



MINUTES
Committee on City Operations
Thursday, June 11, 2026 @ 4:00 p.m.
Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant
Keith Goodwin, OCA
Jeanne Sayer, Churchill Downs
Gloria Denning, Churchill Downs
Lisa Benjamin, Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church
Sharra Terry, Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church
Brian Hight, Dept. Public Service
Dan Danke, Dept. Public Service
Marcus Service, Eaton County
Pete Buurstra, President Land & Resource Engineering
Aden Duong, Dept. Public Service
Michelle Smalley, Dept. Public Service
Cathy Hicks
Lino Pretto
Fred McLaughlin

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 28, 2026 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussion/Action

COMMUNITY FUNDING – Churchill Downs Community Association, Youth Day Event

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu asked the Association to give the Committee some details on the event. Ms. Sayer noted this is 3rd year, last year was a great success, looking at expand and very excited.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION FOR THE COMMUNITY FUNDING REQUEST FOR CHURCHILL DOWNS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, YOUTH DAY EVENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1000. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

COMMUNITY FUNDING – Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Pilgrim Fest Community Outreach Event

Ms. Terry stated this is hosted by the church and 3rd year, first they served 600 people (free clothing, shoes, bounce house etc.), last year increased to 1000 people. Everything is free and looking to serve over 1500 people this year. Free entertainment as well. Councilmember Kost asked if someone is interested in getting involved is there a requirement. Ms. Terry answered there is no requirement, there is a pre-registration, but they are open starting at 10am but people start lining up at 6am, she then handed out some flyers for the committee.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY FUNDING REQUEST FOR PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH, PILGRIM FEST COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1000. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

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

Mr. Hight again summarized the previous discussions with committee and with better weather looking to get closer to completion date, noting there has been no opposition. Councilmember Kost noted the two different times of 4:30 and 5:00, Mr. Hight confirmed the time of 4:30pm is correct and all should read the same.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE AMENDED RESOLUTION SHOWING 4:30PM FOR THE NOISE SPECIAL PERMIT; PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO ALLOW FOR THE LANSING AVENUE PUMP STATION (LAPS) PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Petition for Maintenance and Improvement of Keller Drain

Mr. Danke spoke on the neighborhood, and significant flooding, further investigation it was determined it was likely failure in Keller Drain that provides the outlook. They contacted Ingham County Drain office, and agreed that work needed to be done. Mr. Service noted after inspection onsite that the catch basins in the road were full and drains were slower. Mentioning that Eaton County is mostly complaint based maintenance and they hadn't received any. Adding where Old Farm Lane is it was put in around 1931 so almost 100 years old. Councilmember Kost asked about the pipe size and timeframe on the project. Mr. Danke noting it was built in 1962, and there was some maintenance in 1998, but the size differs in areas.

Mr. Buurstra reiterated the newest section was 1962 in the ground now, other than the trailer park. Stating this petition is the start of many steps.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE PETITION FOR MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF KELLER DRAIN. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Special Assessment; Snow and Ice Removal Winter 2025-2026

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu noted they will go down this list as time provides, those not addressed will go to the next meeting on June 25, 2026.

3511 Turner Street

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu asked if the owner was present, they were not, she then asked the Committee if there were any questions.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR 3511 TURNER STREET ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

247 E. Thomas Street

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu asked if the owner was present, they were not, she then asked with this contract is there a flat fee for timeframe. Mr. Duong and Ms. Smalley noted the contractor they go with for the first 20 minutes is \$70, and there is a \$79 administration fee from the city, so the minimum 0-20 minutes is \$149, there is an additional \$32 after the 20 minutes.

Councilmember Kost asked if the sidewalk was cleared but not the driveway by the owners and the contractor went further. Ms. Smalley noted there was ice accumulation and that had to be cleared. Councilmember Pehlivanoglu asked if they are shoveling or if a plow is used, Ms. Smalley noted it depends but typically a shovel, and salt and something is used to break up the ice. Councilmember Martinez asked about the language of the Ordinance, and how many of these are complaints. Ms. Smalley noted all they only do complaints and confirmed there were over 600 this winter. Ms. Smalley noted that once staff does a recheck and it is still not clear they refer to the contractor the department then doesn't see anything until after photos are provided. Ms. Boak supplied copies for the Committee. Mr. Duong explained the timeline after 24 hours the inspector goes out and placards with a blue sticker and after reinspection they send them to the contractor, it can vary because of snow accumulation and their schedule.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR 247 E. THOMAS STREET ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026. MOTION CARRIED 2-1.

