

City Council Regular Meeting
Madison Heights, Michigan
August 24, 2026

A City Council Regular Meeting was held on Monday, August 24, 2026 at 6:30 PM at City Hall
- Council Chambers, 300 W. 13 Mile Rd.

PRESENT

Mayor Corey Haines
Mayor Pro Tem William Mier
Councilwoman Toya Aaron
Councilman Sean Fleming
Councilor Laurie Gerald
Councilor Emily Rohrbach
Councilor Quinn Wright

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Larry Sherman
Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Cheryl Rottmann

The invocation was given by Councilman Fleming and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

CM-26-183. Approval of the Agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilwoman Aaron.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilman Fleming, Councilor
Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Paul Sanders, resident, shared historical information regarding the Lincoln area, noting it was once part of the Illich farm, which grew small plants and flowers. He then voiced concerns regarding 11 Mile Road between John R Road and the high school, stating that patrons at local restaurants, including the John R Grill, are very upset about recent road changes.

Chris (last name not given), resident, while thanking the Council for their actions regarding JARS, he expressed concerns over the city's use of Flock safety cameras, characterizing the framing of "public safety" as a marketing plan that masks mass surveillance and the erosion of liberties. He emphasized that local government, being closest to the people, has a unique duty to protect civil liberties and the U.S. Constitution. He formally requested two actions: first, that the city publish all records, contracts, costs, and explicit metrics demonstrating if the cameras have solved crimes that traditional policing could not; and second, that Flock camera usage and similar surveillance systems be put to a public referendum so Madison Heights residents can vote on whether they want them.

City Clerk Rottmann noted that Kevin Trabucci had sent in two emails with complaints pertaining to the parking lot and drainage at the Limages Animal Hospital. Clerk Rottmann noted that both emails were forwarded to City Council.

CM-26-184. Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mier.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-185. Director of Public Services - Purchase of Leased Vehicle #457.

Motion to approve the purchase of leased vehicle #457, a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado from Enterprise Fleet Management at its predetermined residual value of \$5,899.23 and authorize the City Manager to execute all required documents to facilitate the purchase.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mier.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-186. Fire Chief - Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Decontamination Washing System.

Motion to waive the formal procurement process and approve the purchase of the Roto-Decon Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) decontamination washing system from McQueen for a total amount of \$26,900.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mier.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-187. City Clerk - Board and Commission Appointments – Council Appointments.

Motion to approve the Council appointments to City boards and commissions as amended with the term ending dates, as specified:

BOARD	TERM TYPE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	TERM EXPIRATION
Active Adult Advisory Board	Regular	Delores	Mowry	8/31/29
Arts Board	Regular	Mark	Bliss	8/31/29
Crime Commission	Regular	Beth	Scott	8/31/29
	Regular	Andrew	Franklin	8/31/29
Elected Official Compensation Commission	Regular	Marie	Bessler	8/31/33
Historical Commission	Regular	Vasiliki	Harris	8/28/29
Human Relations & Equity Commission	Regular	Teresa	Scott	8/31/28
	Regular	Ashley	Strunk	8/31/28
	Regular	Susana	King	8/31/28
	Regular	Erin	Baker-Giese	8/31/27
	Alternate	Rebecca	Chambliss	8/31/28
	Alternate	Joshua	Frankovich	8/31/28
Library Advisor Board	Regular	Jennifer	Eritano	8/31/28
	Regular	Regina	Juska-Svoba	8/31/28
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board	Regular	Joshua	Frankovich	2/28/28
	Alternate	Nikolas	Chandler	2/28/28
Tax Board of Review	Regular	Alexander	Lusk	2/28/27
General Retiree Health Care Trust/Police & Fire Retirement Boards	Regular	Anthony	Roberts	8/31/30
Zoning Board of Appeals	Alternate	Julieann	Youkanna	2/28/28

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mier.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-188. City Clerk - Board and Commission Appointments - Mayor Appointments.

Motion to concur with the Mayor's recommendations and approve the appointment to Planning Commission with the term ending date as specified.

BOARD	TERM TYPE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	TERM EXPIRATION
Planning Commission	Regular	Eric	Graettinger	8/31/29

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mier.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Geraldts, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-189. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2026.

Motion to approve the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2026, as printed.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mier.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Geraldts, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-190. City Manager - Confirmation of Human Resources Director/Deputy City Manager.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Cheryl Rottmann as Human Resources Director and continued Deputy City Manager.

Motion made by Councilman Fleming, Seconded by Councilor Wright.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Geraldts, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-191. City Manager - Confirmation of City Clerk Appointment.

