



City Council Study Session

Monday, April 20, 2026 at 6:00 PM

27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

1. **Call to Order** by Mayor Pro Tem Garrett, 6:00 pm

Present: Garrett, Sousanis, Hammond

Absent: Kantor, Jennings

Also Present: City Administrator Greene, DDA Director Colson, Attorney Baker, City Clerk Emanuel

2. **Discussion Items**

A. FY 26-27 DRAFT Budget

Councilmembers, CA Greene, and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Review of the packages/options presented to Council by CA Greene
- If the City Administrative employees went to Part-time, it would save the City \$200,000 to \$250,000, and the City could keep the Library Contract and LV Police Department
- A meeting date, because the Budget must be adopted before June 30, 2026, and there has to be a Public Hearing

B. Policy on Public Safety, Community Trust, and Immigration Enforcement

Councilmembers, CA Greene, and Attorney Baker discussed:

- A letter was sent on April 10th, to Redico, who owns the building One Town Square in Southfield, from our Mayor, inviting them to have a Town Hall meeting regarding the lease agreement with the Office of the Principal Legal Advisor, which serves as the legal counsel for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and there has been no response yet
- The property is in Southfield, outside of this City's jurisdiction, thus the City has no Authority to compel them to come before Council
- If the Southfield City Council and/or Mayor had any interest in doing this (having a Town Hall)
- That we sent the letter even though Southfield was not interested, and the reasons why it was sent
- The proposed policy and what we are currently doing
- Formalizing a Resolution for the May 18th meeting

C. Tree Committee Arboretum Proposal

The Tree Committee is interested in developing the Triangle space located at Bungalow Drive and Rainbow Drive into a Lathrup Village Arboretum and has been working on this proposed plan for about a year. Plans include utilizing it for Community Engagement and Educational purposes, removal of trees that are not in good condition, an ADA-compliant path, and keeping it a maintained Green Space.

Councilmembers, CA Greene, and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Cost and funding for the plan
- Looking at the Plan in phases
- Advantages of keeping it in Green Space, of having walkways/pathways
- Meeting the Arboretum requirements and future Grant funding
- Border trees and inner trees, and measuring out for individual tree species, and looking at water conditions
- Crab trees in the Center, the DPW can probably remove them
- DNR Grant will be submitted in May
- We currently maintain that area
- May 18th is the tentative date to vote on this

D. Regular Meeting Agenda Items

Councilmembers, CA Greene, and Attorney Baker discussed:

- Public Act 33 agenda item, pulling it out and having a discussion about it at the Regular Meeting
- A Town Hall, and possibly broadening the subject of the Town Hall
- The City of Southfield Council members were not aware of the Library Contract discussions
- Possibly having a joint meeting between the City of Southfield and the City of Lathrup Village City Councils, and scheduling that soon, and then scheduling a Town Hall
- The timing of canceling the Library Contract with Southfield
- Explaining all 3 Millages and that the PA 33 is net neutral with no increased taxes on residents
- Potentially discussing the Water Bills and rate hikes
- Potential date(s) for a Town Hall, and that there is a Planning Commission/Master Plan Town Hall in June

3. Public Comments

Karen Harris, Cambridge Blvd., commented in part: that she doesn't want to lose any (Administrative) staff or see their hours cut, she thinks that there should be something in writing regarding immigration stance, she appreciates the Tree Committee and that they included an ADA-compliant path in their plans, and that Southfield is the best Library around (this area).

Chashah Johnson, a Southfield resident, commented in part that the Arboretum plan is cool, and thanked the LV Council for sending the letter regarding the Redico lease, and is disappointed that the City Council in Southfield has not taken any action, and expressed concern that the Federal ICE agency will use Election time for intimidation.

Jonathan Tara expressed in part that the LV Council meetings are livestreamed on the City's Facebook page, but it is not accessible to people who are not members of Facebook, and he has brought this up before. By making this change, the City's Facebook will be accessible to search engines, which is not currently the case.

Bob Beras expressed in part that Timothy Hillman, Chuck Snelling, and he are in the beginning stages of setting up a GoFundMe and raising money to buy an auxiliary flagpole that can be used to fly the Pride and Juneteenth flags, and he wanted to let the Council know and hopes that they will support it.

Diane Anderson expressed in part that she thinks that the Arboretum is a great idea, she is willing to contribute to a flag pole, she is glad that Council sent the letter, and is concerned with what is happening in our Country regarding immigration and undocumented, and it is a time with the greatest threat to the Constitution since the Civil War.

Timothy Hillman, San Quentin, expressed in part that there is no difference between a conservative City and a City that does not display a Pride Flag. Southfield issued bullet points to residents that helped calm fears regarding ICE. He saw ICE agents on 11 Mile and Pierce Roads, and his heart sank seeing them so close to our community. Public-facing policy/resolution is important.

Christina Schindler expressed in part that she supports what was said about ICE, and the City Council needs to have a clear stance; she likes the Arboretum plan, and reminded residents about upcoming Parks and Recreation events: Arbor Day, Hydrangea Class, and Food Truck Fridays beginning May 1st.

Reed Bosky Wiltshire, and on the Tree and Nature Group, expressed in part: about the School plans where the road dead ends, and the Rain Garden, and that the road will need to be widened, for emergency vehicles (when the School Project is completed), the Rain Garden is being maintained, and has some nice well established trees in it, and helps clean our storm water, hopefully it is part of the conversation.

4. **Mayor and Council Comments** None

5. **Adjourn** at 7:02 pm