund essential services, unlike some County and Township taxes which provide little return.

President Rutt expressed appreciation for the Village and thanked DPW Director Sanchez for his perseverance during a challenging presentation. She acknowledged that no one on the Council wanted to approve the water rate increase, including herself, and encouraged residents to advocate to outside entities or suggest creative funding sources for infrastructure improvements. She also echoed support for the upcoming quarterly newsletter and thanked Village Engineer Spence for staying through the meeting to provide input on engineering standards.

13. Village Manager Comments

Village Manager McClary provided brief updates on the Planning and Zoning Coordinator's leave of absence, 2025–2026 health, disability, and life insurance costs, the Orion Township Paint Creek Ridge Storm Sewer Improvement Project, the District #1 Sidewalk Improvement Program, the Congressional Community Projects Grant application, Phase I of the Sanitary Sewer Pump Stations Improvement Project, the MDOT TEDF Category B Grant application, and shared a list of upcoming relevant dates.

14. Closed Session Items

15. Business From Closed Session

16. Adjournment

MOTION made by Council member Comparoni Jr, Seconded by President Rutt, to adjourn the June 23, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting.

VOTING YEAS: Rutt, Ford, Cyrowski, Moshier, Lamb, Comparoni Jr

VOTING NAY: None
ABSENT: Dandalides
MOTION: Carried

The June 23, 2025, Village Council Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:33 PM.

Teresa Rutt
President

Lynsey Blough
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Sonja Stout
Clerk/Treasurer

Date Approved: as presented on July 14, 2025