



**MINUTES**  
**Committee on City Operations**  
**Thursday, May 14, 2026 @ 4:00 p.m.**  
**City Council Conference Room**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council Member Martinez called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

**PRESENT**

Council Member Trini Pehlivanoglu, Chair - excused  
Council Member Clara Martinez, Vice-Chair  
Council Member Ryan Kost, Member

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant  
Elizabeth Krochmalny, OCA  
Keith Goodwin, OCA  
Brian Hercliff-Proffer, Lansing Pride  
Amanda Pugh, Junior League of Lansing  
Tom Barry, EDP  
Meredith Johnson, EDP  
Alexandra Leonard  
Brian Hight, Dept. Public Service  
Aden Duong, Dept. Public Service  
Andy Kilpatrick, Director of Public Service  
Patrick Lindemann, Ingham Co. Drain Commissioner  
Paul Pratt, Deputy Ingham Co. Drain Commissioner  
Scott Allman, Spicer Group  
Tim Inman, Spicer Group  
Michael Taylor, Spicer Group  
Dennis Louney, Spicer Group  
Alex Summers  
Fred McLaughlin

**MINUTES**

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM APRIL 23, 2026 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **Discussion/Action**

Council Member Martinez advised that due to a conflict and only two members present, item 5D will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting in 2 weeks.

### **RESOLUTION – Community Funding Application; Lansing Pride Festival 2026**

Mr. Hercliff spoke on the festival in Old Town, and it is a reoccurring festival, expecting the same crowd of about 30,000 and they have two states with multiple local performers.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO AMEND AND APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR COMMUNITY FUNDING FOR THE LANSING PRIDE FESTIVAL 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

### **RESOLUTION – Community Funding Application; Junior League of Lansing; bRUNch and Walk with League 5k**

Ms. Pugh noted they are a local nonprofit supporting women's development, leadership and training, and creating community impact with a focus on access to food and shelter. This is an annual fund raising event using towards their mission.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO AMEND AND APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR COMMUNITY FUNDING FOR THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF LANSING; BRUNCH AND WALK WITH LEAGUE 5K OF \$500. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

### **RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #2227; Alexandra Leonard for \$560 in grass violation fees at 425 N. Foster Avenue**

Ms. Leonard noted she works for Wild Ecoscapes LLC, a native landscaping business contracted with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office. They create upkeep and maintain the pollution cleaning native garden infrastructures at the Montgomery Drain, Tollgate Wetlands, and Groesbeck Drain. Adding that she did clean up some and that the "weeds" are in fact wildflowers, she reached back out to the code officer for follow up. The initial violation letter arrived when she was out of town and her double fenced in yard was accessed without permission and everything was mowed down, which will take her 3 years to rebuild. Ms. Leonard acknowledged the Claims Review Committee did grant \$250, so she is appealing the remaining \$310.

Ms. Johnson spoke that they are looking at changes, the ordinance states 8 inches and they don't determine what stays. Council Member Kost referenced a photo and noted a Blackeyed Susan cut down and those are normal things in yards, Ms. Leonard confirmed. Council Member Kost stated the initial appeal was for \$810, and why was it partially granted. Council Member Martinez asked for a future conversation regarding natural habitat, Ms. Johnson responded they have already started with multiple departments. Councilmember Kost referenced the newly adopted IMPC and believes it spells out more species of plants and if EDP could look into that, Ms. Johnson confirmed. Ms. Krochmalny answered the partial grant was because of the IMPC and referenced page 94 in the packet noting the difference of the weeds and flower garden, adding that compensatory amounts are not granted.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO TABLE THE CLAIM APPEAL #2227; ALEXANDRA LEONARD FOR \$560 IN GRASS VIOLATION FEES AT 425 N. FOSTER AVENUE UNTIL MAY 28, 2026. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Set Public Hearing on Noise Special Permit; Public Service Department request to allow for the Lansing Avenue Pump Station (LAPS) Project

Mr. Hight, Dept. Public Service and Mr. Taylor with Swartz & Gross Construction spoke on the request of the Noise Waiver for the Lansing Pump Station for Saturday work if/when needed. This will go to the end of the construction season as the winter was wetter and colder than had hoped for.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON NOISE SPECIAL PERMIT; PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO ALLOW FOR THE LANSING AVENUE PUMP STATION (LAPS) PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Setting a Public Hearing on Special Assessment; Snow and Ice Removal Winter 2025-2026

Mr. Duong spoke on the annual assessment, property owners have 24 hours to take care of removal of snow and when not done the city does it.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON SPECIAL ASSESSMENT; SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL WINTER 2025-2026. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

DISCUSSION – Flooding mitigation; Department of Public Service and Ingham County

Councilmember Kost spoke on the very wet Spring and multiple calls received especially in the Kalamazoo/Clippert area. The Committee has asked everyone to come to discuss if this is part of the flood mitigation and why it isn't running properly, and why these issues are happening.

Commissioner Lindeman started with Michigan Avenue waterfalls don't work in the winter because the wind blows the air or water around and it freezes and freezes up the road. Adding that Michigan Avenue is a state highway in that area and they don't want it icy so the pumps get turned off. The waterfall is meant to circulate water and if it gets over an inch of water it automatically shuts off so it doesn't pump onto the roads. It is not meant for flood relief it takes out of the system 50,000 to 75,000 lbs. of pollution annually. When it does flood it can hold 2 ½ inches of water which is a two year 24 hours storm. When the river overflows its banks there is nothing they can do about that. Adding one way to get prepared is education, he noted a video link for the Committee to watch, which is about 15 minutes long.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdCbBpywWKM>

Councilmember Kost asked for clarification on the pollution cleanup with the Montgomery Drain. Mr. Kilpatrick noted there are four stormwater systems, Clippert Pump Station which goes to Montgomery Drain, then there is MDOT systems which is Homer and Howard. Commissioner Lindemann added the 100 year storm is actually 1% of all the storms, and the floodplain is that whole watershed. Councilmember Martinez asked on perspective what can City Council do to help residents. Mr. Kilpatrick reiterated the best is education on how floods work.

Mr. Inman from Spicer added during red cedar development there was talk on early warning system unsure what was done, and signage could help. Councilmember Kost asked with the capacity and the pump station maybe the inclusion of Montgomery Drain the minor flooding that occurred could possibly be prevented. Mr. Kilpatrick stated MDOT will look at modeling that, he doesn't know if they can achieve to be able to convey a 50 year storm, and that has impacts on Montgomery Drain because of the highway, but does believe they can make it better.

**Other**

**Adjourn**

Adjourned at 4:55pm

Submitted by Renee Richmond, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on May 28, 2026