



Joint Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 5:00 pm

27400 Southfield Rd., Lathrup Village, MI 48076



1. Call to Order at 5:03 pm

2. Roll Call

Present: Hicks, Banks, Bland, Brightwell, Houge, Mandelbaum, Haynes

Absent n/a

Also Present: City Administrator Zorn, City Clerk Grossbard and City Attorney King

Present: Kantor, Garrett, Hammond, Sousanis, Jennings

Also Present: City Administrator Greene, Attorney Baker, City Clerk Emanuel

Absent: n/a

3. Communications

Resident (of Southfield), commented in part: on the rules of Council, and addressed her concern from the Monday, City of Southfield City Council meeting, regarding clapping and disruptions and consistency in enforcing the rules. Pamela Gerald amendments.

Ellen Grenia expressed in part: thanks to both City Councils getting together to discuss these important items, and thanks for them addressing Lincoln Drive.

4. Items To Be Discussed:

A. Southfield Public Library Contract

Librarian Mary Beall discussed features and unique/key benefits of the Southfield Public Library System, expressing in part about the current status:

- Lathrup Village residents get the exact same access as Southfield residents
- Unlimited computer usage
- Computer assistance
- The amount of non-paper book benefits that the Library has for people to access:
 - Technology Library with hotspots and speakers
 - Chromebooks
 - Audiobooks and E-Books
 - Video Games and CD's
 - Downloadable music
- Michigan Activity Pass – (you can use your public **library** card to “check-out” free or discounted **passes** to hundreds of cultural destinations, parks, campgrounds, and recreation areas)
- The Library has a great collection of books including:
 - A local author section
 - History Collection
- Other Library benefits include:

- The number of books that can be checked out
- They are a fine-free library
- They can place a hold on items
- The Library system has several employees
- People come to the Library to meet; for events, there are rooms and areas to sit and meet (meeting places)
- There has been an assessment into how the Library can help people in the Community even if they don't come into the Library
- There has been a Building assessment
- They are part of the Library Network, and can get a book from other libraries if you need it and they do not have the book

Southfield and Lathrup Village City Council members, City Administrators, and Attorneys discussed in part:

- That Lathrup Village values the Library, but the cancellation discussion is based on finances
- The need to cancel in case the upcoming Lathrup Village Library millage does not pass
- Southfield residents pay a higher tax rate, but Lathrup Village was Grandfathered in and pays less
- The biggest concern is being committed if the Library millage doesn't pass, not a displeasure with the services
- What is the impact to Lathrup Village and to Southfield if the contract is not canceled? Is there a way to meet in the middle
- Based on the current contract terms, if it is not canceled by the end of this month, Lathrup Village would be committed to another \$120,000 that we don't have
- Changing the notice of cancellation to 6 months from 12, and if in agreement, the need to act fast, and the Library Board meeting tonight at 7:00 pm
 - The dates of the next Southfield and Lathrup Village City Council meetings
 - We can go back to the Library Board tonight
 - To comply with the 6-month cancellation statute – need Consensus from CC to limit it to 1 mill
- From the end of June 2026 to June 30th, 2027, problem we are set for this next Fiscal year, it is the next ones (years)
- Impact to their (the Library's) budget that they are dependent upon – what services will there be for Lathrup Village residents, if there is no contract
- It matters to Southfield to keep the contract; it helps pay for the employees, and they have highly qualified employees that they like to pay a living wage
- Is it written in the millage that it is for the Southfield Library
- Council has Consensus; it will be taken to the Library Board tonight
- Lathrup Village wants to work with Southfield

B. Oakland County Millage

Mayor Siver spoke about the upcoming School millage and stated his opinion on it, and the City of Lathrup Village Mayor Kantor agreed with his opinion.

City Council members for Southfield and Lathrup Village discussed in part:

- Have there been any conversations with the School Board?
- If the School Boards let the City Councils know they approved this?
- Enrichment millages
- Fair to pay per student; idea to be a donor City and region not really different than Seniors who don't have school-aged children and still pay the taxes from millages
- Reasons that Southfield and Lathrup Village have lower enrollment than Cities to the North of us:
 - Aging population with empty nesters

- School of Choice, Charters. Online and Home Schooling

Silver- too much retail space – empty office buildings

- They need to be honest and transparent – referenced to ARPA funds and how they were used
- Reference to historical taxes in Southfield (1994 Proposal A was a sweeping constitutional amendment that fundamentally restructured how Michigan funds public education and assesses local property taxes) and the School system, supplemental millages, and the impact on Southfield
- The goal of making Southfield attractive and building up schools through younger families
- SPS ARPA funds correctly; the infrastructure is extremely old, and students don't want to go to a School with no air conditioning and updated technology
- School Board members believing that it is not up to them to take away anyone's right to vote

C. Fire Protection Contract

Discussed:

