

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Pro Tem Casey called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Fischer (*absent/excused*), Mayor Pro Tem Casey, Council Members Gurmurthy, Heintz, Smith, Staudt, Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Danielle Mahoney, Assistant City Manager
Tom Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

CM 25-09-115 Moved by Smith, seconded by Thomas; MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

To approve the agenda as presented.

Roll call vote on CM 25-09-115	Yeas: Gurmurthy, Heintz, Smith, Thomas, Staudt, and Casey Nays: None Absent: Fischer
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PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

CITY MANAGER REPORT: None

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Allen Bialek said he has been a resident of Novi for 35 plus years and is a proud Vietnam veteran. He said he has worked hard on his credibility and reputation with the community. He said he wrote and produced in starred in the production with the City of Novi that won its first and only Emmy Award. He said his goal has been to build a bridge between upcoming generations and those with more experience for free. He said he doesn't want anything, is not selling anything, and just wants to, as a veteran, give back to the country. He said what's in it for him is that attitude is almost impossible to overcome for normal citizens and taxpayers. He said his personal growth workshops exist in six class programs that he developed starting at the Novi library for free on September 24th at 7:00 PM. He said that we don't utilize seniors as effectively as we should. He said everything that seniors have invented, fought for, and died for. He said that he would show the council to look at him in a different way as seniors are, seniors and technology.

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:

CM 25-09-116 Moved by Thomas, seconded by Gurmurthy; MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approve Minutes of:
August 25, 2025 - Regular Meeting
- B. Approval of request for Fireworks Display Permit by City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, to be operated by ACE Pyro, on Thursday, October 16, 2025 for the community event, Diwali Fest.
- C. Approval of a Resolution to close the intersection of Ten Mile and Taft Roads for the 2025 Novi High School Homecoming Parade from 4:45 PM to 6:15 PM on Friday, September 26, 2025.
- D. Approval of the request from the builder of 41380 Eight Mile Road (parcel no. 50-22-36-353-002) for a variance from the Design and Construction Standards in Section 11-256 (b) to dismiss the sidewalk requirement along Meadowbrook Road and pay into the City Sidewalk Fund.
- E. Approval of claims and warrants – Warrant 1187.

Roll call vote on CM 25-09-116

Yeas: Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith, Thomas, Staudt, and Casey

Nays: None

Absent: Fischer

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

- 1. **Consideration of a request from Seven York Inc. (DBA: The Dancing Pine) for a new Class C quota license to be located at 42738 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48375 and Agreement on the Prohibition on Profiteering by Class C Liquor License Holders.**

CM 25-09-117 Moved by Heintz, seconded by Staudt: MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Approval of a request from Seven York Inc. (DBA: The Dancing Pine) for a new Class C quota license to be located at 42738 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48375 and Agreement on the Prohibition on Profiteering by Class C Liquor License Holders.

Member Staudt asked the applicant how the ventilation system was coming along and if it was figured out. Min Kyu Kim, applicant, said he was working with a partner all week and found a grill company that will provide the correct documentation, and the partner has verbally agreed on the new company. He said they are called Samsung Grills. He said the ducts will be underground still. Member Staudt asked if they would be starting on time. Mr. Kim said they would start late, but as soon as possible. Member Staudt said congratulations on bringing the business into the Sakura development. Mr. Kim said he is very excited to provide this new Korean Steakhouse for the Novi community. He said a lot of people his age has been moving into Novi. He said this centralized community

development will be very good for the community. Member Staudt said ten years ago, the applicant probably wouldn't have been given a license because new business wasn't their focus back then. He said the focus was existing businesses wanting to expand, but that way of thinking has changed over the years. He said he looks forward to visiting the restaurant and having a beverage.

Member Thomas said in reviewing the application she thought the area is new and developing and is a great place to have that available where it wasn't before. She said the idea is to have an open space. She said it very much fits what they are looking for in applications for liquor licenses, and she wholeheartedly supports it.

Mayor Pro Tem Casey said she is excited to see a development or opportunity such as this one going into Sakura. She said she thinks it is going to really help bring more attention to that area, and what is going in is something they have not seen before. She said thank you for investing in Novi. She said they have her support on this.

Roll call vote on CM 25-09-117

**Yeas: Heintz, Smith, Thomas, Staudt, Fischer,
Casey, and Gurumurthy**

Nays: None

Absent: Fischer

2. Consideration of a request from Jayaksha LLC (DBA: Amruth Royal Cuisine) for a new Class C quota license to be located at 30750 Beck Rd, Novi, MI 48377 and Agreement on the Prohibition on Profiteering by Class C Liquor License Holders.

CM 25-09-118

Moved by Staudt, seconded by Smith: MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Approval of request from Jayaksha LLC (DBA: Amruth Royal Cuisine) for a new Class C quota license to be located at 30750 Beck Rd, Novi, MI 48377 and Agreement on the Prohibition on Profiteering by Class C Liquor License Holders.

Member Smith said this will be a good addition to the area. He said he used to work in the area, and there were days where having a place to get a beer would have been nice. He said he is wishing them success. Vijayakumar Kandukuri, applicant, said many people are excited to have a new restaurant at the location.

Member Gurumurthy said she is very excited about this, because she said she often has to go outside of Novi to find that. She said she is very excited and looking forward to having lunch or dinner there.

Member Heintz said he is looking forward to joining both of the restaurants for a meal sometime in the future and looks forward to both of them and their hopeful success. He said he wishes them the best of luck.

Member Thomas said she thought there were a lot more Indian restaurants, and with further searching she asked where they all were. She said she didn't realize the lack of them that also serve liquor, as there were none that serve alcohol in her search. She said this will be different. She said she was researching the area on the things around the location, and that this will be something new and different. She said she looks forward to what they bring to the table.

Mayor Pro Tem Casey said she would like to welcome them to the city. She said she thinks it is wonderful that they are not just bringing an Indian restaurant to Novi, but they are within walking distance for a lot of people. She said she appreciates that they have chosen that specific location. She said she looks forward to supporting this item.

Roll call vote on CM 25-09-118

**Yeas: Smith, Thomas, Staudt, Casey,
Gurumurthy, and Heintz**

Nays: None

Absent: Fischer

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS: None

AUDIENCE COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Long-Range Strategic Planning Committee - Mayor Pro Tem Casey

Mayor Pro Tem Casey said next meeting is August 28th, 2025, to talk with a new potential vendor partner to help them continue their forward progress with the long-range strategic plan. She said there will hopefully be more coming back to the Council in the next couple of weeks.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 P.M.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Justin Fischer, Mayor

Transcribed by Alyssa Craigie,
Administrative Assistant

Date approved: September 22, 2025