



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Thursday, March 19, 2026 @ 3:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Carter called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

PRESENT

Council Member Tamera Carter, Chair
Council Member Peter Spadafore, Vice Chair- excused
Council Member Deyanira Nevarez Martinez, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Legislative Office Manager
Bill Brunner, Public Service
Cheryl Rupperecht, LPD
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Luke Bingaman, Legislative Analyst
Bryan Dryer, EDP Deputy Director
Hal King, Parking Director

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER NEVARZ MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2026 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Discussion/Action:

PLACE ON FILE – Emergency Purchase: Public Service Department; Professional Pump a the vendor for the emergency repair of Waste Water Treatment Plant Clarifier #21

Mr. Brunner briefly explained what a clarifier is, and in this case the current ones were built in the mid 1980's and one failed. With explaining the process Mr. Brunner noted these clarifiers having driving mechanisms with a motor at the top, and in the case with this replacement the part rusted out, and collapsed so the tank was no longer usable. There is a current bid to get two tanks fixed, which is a long process and won't be done for 2 years. With this work, currently there is only one tank that is functioning, this emergency purchase was needed to repair the tank that had the parts rust out. The expected date is first week in May, and more secure to treat.

Council Member Carter asked what the longevity is for the one working now, and Mr. Brunner confirmed it could break any time. This could cost is about \$1 million. The projected life span

could be up to 30 years, and they have done regular maintenance to extend the life. Under this emergency repair contract will last awhile, but they will need to do a full repair in the future.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER NEVAREZ MARTINEZ TO PLACE ON FILE THE REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY PURCHASE FOR THE WWTP CLARIFIER #21. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Donation Acceptance; East Lansing Crossfit, 2025 Community Service Project for Capital Area Response Effort (CARE) Unit

Ms. Rupprecht explained this was a donation for the CARE unit, which takes care of domestic violence needs in the area. The Crossfit fundraiser allows these funds for the unit, but since not earmarked it can be used for the Unit for what they need and can be utilized.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER NEVAREZ MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE DONATION ACCEPTANCE FROM EAST LANSING CROSSFIT FOR THE CARE UNIT. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Fines; Expired Parking Meter Violations

Mr. Dryer explained this is to update and service users based on a study done previous to now. This will increase the fines charged to individuals that get tickets, and these are in the operating budget for the current year. Mr. King referred to the resolution, the expired meters are \$25, now currently \$15. As part of the parking study was to encourage long term in the ramps, and short term on the streets.

Council Member Nevarez Martinez asked if the increase is because the City needs the money or to disincentive. Mr. King stated that you get the lower rate now if you pay within the first two hours. The new rate also extends payment until midnight, instead of the first two hour time. Council Member Nevarez Martinez spoke in opposition to fees, but understands that they have to be collected in some instances.

Council Member Carter provided an example of a ticket, and individuals who do not have the time to pay immediately, and so charged the maximum amount, and asked why; matching other cities, or other facete in enhancing this amount. Mr. King stated currently it is \$15 up to \$25, they are trying to incentivize to use the ramps for long term.

Council Member Nevarez Martinez spoke again in opposition to the impact on someone who does not have the disposable income to park in the first place, and provided examples of what appears to criminalize people because they do not have the funds at the time, and if they could pay they would.

Council Member Carter asked what the study reflected for the number of people utilizing the ramps already. Mr. King stated he did not have those numbers at this time. She asked if using the ramps in beneficial. Mr. King stated most of that income is working of special events; Lansing Center, Doubletree Hotel, Grewall Hall, events at the capital. There is a lot of use out of the ramps, but no way to stay if they are here for an event, or if they are here to eat or shopping.

Mr. Dryer stated this item and the next three speaking to restructuring.

Ms. Hagen – Lawrence stated this is fines for violations, specifically the ordinance requires a progressive pay structure.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER NEVAREZ MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE FINES ON EXPIRED PARKING METER VIOLATIONS. MOTION CARRIED 2-0

RESOLUTION – FEES: On-Street Paid Parking Rate Restructuring

Mr. Dryer stated with this one, it allows someone who parks on street all day, the charge up front changes. This encourages them to use the ramps for long term, and street parking short term. Right now there is a limit on the meter to avoid tickets, and does allow the meter users to pay appropriate fee and will reflect an increase progressively as the day goes on. This starts enforcement at 9 am.

Council Member Carter referred to the parking study, 15 minute-1 hours, with those 15 a courtesy. Mr. Dryer stated that they have considered, and the technology in the meters and payment system would required upgrades to both, and so they are in discussions on the cost. They could consider designated spots. The goal is to have something to Council within this fiscal year.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER NEVAREZ MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR FEES FOR THE ONSTREET PARKING RATE RESTRUCTING. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Introduction and Set Public Hearing; Amend Chapter 404 Section 404.01 (e) to modify metered parking hours of operation

Mr. King stated that the City parking website, there is a link to the parking study.

Mr. King then spoke on the proposed amendment, which came from discussion with consultant on parking study, and this is to address parking on the street for short term users, and this would cut back on the enforcement. The City can now work with downtown businesses and encourage them to have deliveries prior to enforcement at 9 am. This ordinance will address where ever you park, and this part of the parking study.

Council Member Carter referred to deliveries in mid day, and those might be the one-off, but asked them to consideration that not all businesses might not be able to get their vendors to drop off before 9 am. Mr. King acknowledged and they are hoping they will do it right and not have to come back. Mr. Dryer stated the 9 am was based on businesses where the busiest.

Council Member Nevarez Martinez asked about potential appeals for this type of ticket. Mr. King stated there is an appeal process for any citation, and can be done on via the website. If the decision is not satisfactory, they can go to District Court. Council Member Nevarez Martinez asked if they have details on how many people appeal, how many granted and how many denied,

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER NEVAREZ MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 6, 2026 TO AMEND CHAPTER 404, SECTION 404.01 (E) TO MODIFY METERED PARKING HOURS OF OPERATION. MOTION CARRIED 2-0

RESOLUTION – Introduction and Set Public Hearing; Amend Chapter 404, Section 404.03 to allow payment of a reduce rate for an expired meter violation until midnight of the day of issuance

Mr. Dryer noted that the ordinance currently there is a decrease in fine if you pay within 2 hours, but this will extend to midnight. Mr. King referred to the ordinance draft lines 14-16.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER NEVAREZ MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 6, 2026 TO AMEND CHAPTER 404, SECTION 404.03 ALLOW REDUCED RATES ON EXPIRED METER VIOLATIONS UNTIL MIDNIGHT. MOTION CARRIED 2-0

Mr. Dryer asked for specifics on when Committee would like to get the details, and it was stated prior to the hearing on April 6, 2026.

OTHER

No other topics.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 3:36 pm

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary,

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on April 2, 2026