



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, April 2, 2025 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Hussain called the meeting to order at 3:30pm

PRESENT

Council Member Adam Hussain, Chair
Council Member Jeremy Garza, Vice Chair
Council Member Peter Spadafore, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant
Charles Randall, Internal Auditor
Greg Venker, City Attorney
Anethia Brewer, Court Administrator 54A District Court
Brianna Koschmider, Chief Probation Officer 54A District Court
Antonio Fuentes, Strategy Analyst
Jake Brower, Chief Strategy Officer
Robert Backus, Chief of Police

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2025 TO PLACE ON FILE.

Councilmember Hussain spoke on the record of the previous meetings conversation and that Mr. Lawrence spoke on the project of Pleasant Grove and Holmes was a priority of the administration and acknowledged the Mayor and administration and thanked them and the support of the community. Also, that the congressional leaders support, adding thanking the many organizations and people that wrote letters of support.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Public Comment

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Michigan Drug Court Grant for Sobriety Court

Ms. Brewer apologized for dropping the ball, this has been in operations for a while. They are excited that State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) supports the district court felony sobriety court program. SCAO supplies the funds for testing and treatment of the intense 2-year program.

Ms. Koschmider highlighted a few statistics since the program started in 2005 with a 65% completion rate, the next graduation is in June and expect 5 graduates, it will be the 40th sobriety court graduation. She spoke on the budget for this FY they were awarded \$30,000 and broke down the distribution, \$13,720 for substance abuse treatment, \$13,000 for alcohol/drug testing, \$2,000 for electronic monitoring like a tether, \$1,200 for ignition interlock services and \$80 for graduation supplies. Councilmember Hussain asked what \$80 can get, Ms. Koschmider responded they typically just get cupcakes. Councilmember Hussain asked for clarification on the training aspect since the grant from has a dollar sign only, but the resolution has zero dollars noted. Ms. Brewer confirmed it is zero dollars.

Councilmember Garza asked if this is an annual grant with no local match and have they received every year since 2005. Ms. Brewer confirmed they apply every year and have received it, there is no match. Councilmember Garza inquired if there is a chance they won't receive it. Ms. Brewer responded it all depends on monies and how many specialty courts start in the course of the year, explaining last year they tried for their own drug court program and did not receive funding for Lansing, there are programs in East Lansing and Mason. Adding they are full and expect to apply again this year, concluding this is a felony sobriety court which is different than most with a 65% success, which is phenomenal. Mr. Charles asked if the amount is adequate, Ms. Koschmider answered they could always use more.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE FOR THE MICHIGAN DRUG COURT GRANT FOR SOBRIETY COURT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Kroger Tree Planting Arbor Day Grant for Cavanaugh Park
Mr. Fuentes noted this grant is a mission between Kroger and Arbor Day, the city was donated \$18,750 to plant trees in Cavanaugh Park. Councilmember Spadafore inquired about the minimum of 30 trees, can more be planted. Mr. Fuentes answered the goal is 30. Councilmember Garza asked if any fruit trees, and Mr. Flores stated they are planting Spruce, Pine, Oak, Tulip, Black Gum, Dawn Redwood, Bald Cypress, Red Bud, Serviceberry, and Flowering Cherry.

Councilmember Hussain inquired about community involvement, Mr. Fuentes mentioned a few volunteers including students and teachers from Everett High School and Cavanaugh, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and some elected officials. Councilmember Hussain asked why this park was chosen, Mr. Fuentes noted there is a wide gap and to help the students.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE FOR THE KROGER TREE PLANTING ARBOR DAY GRANT FOR CAVANAUGH PARK WITH THE AMENDMENT IN THE SECOND WHEREAS WITH A SPACE BETWEEN \$21 AND MILLION. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

PLACE ON FILE – Sole Source Purchase; Lansing Police Department request for Dr. David Carter as the vendor for the Management Analysis of Traffic Stops (MATS) data analysis project
Chief Backus spoke that Dr. Carter is a professor with MSU and the contact for the last 24 years for the Management Analysis of Traffic Stops (MATS), which is done every year, he looks at racial profiling in traffic stops and LPD will post the results on their website. This sole source is to cover the invoice, and it is covered in the budget line item for LPD.

Councilmember Garza spoke in support. Councilmember Hussain noted that the cost has been \$19,500 since 2007 why has it not fluctuated. Chief Backus noted Dr. Carter has never increased and believes LPD is well known for the study and how long it's gone on. Councilmember Hussain

mentioned historically has it shown different treatment of ethnic groups or policy change. Chief Backus responded this year's study states proportionally demographic characteristics of drivers stopped are consistent with previous years which reinforces no notion there is no biased in stops. Dr. Carter's biggest look is at consent searches, and LPD is low around 2% in traffic stops.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO PLACE ON FILE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OTHER

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 3:47p.m.

Submitted by,

Renee Richmond, Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on June 17, 2025