

DATE: March 19, 2026
TO: City Council
FROM: Melissa R. Marsh, City Manager
SUBJECT: Agenda Comments Regular Council Meeting of Monday, March 23, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA:

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES - 2026 Road Commission of Oakland County (RCOC) SUMMER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Council is being asked to consider the proposed 2026 Summer Maintenance Agreement between the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) and the City of Madison Heights for summer maintenance activities on 14 Mile, 12 Mile, and John R from 14 Mile to the Red Run County Drain. Under this Agreement, the city provides street sweeping, grass mowing, and litter pick-up along these County Roads, and is compensated by RCOC for same. This agreement represents a 1.7% increase in reimbursement for a total of \$13,508.30.

Staff recommends that City Council approve this Agreement with the Road Commission for Oakland County and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign on behalf of the City. As in years past, the RCOC is requesting that the City invoice the Road Commission for 65% of the total contract amount on September 15, 2026, and invoice the remaining 35% upon completion of the last maintenance activity.

CITY PLANNER - ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDED PLANNING COMMISSION BY-LAWS

At their February 17th meeting, the Planning Commission voted to amend Article IV, Section 1 of the Planning Commission By-Laws, to change regular meeting dates from the third Tuesday of each month to the third Monday of each month. Moving forward, regular Planning Commission meetings will be held on the third (3rd) Monday of each month. Revised meeting dates will be posted in accordance with state law.

Staff recommend City Council approve the amended Planning Commission By-Laws as presented.

CED DIRECTOR - DOWNTOWN CLOCK TOWER COMPONENT REPLACEMENT

The Madison Heights Downtown Development Authority is seeking to restore the downtown clock tower which includes a new control module, time pieces with new hands, LED backlighting,

amplifier and speaker system. The DDA reviewed this proposal and unanimously recommend approval to City Council for Verdin Company.

Verdin Company is the original vendor of the clock tower and has serviced it since construction. While, there are a few other vendors capable of performing this work the market is specialized and limited. Selecting a vendor with direct experience servicing the clock tower reduces risk, avoids compatibility issues and supports reliable operation of a highly visible downtown feature.

Therefore, staff is requesting that City Council waive the formal bidding procedures for purchase greater than \$15,000 in accordance with section 2-256 of the Purchasing Ordinance and approve the MHDDA to proceed with The Verdin Company's proposal for the restoration of the clock tower at a cost of \$38,298. Fund are available in the DDA budget.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES - REPLACEMENT OF VEHICLE #463

The FY 2026 budget includes funding for the scheduled replacement of vehicle #453, replacing a 2013 cargo van with a utility truck, funded through the Water/Sewer division. This proposal has since been re-evaluated. Vehicle #463, a 2015 pickup truck in the same division, has experienced an accelerated decline in its condition since the original budget evaluation took place. Its condition analysis score now outranks that of the cargo van, making it a higher priority for replacement.

Therefore, staff recommends that Council approve the purchase of one 2026 Ram 1500 Tradesman pickup truck as quoted from LaFontaine Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram, of Lansing, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000, through the MiDeal cooperative vehicle purchasing agreement. Funding is budgeted and available.

CITY CLERK - APPOINTMENTS TO CRIME COMMISSION

As Council Representative to the Crime Commission, Mayor Haines has requested approval of appointments to this board of current alternate Angela Shukwit to a full term expiring 8/31/26 and Alexander Truran to the alternate term expiring 8/31/27.

If Council concurs, the appropriate motion would be to approve the appointments to the Crime Commission of Angela Shukwit as a full member with a term expiring 8/31/26 and Alexander Truran as an alternate position with a term expiring 8/31/27.

CITY CLERK – APPOINTMENTS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

As Council Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Councilwoman Aaron has requested approval of Julieann Youkanna as a full member with a term expiring 2/28/27 and Jeff Hilliard as an alternate with a term expiring 2/28/27.

If Council concurs, the appropriate motion would be to approve the appoints to the Zoning Board of Appeals of Julieann Youkanna as a full member with a term expiring 2/28/27 and Jeff Hilliard as an alternate with a term expiring 2/28/27.