- Fire Chief Thorington went over the Services that the SFD provides to LV
 - All encompassing
 - Rescue: Trench rescue, collapse, high angle
 - Hazmat
- Software – EMS reporting, Fire, Mobile Responders
- Community Connect to tell the Fire Department about residents' homes in case of emergencies:
 - Kids
 - Pets
 - People on Ventilators
 - Access points
 - Request a Smoke Alarm Install
 - Software is Nationwide, with good security measures in place; meets all Federal guidelines; state uses this company as a Vendor
 - New eliminates 4 software packages consolidates
- Minimum staffing is 24 people before calling people in; usually 30. Added a 6th ambulance during the day – when EMS happens the most, nighttime more fires – faster, quicker service
- Last 6 months have advanced life support – all Paramedics drug boxes, heart monitors; when Ambulances are busy the Trucks have them and bring them to you
- OAKWAY Mutual Aid (provide Immediate aid and support to member communities)
- Southfield Fire Department exceeds the National minimum of 16 Firefighters arriving within 8 minutes for a residential structure fire
- Statistical information comparing Southfield Fire Department and the Berkley Fire Departments
- Comparison of the prices in neighboring communities for services

City Council members for Southfield and Lathrup Village discussed in part:

- Letting residents know when the Community Connect is available
- Lathrup Village's water pressure
 - Water mains are older
 - The contract with Franklin, who has a tanker to supply water
 - Lathrup Village has some things in place to take care of it
 - Having an updated Flow test
 - Are the Fire Trucks protected from damage from low water pressure
- Closed/Dead End Roads and the impact on response times
 - Some have been opened
 - Gates with locks, not as fast as siren-activated, but better than closed streets

- Residents on dead-end streets seem to like them as a dead-end street
- If the Southfield Fire Department can come to at least one Council meeting a year in Lathrup Village – Chief Thorington agreed that they can come to more than one a year

D. Police & Fire Dispatch

Police Chief Barren and City Council members for Southfield and Lathrup Village discussed in part:

- Relationship between Southfield and Lathrup Village, and a victim being saved because of the response time, and that both cities' departments can hear the same calls and back each other up
- Southfield has Advanced Technology armored vehicles and drones
- Sharing the Communication channel to respond and back up their fellow officers
- There was a complete overhaul of dispatch in 2024, new computers and systems, including a priority Medical – CPR, childbirth, choking program designed to help dispatchers (they can utilize this and help save lives without hesitation or compromise)
- Program where all can utilize a switch to have a unified command structure
- Translation video calls, links – communicate and translate, and a Text 911 (for example if a domestic violence victim can't talk)
- No cost for these things that they implement
- Communication – Integration of the 2 Cities and School Resource Officers

E. Southfield TOSS Program

City Council members for Southfield and Lathrup Village discussed in part:

- TOSS-Transportation of Southfield Seniors
- The amount of use by residents
- What services Lathrup Village and Southfield receive

F. Discuss Lincoln Drive Condition

City Council members for Southfield and Lathrup Village discussed in part:

- Reconstruction for FY 27 – Construction in 2027 or 2028
- Wanting to hear from Lathrup Village
- From Southfield to Greenfield Roads, about 25% is Lathrup Village
- Grant proposals have been submitted; challenge on Lincoln, tough for Fed Aid, they are highly competitive – scoring based on the traffic volumes
- Pay for it without – outside funding
- Concrete or asphalt: we have money in budget, and it is how we want to tackle it
- Service drives secure TIF funds (11 mile)
- Should be able to handle it with what we have – fund balance dollars that could be used for this
- Encourage Lathrup Village to tackle it in the next year; if Southfield is going to fix their part of the Road, Lathrup Village should fix their part
- Lathrup Village residents expressed concern for this road
- Redoing a Park along Lincoln (across from Thompson) would make it look better
- Plan to move on pieces of it
- Take advantage to not have to recontract for the work – it saves money, can utilize equipment and people already there for the project
- To move forward and bring for an approval of a Budget Amendment

G. Update on Southfield Road

City Council members for Southfield and Lathrup Village discussed in part:

- Federal dollars Oak County earmarked Southfield – Mt Vernon, Lathrup Village did not move forward, but Southfield is moving forward (design reflected for a Blvd.)
- Curious as to direction LV is heading
- Lathrup Village is still interested; the timing was after a failed millage, and the consideration of how it would look to residents to spend money on a road study, when talking about cutting Police and other services in the City
- Understanding how the project might or might not benefit Lathrup Village
- Both Cities have to monitor what is happening at the Federal level (Road funding). Southfield Road functions practically like a Freeway; being a little less territorial might be to our benefit
- It isn't attractive to Lathrup Village as a Freeway; LV has goals
- Vertical integration along Southfield Road in Lathrup Village of 2-3 stories thinks vertical integration around the Corridor

H. Other Items

8. Unfinished /pm New Business

Lathrup Village Councilmember Hammond expressed that he was grateful for this meeting.

Lathrup Village Mayor Kantor expressed wanting to meet on an annual basis.

Southfield City Council Chairperson Hicks suggested planning a meeting based on how the election turns out and planning to schedule future meetings.

9. Adjourn at 6:51 pm