Motion to confirm the appointment of Mary Daley as City Clerk.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Geraldts, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-192. City Manager - Michigan Municipal League Convention Delegate and Alternate.

Motion to approve Mayor Haines as Delegate and Mayor Pro Tem Mier as Alternate at the 2026 Annual MML Convention

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Councilwoman Aaron.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

CM-26-193. City Planner - Temporary Data Center Moratorium Resolution.

Motion to adopt the temporary data center moratorium resolution to provide staff with adequate time to evaluate appropriate zoning, building and developmental regulations before any applications are submitted, as follows:

**MADISON HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION
FOR TEMPORARY DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT MORATORIUM**

WHEREAS, the City is a Michigan municipal corporation, duly and legally organized under and existing by virtue of the laws of the State of Michigan, pursuant to the provisions of 1909 Public Act 279, being specifically Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 117.1 et seq., with its principal offices located at 300 Thirteen Mile Road, Madison Heights, Michigan 48071; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan and other states have recently experienced an increased interest in the development of Data Centers; and,

WHEREAS, Data Centers present unique possible concerns of high electricity use, water consumption, noise, temporary (but limited) local employment opportunities, land use issues and environmental impacts (among other issues) while at the same time providing important digital infrastructure and economic benefits, such as increased and improved power cloud computing, artificial intelligence, online banking, streaming services, healthcare, local better broadband services, and property tax revenues (among other benefits); and,

WHEREAS, the City's current Zoning Ordinance, Building Ordinance, and regulations and development standards related thereto (collectively referred to as "Zoning and Building Ordinances") do not specifically define, classify, or comprehensively regulate Data Centers or establish standards governing their location, design, scale, operational characteristics, infrastructure requirements, or compatibility with surrounding land uses; and,

WHEREAS, the Madison Heights City Council finds that it is in the public interest to undertake a comprehensive review of the City's Zoning and Building Ordinances as they relate to Data centers to ensure that any future development of such facilities occur in appropriate locations and under standards that protect the public health, safety, and welfare, while supporting responsible economic development; and,

WHEREAS, during the moratorium period necessary to conduct this review, acceptance or approval of applications for Data Centers could result in development

that is inconsistent with future regulations and planning objectives, thereby frustrating the City's ability to implement a comprehensive regulatory framework; and,

WHEREAS, the Madison Heights City Council finds that a temporary moratorium is necessary and reasonable to preserve the status quo while the City evaluates and adopts appropriate Zoning and Building Ordinances governing Data Centers; and,

WHEREAS, it is the express intent of this Resolution that the moratorium will be temporary in nature and not intended to prohibit Data Centers permanently; but rather is solely intended to provide the City with adequate time to study, evaluate, and establish appropriate Zoning and Building Ordinances identifying where and under what standards a Data Center or Centers may be appropriate within the boundaries of the City; and,

WHEREAS, for purposes of this Resolution, a Data Center shall mean the following:

"Data Center means a building or portion of a building primarily used to house computer system servers, network equipment, data storage equipment, cloud computing infrastructure, or similar information technology infrastructure, together with associated mechanical equipment, cooling systems, backup power generation, electrical substations, battery energy storage systems, and related support facilities designed principally for the processing, storage, transmission, or management of digital data."

WHEREAS, for purposes of this Resolution, a Data Center shall **NOT** mean the following:

1. Server rooms or equipment accessory to a principal use on the same property;
2. Telecommunications facilities regulated separately under City ordinances;
3. Government-owned emergency communications facilities, including but not limited to Police, Fire, 911 and Emergency facilities and,
4. Small-scale information technology facilities serving only the principal use on the site.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Madison Heights City Council finds that a temporary moratorium on Data Centers, as defined above, is reasonable and necessary to preserve the status quo while the City evaluates and adopts appropriate Zoning Ordinances and Building Ordinances governing Data Centers, for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the approval of this Resolution by City Council (the "Temporary Moratorium Period"), unless extended by a maximum of two (2) subsequent Resolution(s), approved by City Council, each Resolution not to exceed sixty (60) days, with a maximum extension not to exceed one-hundred and twenty (120) days; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the Temporary Moratorium Period, the City shall not accept, process, review, schedule for public hearing, approve, issue

