



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, November 19, 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 - excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Cheryl Rupprecht, LPD Budget Control Supervisor
Brett Kaschinske, Director Parks & Rec
Gabriel Biber, Exec. Director Fenner Conservancy

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2025 AS WRITTEN. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment

No Public Comment.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Services-Training-Officers-Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women

Ms. Rupprecht noted this is a 75% reimbursement from MDHHS for a dedicated detective on violence against women, and 75% reimbursement for wages on a crime analyst. Councilmember Hussain asked if they are both currently staffed, Ms. Rupprecht confirmed. Councilmember Garza mentioned it stated they are contracted so they are not inhouse, and Ms. Rupprecht responded they are not at this time inhouse, but hopeful for this coming year's budget.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE; MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (MDHHS), SERVICES-TRAINING-OFFICERS-PROSECUTORS (STOP) VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Domestic Violence Services Capital Area Response Effort (DVS-CARE)

Ms. Rupprecht said that the CARE unit personnel are all contract and 100% funded by the grants, VOCA grant is now subsidized by a federal grant with 21% CBSF grant and no match.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE; MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (MDHHS), DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES CAPITAL AREA RESPONSE EFFORT (DVS-CARE). MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Michigan State Police (MSP), Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Ms. Rupprecht mentioned this also applies to the CARE Unit and supports one fulltime position for hotel coordinator. Councilmember Hussain inquired about the amounts in the grant versus the resolution as they don't match and which is correct. Mr. Rupprecht said the resolution was correct and it is because they have only received 50% of the grant thus far so it's not allocating for the full amount.

Councilmember Garza asked if as contractors do they get paid fringes. Ms. Rupprecht answered the necessary unemployment and sick time.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE; MICHIGAN STATE POLICE (MSP), BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG). MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PLACE ON FILE – Sole Source Purchase; Parks and Recreation Department notification of Nature Playscapes LLC as the vendor for Outdoor Fitness Center, Sycamore Creek Park

Mr. Kaschinske stated there is a preschool at Fenner, they are looking to place a nature base playground not fitness center and not a regular playground with slides or swings. It will be more logs and out in nature.

Mr. Biber added it is a nature based playground in terms of materials, and there are only 2 vendors that do these. The whole project will not exceed \$65,000 and Fenner Conservancy is bringing in an additional \$95,000. Concluding it is designed for ages 0-5 but can be enjoyed by all ages. Councilmember Hussain asked what accommodations for newborns. Mr. Biber stated it is geared towards the five senses and developmental ages. Councilmember Garza asked if it is made from plastic wood, Mr. Biber answered it is all natural and real wood logs. Mr. Kaschinske added they are using trees already down.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER GARZA TO PLACE ON FILE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

OTHER

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 3:42pm

Submitted by,

Renee Richmond, Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on December 3, 2025