



MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL - WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMSFUNDING

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

5:00 PM

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

(248) 693-8391 ext. 102

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING

The purpose of the special meeting of the Lake Orion Village Council is to consider funding options for water and sewer systems. The proposed FY 2026-27 water and sewer rates will be a subject of discussion and possible action.

Final Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 will be discussed if any.

1. Call to Order

The June 30, 2026 Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order by President Rutt at 5:00 PM.

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 Alex Comparoni Jr

Council Member Eric Papacek

STAFF PRESENT

Village Manager Darwin McClary

Clerk/Treasurer Sonja Stout

DPW Director Wes Sanchez

3. Call to the Public

None.

4. Other Items

A. Consideration of Funding Options for Water and Sewer Systems

Council Member Lamb reviewed the Village's outstanding debt as identified in the Fiscal Year 2024–2025 audit and discussed potential long-term financial strategies, including reducing the tax burden on residents, adjusting water rates, modifying policies related to the 75/25 agreement and tax capture, reducing the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) capture, and restructuring the DDA.

Council Member Dandalides discussed revenue bonds, bond payment structures, and financing options. Village Manager McClary provided an overview of the various bond types, noting that revenue bonds supported by sewer rates would be the most appropriate financing mechanism. The discussion also included grant opportunities through Congressman Slotkin's office, the Village's improved ranking for the State Revolving Fund program, and the potential for lower borrowing costs. President Rutt commented on the legal considerations of the 75/25 agreement, proposed water and sewer rate adjustments, and the importance of being responsible stewards of public funds.

Council Member Moshier expressed concern regarding the Village's long-standing infrastructure needs. Council Member Papacek inquired whether budget reductions could be considered as an alternative funding option. Village Manager McClary responded that, due to the timing of the infrastructure needs, budget reductions alone would not adequately address the issue.

MOTION made by Council Member Comparoni Jr, Seconded by Council Member Dandalides to adopt the resolution establishing the FY 2026-27 water and sewer fees and charges pursuant to Chapters 51 and 53 of the Village of Lake Orion Code of Ordinances.

VOTING YEA: Rutt, Ford, Dandalides, Comparoni Jr,

VOTING NAY: Moshier, Lamb, Papacek

ABSENT: None

MOTION: Carried

Pro Tem Ford stated that the Village is working against time to address its infrastructure needs and expressed that he did not support reducing Village services or eliminating the DDA. Council Member Lamb stated that he did not support increasing utility rates. Council Member Moshier also stated that she did not support increasing utility rates.

Harry Stephen commented on the use of grinder pump systems as a potential alternative for portions of the sewer project. He emphasized the Village's responsibility to address infrastructure needs for future generations rather than delaying necessary improvements.

Steve Samet discussed the relationship between service expectations and available funding. He commented on the importance of making decisions based on the Village's long-term needs rather than political considerations and expressed support for the proposed rate increases.

DDA Executive Director Matt Gibb discussed the distribution of bond proceeds and stated that the proposed utility rate increases were necessary to support infrastructure improvements and

were unrelated to the DDA. He encouraged Council to take the actions necessary to address the Village's infrastructure needs.

Council Member Dandalides stated that members voting against the proposal should also present an alternative solution.

Council Member Papacek stated that he would prefer to continue exploring additional budget reductions and potential future cost-saving measures and reiterated that he did not support the proposed rate increase.

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

President Rutt left at 6:09 PM.

MOTION made by Council Member Lamb, Seconded by Council Member Dandalides to excuse President Rutt from the remainder of the meeting.

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

B. Budget Amendments-Variou Year End

MOTION made by Council Member Dandalides, Seconded by Council Member Moshier to approve budget amendments BA-2026-101-880-04, BA-2026-101-721- 03, as presented by administration.

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

5. Call to the Public

Steve Samet inquired about the properties associated with the Jacobsen development and the possibility of annexation. Village Manager McClary responded that the properties could not be annexed by Orion Township and clarified that the Village of Lake Orion would provide water and sewer services to the development.

6. Adjournment

MOTION made by Council Member Comparoni Jr, Seconded by Council Member Dandalides to adjourn the June 30, 2026, Village Council Special Meeting.

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

MOTION: Carried

The June 30, 2026, Village Council Special Meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM.

Teresa Rutt
President

Sonja Stout, MiCPT
Clerk/Treasurer

Date Approved: as presented on July 13, 2026