

**CITY OF LANSING**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 21, 2025**

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**Call To Order:**

The regular meeting of the Lansing City Council was called to order by Mayor McNeill at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Mayor McNeill called the roll and indicated which Councilmembers were in attendance.

**Councilmembers Present:**

**Ward 1:** Gene Kirby and Kevin Gardner

**Ward 2:** Don Studnicka and Jake Kowalewski

**Ward 3:** Kerry Brungardt and Jesse Garvey

**Ward 4:** Dan Clemons and Pete Robinson

**Councilmembers Absent:**

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Regular Meeting minutes of August 7, 2025, were provided for review.

Councilmember Kowalewski made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2025. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.

**Audience Participation:** Chase Spears (529 Bittersweet) commented on issues related to AT&T internet contractors and sub-contractors working in the area.

**Presentations:**

**COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Public Hearing to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate and approval of Resolution No. B-8-2025 to exceed the RNR**

KSA 79-2988 established notice and public hearing requirements for certain taxing entities seeking to collect property taxes in excess of the taxing entity's revenue-neutral rate (RNR). As presented at the June 26, 2025, work session, the city of Lansing intends to exceed the RNR of 39.754 mills. The proposed mill levy is 41.909.

Councilmember Kirby made a motion to open the public hearing to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.

**Public Comment:**

Sarah George – 532 Holiday Court  
Chase Spears – 529 Bittersweet

Per Finance Director Beth Sanford: In order to levy taxes exceeding the RNR, entities are required to approve a Resolution while the RNR public hearing is being held.

Councilmember Kirby made a motion to approve Resolution No. B-8-2025 to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.

Discussion continued between City Council, Mayor McNeill, Finance Director Beth Sanford, Public Works Director Michael Spickelmier, and City Administrator Tim Vandall.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.**

**Councilmember Kirby made a motion to close the public hearing for exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.**

**Public Hearing on and Consideration of the Proposed 2026 Budget**

Staff is pleased to present the Proposed 2026 Budget for the City of Lansing for consideration. The notice of public hearing summarizing the proposed 2026 budget was published in the Leavenworth Times on August 9, 2025. The proposed 2026 Budget includes \$740,260 worth of Capital and Supplemental Requests as discussed at the June 27th work session. The proposed 2026 budget reflects a flat mill levy rate, but exceeds the revenue neutral rate by 2.155 mills, which equals approximately \$287,148.

**Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to open the public hearing to consider the Proposed 2026 Budget. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.**

**Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to close the public hearing for consideration of the Proposed 2026 Budget. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.**

Discussion continued between city council, Mayor McNeill, Finance Director Beth Sanford, and Community and Economic Development Director Joshua Gentzler.

**Councilmember Kirby made a motion to approve the Proposed 2026 Budget. Councilmember Clemons seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.**

CED Director Joshua Gentzler:

- Political signage
- Letter to all candidates for USD469 & City Offices sent via email
  - City Administrator Vandall – Election signage policy has been in place for over 5 years.
  - Councilmember Clemons – treated signs differently on right-of-way versus private property. Revise to remove ambiguity from code.
  - Councilmember Garvey – attempts to simplify rules.

Discussion continued between council, CED Director Gentzler, PW Director Spickelmier, WW Director Zell, City Administrator Vandall, and Mayor McNeill.

Public Comment – Stephanie Pierce (404 Maple Ct)  
Kirsten Workman (331 Sage)

Discussion continued between Councilmember Brungardt, City Administrator Vandall, and CED Director Gentzler.

## **REPORTS:**

### **Department Heads:**

Wastewater Director Tony Zell:

- Ida Street is open.

**City Attorney:** none.

### **City Administrator:**

- Library Director Terri Wojtalewicz applied for grants to expand space, utilize new shelving potentially in 2027, and completed outdoor reading area.
- New Fire truck delivery potentially set for September 4 meeting.
- RHID questions and discussions:
  - Riverbend Heights voted down by County Commission
  - There are a couple more in the works
  - Considering a FAQ sheet regarding RHID's.

### **Governing Body:**

Councilmember Clemons:

- LCPA update.
- Thanked Directors Gentzler and Zell.

Councilmember Brungardt:

- Thanked Director Wojtalewicz, all who spoke, and the council.

Councilmember Studnicka:

- Kudos to Director Wojtalewicz.

Councilmember Gardner:

- Congratulated Director Wojtalewicz, Director Sanford, City Administrator Vandall, and council.

Councilmember Kirby:

- Nothing.

Councilmember Kowalewski:

- Echoed everyone else.
- Thanked Director Zell on Ida Street improvements.

Councilmember Garvey:

- Thanked everyone for the hard work on Ida Street.

Councilmember Robinson:

- Thanked Directors Sanford, Zell, Gentzler, Wojtalewicz.

- Thanked staff that work with Waste Management workers regarding residential trash service.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Councilmember Robinson made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Brungardt seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, Kirby, Kowalewski, Garvey, and Robinson; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none; The motion was approved.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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City Clerk Tish Sims, CMC