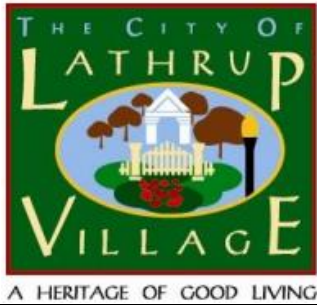




City Council Special Meeting

Monday, August 31, 2026, at 12:00 PM

27400 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

1. **Call to Order** by Mayor Kantor at 12:00 PM
2. **Roll Call**

Present: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Hammond, Sousanis

Absent: N/A

Also Present: City Administrator Greene, City Attorney Baker

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Kantor & Mayor Pro-Tem Garrett discussed their reasoning for requesting an additional special meeting.

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councilmember Garrett, seconded by Hammond, to approve the agenda as submitted.

Yes: Kantor, Garrett, Jennings, Hammond, Sousanis

No: N/A

Motion Carried

5. **Public Comments for Items on the Agenda**

Jonathan Terra: comments regarding the Council packet and the ambiguous language within the memo. Believes the PIP is the better choice for the surface and mentioned an Ann Arbor company that he recommends for testing.

Diane Dampsky: Believes the City should go with the safest option, as there is a belief there are unknown long-term impacts on the health of the children.

Roger Lynn: How much is this going to cost the City? If so, this jeopardizes additional services.

John Roberts: Supports the deposit towards the playscape. Believes there is a group of residents trying to discredit the Council, staff, and volunteers with comments associated with this type of project.

Lori Kunz: stated it is not political to comment on a project that has a financial impact on the City. Stated that there are lies and corruption, and proof will be coming.

Rick Wisz: How does this new playscape fit in the current location? Does it include benches and seating for those watching their children?

Tim Hillman (written comment submitted before meeting): Our Parks and Recreation Committee has spent months doing the hard, detailed work necessary to move the Municipal Park playscape project forward. Council owes that work serious consideration and every reasonable effort to resolve its remaining concerns.

Council cannot continue that work if it allows the grant funding to expire now.

The alternative is an old playscape that has outlived its useful life. That is not a responsible long-term solution, and it does not eliminate the need for maintenance.

I understand Council's concern about establishing a maintenance budget. We should have one. That concern exists with or without a new playscape. Our parks and equipment require ongoing maintenance regardless

I also understand concerns about the proposed surface material. That deserves thoughtful consideration, discussion, and negotiation. That work can only continue if Council first acts to meet the grant deadline and preserve the funding.

Council does not have to resolve every future question today. It does need to preserve the opportunity to finish the work.

Please approve the deposit, secure the grant funding, and give this project the chance it has earned.

6. Action Requests - For Consideration / Approval

A. Request to Approve Deposit for Municipal Park Playscape Project

Moved by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Jennings, to approve a Municipal Park Playscape Project deposit with Sinclair Recreation, LLC in the amount of \$141,935.94.

Yes: Kantor, Jennings, Hammond, Sousanis

No: Garret

Motion Carried

7. Public Comment

Jonathan Terra: The packet for this meeting was published early, and that is appreciated; wished it had been notified earlier via app. Looking for an update on committee meeting minutes. Excited to see the grants coming through for water lines.

Lori Kunz: Does not agree with the DDA contributing to the City and believes the music festival is losing money; the DDA could be covering other items within the City.

Roger Lynn: Thank you to Mayor Pro-Tem Garrett for bringing up her concerns. The playscape seems too big for the location, and could cost savings occur if it were smaller.

8. Mayor and Council Comments

Councilmember Hammond:

- Noted that the Council has committees for a reason, so they can handle leg work for the Council while Council considers those recommendations, and the Council has an opportunity to provide feedback.
- We should not approve something that was already discussed/voted on, but it does introduce risk.

Mayor Kantor:

- Discussed public notices for meetings.

Councilmember Sousanis:

- Believes special meetings should get special notices.
- Voted for the deposit to continue the discussion for discovery reasons; noted that if the project would have stayed based on the previous vote, he would have supported that decision.
- Online discussions do not lead to policy. Encourages everyone to share their thoughts at public meetings.

Mayor Pro-Tem:

- The project will possibly cost the City over \$28,000.

9. Adjourn

Mayor Pro-Tem Garrett moved to adjourn at 1:18 PM, seconded by Councilmember Sousanis.