4913 N. Grand River Avenue

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu noted the date of violation at 40 minutes, noting the appeal claims it was cleared by a contractor they hired. Mr. Duong noted this was a special circumstance the follow up noticed significant ice buildup. The contractor started the process and then a truck showed up on site and started clearing the sidewalk. Councilmember Pehlivanoglu asked if they spent the full 21-40 minutes, Mr. Duong could only say they started at 9am with the salt process and ended at 1:40pm. Councilmember Kost acknowledged that some work was done but did a salt application and left then returned. Ms. Smalley confirmed two days after the complaint.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR 4913 N. GRAND RIVER AVENUE ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026.

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu asked OCA if the Committee has the ability to alter the assessed amount. Mr. Goodwin note he didn't think his office could determine but what the Committee decides is based on the cost of the benefit provided. Councilmember Kost acknowledged he believed the Committee can decide to deny/grant/or make a motion in any amount.

MOTION FAILED 1-2.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO AMEND THE APPEAL FOR 4913 N. GRAND RIVER AVENUE ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$149. MOTION CARRIED 2-1.

1410 Comfort Street

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu noted the service provided, and there were no questions by Committee.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR 1410 COMFORT STREET ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

3331 Melody Lane

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu noted the service provided, and there were no photos provided. Ms. Smalley noted only salt application and no photos. Councilmember Kost noted no sidewalk in the appeal letter. Mr. Duong noted he informed the owner there is a connecting sidewalk since it is a corner lot.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR 3331 MELODY LANE ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026.

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu inquired about a photo with a Los Angeles address, Ms. Smalley noted this is what was sent to the Clerk's Office and then sent to their department, you will see some like that.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

2205 E. Michigan Avenue

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu summarized the service provided, no questions from Committee.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR 2205 E. MICHIGAN AVENUE ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

2208 E. Michigan Avenue

Mr. Pretto noted he is the tenant and hadn't received notice, and had a contractor that completed the work. Councilmember Martinez asked if it is in his lease that he is responsible or the owner, Mr. Pretto noted he believes it is in his lease for him to do.

Councilmember Pehlivanoglu noted that after all these appeals and determinations are made there is a 35 days window to appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal that property owners would have received. The Committee discussed photos.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO GRANT THE APPEAL FOR 2208 E. MICHIGAN AVENUE ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026.

Councilmember Kost would support a reduced amount.

MOTION FAILED 1-2.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO AMEND THE APPEAL FOR 2208 E. MICHIGAN AVENUE ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026 AND GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350 AND THE BALANCE REMAINING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$149. MOTION CARRIED 2-1.

513 W. Lapeer Street

Ms. Hicks spoke that there is a duplicate, the Committee acknowledge. Ms. Hicks continued she wasn't aware someone came out and that her tenant completed the work. The property is inmate housing for the MDOC, acknowledging she seen the blue card and then they completed the work. Mr. Duong confirmed the tenant did make an attempt to clear but there was ice remaining. Ms. Hicks asked to view the photos.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ TO DENY THE APPEAL FOR 513 W. LAPEER STREET ON THE SNOW AND ICE ASSESSMENT WINTER ROLL FOR 2025/2026. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

3700 W. Holmes

Mr. Stoinski attended virtually, and noted he did not own the property at the time of the snow removal. Councilmember Kost suggested to get further clarification on this because of ownership of the property. Mr. Goodwin responded he would ask the City Attorney. Mr. Stoinski noted it should've been a lien on the property. Councilmember Pehlivanoglu asked OCA to look into this as there are other properties with the same issue, and assured Mr. Stoinski he would be the first for the next meeting on June 25, 2026.

Other

Adjourn

Adjourned at 5:18pm

Submitted by Renee Richmond, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on June 25, 2026