permits for, or issue zoning approvals or building permits for any application for the establishment, construction, expansion, or development of a Data Center, including any related special land use approvals, rezoning, site plan approval, building permit, grading permit, land division, or other discretionary development approval necessary to authorize such use; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Temporary Moratorium applies to all new principal Data Center developments, conversion of existing buildings into principal Data Centers, expansion of an existing Data Center (if any) that would materially increase computing capacity, building area, utility demand, or operational intensity; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Madison Heights City Council shall appoint a Special Commission titled, "The Data Center Commission," whose purpose shall be to undertake a comprehensive review of the City's Zoning Ordinances, Building Ordinances, and regulation and development standards as they relate to Data centers to ensure that any future development of such facilities occur in appropriate locations and under standards that protect the public health, safety, and welfare, while supporting responsible economic development; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of "The Data Center Commission" shall consist of nine regular voting members as follows: Mayor, City Manager, City Attorney, City Planner, Community and Economic Development Director, Planning Commission Chairperson, Informational Technology Advisory Committee Chairperson, and two at-large residents, who shall meet twice monthly and who shall provide recommendations to the City Council regarding the subject matter of this Resolution; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to U.S. Senators Elissa Slotkin and Gary Peters, U.S. Representative Haley Stevens, Michigan Governor, Gretchen Whitmer, Attorney General, Dana Nessel, Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, State Senator, Stephanie Chang, State Representative Mike McFall, State Representative, Tom Kuhn, Oakland County Chief Executive, David Coulter, and Oakland County Commissioner Ann Erickson Gault

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach.

Voting Yea: Mayor Haines, Mayor Pro Tem Mier, Councilwoman Aaron, Councilman Fleming, Councilor Gerald, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilor Wright

Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Aaron welcomed students back for the first day of school, noting the new law prohibiting mobile phones in schools and urging the community to act as a "village" to protect and support students. She also promoted the final summer event, "Trail Tunes," scheduled for Saturday, August 29th, from 2:00 to 6:00 PM at Civic Center Park, which will feature six bands, food trucks, and vendors.

Mayor Pro Tem Mier congratulated Mary Daley and Cheryl Rottmann on their new appointments. He reminded drivers to watch out for children during the school season and shared his excitement about returning to spot varsity football games.

Councilor Wright commended Cheryl Rottmann for her unbiased and ethical work as City Clerk and welcomed Mary Daley to her new role. Addressing public comments, he acknowledged that Flock safety cameras are a growing concern for residents and emphasized that the Council takes the issue seriously and must address it publicly. He also promoted the "Revin the Heights" car show on September 19th, noting it will feature food trucks, a "car limbo" contest, and that the proceeds will support the Madison Heights food pantry. He concluded with his signature reminder to "be kind".

City Attorney Larry Sherman shared a brief history of the city's landmark environmental case against SOCCRA, recalling how Clay Thomas accompanied his father, Hugh Thomas, to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. He shared that Clay and his wife Bessie have offered to step in for his late parents in their local supper club, allowing the long-standing tradition to continue.

City Manager Melissa Marsh thanked the Council for confirming the promotions of Cheryl Rottmann and Mary Daley, noting that keeping and developing internal talent is in the best long-term interest of the city's succession planning.

Deputy City Manager / City Clerk Cheryl Rottmann thanked the City Manager and the City Council for their confidence and support in her professional development. She jokingly added that she is not disappointed to leave behind the 20-hour election workdays and welcomed Mary to the Clerk's position.

Councilor Rohrbach highlighted that the Human Relations and Equity Commission (HREC) is hosting an adaptive game night on September 29th and noted that "Revin the Heights" raises funds to support these HREC programs. She also promoted an upcoming free tree presentation by ReLeaf Michigan to teach residents proper tree care and how to be a "good tree parent".

Councilor Geraldts invited the public to "Dancing Under the Stars" on Wednesday night from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, which is the final event of the Arts Board series. She also praised City Manager Melissa Marsh for her strategic approach to internal succession planning, citing it as further proof of her excellence.

Councilman Fleming congratulated the newly promoted staff, emphasizing the importance of retaining talented employees. He announced the upcoming October opening of the upgraded Red Oaks Park (a \$7.2 million county investment featuring barrier-free playgrounds and trails) and noted future county-funded improvements at McGillivray Park. Finally, he urged night riders on bicycles and e-bikes to use front lights and reflective gear for safety.

Mayor Haines congratulated the staff on their career advancements and shared that he thoroughly enjoyed relaxing at a recent concert in the park. He gave a special shout-out to Lamphere High School senior Cade Walker for his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol, highlighting his extensive flight training and his achievement of the prestigious Earhart Award. He closed by encouraging attendance at Saturday's Trail Tunes.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business, Mayor Haines adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.