REPORTS:

CITY MANAGER - 2026 PROPOSAL R-4 BALLOT PROPOSAL

City Council is requested to approve a resolution to place the Neighborhood Road Millage, designated as Proposal R-4, on the August 4, 2026, ballot. This proposal represents the fourth time our voters will consider a dedicated millage for our residential streets, continuing a successful program that began in 1996 and was subsequently renewed in 2006 and 2016.

Over the past 30 years, this dedicated funding has allowed the city to repair or reconstruct nearly 35 miles of residential neighborhood streets. We have remained committed to a "pay-as-you-go" approach, which has successfully kept the city out of long-term debt while ensuring every dollar is invested directly into our infrastructure. The proposal seeks to authorize a levy of 2.00 mills per year for a ten-year period, beginning in 2027. While the purpose remains the same as previous iterations—focusing on right-of-way repair, reconstruction, and related sewer improvements—this is technically a restoration to the full 2.00 mills rather than a simple renewal, as it overrides previous rollbacks under the Headlee Amendment.

If approved, we estimate the levy will raise approximately \$2,416,754 in its first year. For the average Madison Heights homeowner with a taxable value of \$63,156, the cost is estimated to be roughly \$126.31 per year, or approximately \$10.53 per month. It is important to note that commercial and industrial properties also contribute significantly to this revenue.

These funds are strictly restricted by Charter language and cannot be used for general operations; they are dedicated solely to residential street and sewer repairs and are subject to an annual independent audit. To ensure we are prepared for day one, the City completed a comprehensive street condition review in Fall 2024, creating a prioritized list of projects for the next ten years. We also intend to leverage this millage with additional state funding to maximize the impact for our residents.

Staff is prepared to engage the community immediately, with six public events already scheduled to answer resident questions. Further we are creating informational videos, newsletter and mailers.

With the current authorization set to expire after the 2026 levy, I recommend the Council approve the resolution placing Proposal R-4 on the August 4, 2026 ballot, to ensure our residential road improvements continue without interruption.

BID AWARD/PURCHASES:

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES - 2026 WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT PIPE AND PARTS

In anticipation of the upcoming 2026 proposed water main replacement projects, DPS Staff and Purchasing prepared and posted Invitation to Bid (ITB) #MH-26-06 “2026 Water Main Replacement Pipe and Parts”. On March 6, 2026, the city received three sealed bids with Core & Main submitting the lowest complete qualifying bid for a total estimated project amount of \$243,866.66.

Staff recommend that Council award the bid for the 2026 water main replacement pipe and parts to the lowest responsible bidder who bid on all items listed, Core & Main, of Shelby Township, Michigan, for the unit prices specified. Staff also request that the Council motion include extending this bid to the upcoming proposed stand-alone water main projects at the unit prices identified, subject to FY 2027 Budget approval.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICES - FIRE STATION 1 HVAC REPLACEMENT

The FY 2026 budget includes accumulated phase-funding for the replacement of the HVAC system at Fire Station 1. The system is original to the building, and at 22 years of 24/7 service, is in poor overall condition, and warrants replacement. This project was originally planned for the 2026-27 budget year but was brought forward due to the overall condition of the system, and the unexpected availability of additional funding. The second phase of the recent Police Department HVAC project was covered by a grant, and it was determined that it would be in the City’s best interest to utilize the originally budgeted funds to accelerate the timeline on the fire department project. One bid was received by the deadline, from Denny’s Heating and Cooling. Denny’s is our current HVAC maintenance contractor. They continue to be highly skilled and valued contractor, providing quality work at a cost-effective price point.

Staff requests that Council consider two motions:

1. To approve a Budget Amendment to account 101-336-987-0000 in the amount of \$206,200. This represents originally budgeted funding for the Police HVAC Phase; and
2. To award the Fire Station 1 HVAC Replacement project, including Alternate 1 to Denny’s Heating and Cooling, of Troy, for a total project amount of \$361,200.