



City Council Study Session

Monday, May 04, 2026, at 6:00 PM

27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

1. **Call to Order** by Mayor Kantor at 6:00 pm
Present: Kantor, Garrett, Sousanis, Jennings, Hammond
Also Present: Attorney Baker, City Clerk Emanuel

2. **Discussion Items**

- A. FY 26-27 Budget & Utility Rates

Councilmembers and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Seeing options (3 options) for 1.0/1 mill, since that is the way Council is leaning
- If Council has any suggestions for the options, send them to CA Greene
- If we can save money by changing our local elections to be in the same years as Federal Elections
- Library millage
- Having an Agenda item where someone from the City explains the Utility rates, outside of a Town Hall meeting

- B. Animal Feeding Ordinance

Councilmembers and Attorney Baker discussed:

- A resident has reached out to the City and explained concerns related to a neighbor feeding Deer, and Mayor Kantor found out that other cities have ordinances regarding feeding Deer to help limit the Deer population and not attract more Deer
- How is it enforced, what type of violation:
 - It could be the Code Enforcement Officer
 - Farmington Hills and the City of Southfield have these ordinances
 - Some treat it as a Misdemeanor, some as a Citation, some as a Civil infraction with a monetary fee
 - A warning was issued to educate on the first complaint
 - Someone seeing it/taking a video and showing it to the City, we can go off the video, the evidence can be piles of feed in the yards, photos of carrots or corn piles, don't have to catch the person in the act, it is evidence of feeding
- At the state level, the DNR doesn't write a lot of tickets - Written warnings like a door hanger, if they still do it, it then progresses to the citation. The purpose is to see a reduction in violations

- We have no recourse with it being against State Law; they have rules that they enforce, and we have to have an ordinance
- If the Deer all eat at the same place, there is a greater possibility of illness
- The City would be doing what we can to not bring more Deer into the community, not doing this because of 1 resident
- This would also help to prevent damage in yards, caused by attracting the Deer into the area
- Educating the Community about Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), that has been found in Deer in Michigan, since 2015, and is a fatal neurological disease spread by saliva, urine, and feces of Deer, and bringing Deer together to eat at the same place because someone is feeding them, creates this type of environment, for this illness to spread because saliva being a major source of transmission

C. Communications & Engagement Committee - ADA Recommendation

Councilmembers and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Workflow being reviewed
- Cost of ADA Audit and remediation
- Baseline first, implement procedures to stay in compliance
- Continued auditing to make sure we are in compliance
- Not just the Web, but in compliance with all digital communications
- Going beyond the base required compliance
- Doing it because it is the right thing to do, not just to be in compliance
- Getting estimates from 2 more companies
- Giving a Baseline for compliance and then other pieces that should be considered
- Adding “alt text” for images that describes the purpose of the image for visually impaired users

D. Millage Town Hall

Councilmembers and Attorney Baker discussed:

- The Public can turn in questions on note cards, and speak at Public comments
- Trying to make sure everyone is heard and can get answers
- Who will talk/present the information at the Town Hall
 - Library Millage– Councilmember Jennings and Councilmember Sousanis
 - Oakland Schools County ISD – Mayor Kantor
 - PA 33 – Councilmember Hammond
- Possibly having a separate Town Hall about Utility bills
- Making sure that we promote this (texting and lawn signs)

E. Council Rules of Order & Procedure - Voting Methods

Councilmembers and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Rules are written so that you can go back
- Format can just be changed during the meeting
- A member can ask for a Roll Call vote if they want one
- Contracts, it would be good to be on record for contracts
- Do a Roll Call vote for: Contracts, Ordinances, Resolutions, and Closed Sessions

F. Flag Flying Policy

Councilmembers and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Attorney Baker reviewed the ordinance that was adopted last July that deemed the flagpole a non-public forum, and explained how the City deals with requests to fly flags
- Is there Ordinance language to back the decision that the council makes regarding flag requests
- An additional flagpole was discussed at previous Council meetings
- Requests can increase with an additional flagpole
- Events and flying flags: Is it appropriate to fly a flag to promote an event?
 - Commemorative Events versus drawing attention to a future event
- Adding a time limit to submit requests, so that they can be put on the agenda, to be considered at City Council meetings

3. Public Comments

Jonathan Tara commented in part: That T. J. Connolly of the Road Commission for Oakland County was at a recent Planning Commission meeting, he thought the information presented was important and informative, and that Citizens did not hear about him being at the meeting enough in advance, and that it would be good to have him come back to the Transportation Town Hall. Mr. Tara commented on suggestions listed on about burning trash, and if Tringali is aware that they will have an increased volume, and if they would want to change their contract terms. Mr. Tara expressed that he wants to plant a tree in the Right Of Way, but the form that the City has, seems geared toward construction projects and the associated fee, is quite high, and inferring that there could be/should be another type of form for this type of request and that residents should be educated about trees that are in the Right Of Way and uses of the Right Of Way.

4. Mayor and Council Comments

Mayor Kantor commented in part:

- He can request CA Greene to reach out to the Road Commission for T.J.
- There was a tree that had to be removed from the right-of-way, and some residents had rain gardens in the right-of-way

City Clerk Emanuel:

- The Tree Committee has some thoughts on a tree Ordinance, including: a list of species acceptable and that should not be brought into LV, and is aware of Mr. Tara's concern

Attorney Baker:

- The Chapter on Vegetation can be updated, and a tree-related ordinance can be created

Councilmember Sousanis commented in part:

- Who do you interact with to have something put in the Newsletter somewhere you can go to have something on there
- Super clear boundaries
- A little more clarification on the rule about renting out rooms in this building, he has asked before and went by what was said (a judgment call, rather than a rule), rather than letting people know how we work, and doesn't want it to happen to other people

5. **Adjourn 7:24 pm**