AGENDA

Committee of the Whole
September 14, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Lansing City Hall, Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers
124 W. Michigan Avenue, 10th Floor
To provide input or ask questions on any item that is listed on the agenda,
members of the public may contact the City Council at city.council@lansingmi.gov or (517) 483-4177 prior to the meeting.
To view the meeting live and participate in virtual public comment: https://www.lansingmi.gov/1212/Council-Committee-Meetings

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Council Member Peter Spadafore, Chairperson
Council Member Trini Pehlivanoglu, Vice Chairperson

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Minutes**
   A. August 10, 2026
4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items (Up to 3 Minutes)**
5. **Discussion/Action:**
   B. DISCUSSION - Budget Priorities for Budget Fiscal Year 2027/2028

Closed Session

C. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(c), of the Open Meetings Act, City Council will move into closed session for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a wage reopener pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Lansing and the Non Supervisory Unit of the Capitol City Labor Program as requested by the City.

D. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(e), City Council will recess into closed session to consult with the City Attorney in connection with the following specific pending litigation. An open meeting will have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the City of Lansing concerning these cases.
Allen, Keith v. City of Lansing
Bernard, Tashawn v. City of Lansing, et al.
City of Lansing v. Capitol City Labor Program
City of Lansing v. Eli Lilly, et al.
City of Lansing, et al. v. Purdue Pharma, et al.
Coward, Avis v. Douglas Hall
Elms, Suzanne v. City of Lansing
Eskin, Keith v. Melanie Smith, et al.
Fountain, David v. City of Lansing et al.
Republican National Committee v. City of Lansing
Robinson Memorial Church of God in Christ v. City of Lansing
Robinson Memorial Church of God in Christ v. City of Lansing, et al.
Rodriguez-Gonzales, Linda v City of Lansing

Romero, Ashly for Estate of Romero, Stephen v. City of Lansing, et al.
Shang, Shelia v Committee on City Operations
Wilcox, Kacie & Hunt, Douglas v City of Lansing, et al.
Willis, Delaney v. City of Lansing

E. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act, I hereby move that we recess into closed session to consult with the City Attorney to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state statute. Specifically, to discuss written material from the City Attorney provided under attorney-client privilege and attorney work-product, and which is also exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act pursuant to MCL 15.243(1)(g).

Reconvene

Discussion/Action:

F. RESOLUTION - Ratification of the collective bargaining agreement, specifically a wage reopener in the Tentative Agreement between the City of Lansing and the Non Supervisory Unit Capitol City Labor Program, as requested by the City.

6. Other

7. Adjourn

MINUTES
Committee of the Whole
Monday, August 10, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.
Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER
Council Member Pehlivanoglu called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT
Councilmember Tamera Carter
Councilmember Jeremy Garza- excused
Councilmember Adam Hussain
Councilmember Ryan Kost
Councilmember Clara Martinez
Councilmember Deyanira Nevarez Martinez
Councilmember Trini Pehlivanoglu
Councilmember Peter Spadafore- excused

OTHERS PRESENT
Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Greg Venker, City Attorney
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, City Attorney
Christopher Mumby, Deputy Mayor
Brad Funkhouser, CATA CEO
Andrew Brieshke, CATA, Deputy CEO
Dick Peffley, LBWL, General Manager
Heather Shawa, LBWL Assistant General Manager
Scott Taylor, LBWL Chief Financial Officer
Calvin Jones, LBWL Government Community Relations
Michael Falk, Pyrotecnico
Loretta Stanaway
John Nolan
Mike Smalligan
Elaine Fischoff

Minutes
MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 27, 2026, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Council Member Pehlivanoglu stated public comment will be made after the two presentations.

Presentations
Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) Upcoming Service Changes- Update
Mr. Funkhouser spoke on the annual service changes. In January annually they have a retreat with the Board and look at a 5-year plan, review on the state and federal revenue and

this year they had to look at the gas prices. They evaluated trimming making the service more efficient with the vehicles they have. The Board has approved the following direction, resulting in an 8% decrease in their operating budget. Mr. Brieshke went through the service changes, and the public hearing notice is up, and the hearing is August 19th. These changes will go into effect August 24th, route 1 from 9-15 minutes to every 15 minutes- Monday – Saturday, and Sunday service will not change. Late night services will cease. For route 9, will include elimination of the outbound loop, now proceeding to Kalamazoo and going to MLK, not up to LCC. Route 9 will no longer include LCC, but other routes will service LCC. Route 18, will begin serving Spartan Village, and Route 20 will no longer service Spartan Village. With Route 20, service times will change adding 10 minutes Monday – Friday; Saturday – Sunday will change to every 40 minutes. There are two limited routes currently, there is one trip in morning and one in afternoon, these run Monday – Friday, and they are being proposed to be taken aware, but there is a connector service that will expand to cover loss of the fixed limited routes. These services were proposed and put forth to the public, on the website, held public meetings; Meridian Townships, City of Mason, City of East Lansing, City of Lansing. There has been feedback, and this is an annual process, and they believe these service changes will have the less impact on the public. Mr. Funkhouser stated there is a comprehensive analysis in addition to this short term. They are looking at vehicle types, and is ongoing. These are separate efforts and plenty of opportunities to hear from the public.

Council Member Carter referred to the statement on eliminating the LCC routes, and asked about the alternatives. Mr. Brieshke stated route 9 is being eliminated to go to LCC, but there are other routes that go to LCC on in bound and out bound routes. Council Member Carter asked about the attendance at their public meetings, comments, etc. Mr. Brieshke stated the turn out was low, but the comments were evaluated by the planning team, and heard from the riders. Mr. Funkhouser stated they also had outreach sessions on the buses when they are on for transit already.

Council Member Nevarez Martinez referred to the public meetings, and asked if there were comments that changed their proposals. Mr. Brieshke stated there was one comment on the elimination on the limited routes (Webberville, WIliamston and Mason) they plan to continue to use the connector services. There is a meeting with the CATA Board in August and they will consider the fares.

Council Member Hussain asked about the operating budget reference and why. Mr. Funkhouser admitted that a year ago they considered pulling $12 million from tax and investment funds, and but will only need to pull $8 million, and are being really cautious. They will be meeting with the US Secretary of Transportation shortly, they are planning for the cuts and prepared, and came in better than expected. Council Member Hussain, when will they approve. Mr. Funkhouser stated the next meeting of the Board will have the public hearing and take action, but they do give them selves more time if at the hearing they want to make changes they can. Mr. Brieshke stated the services changes will go into effect on August 24th. Council Member Hussain asked how they get the information. Mr. Funkhouser admitted they ride the bus regularly and ask the riders about how they get from A to B, they partner with other agencies, and always have one on one conversations. Council Member Hussain asked about the new building at 511 S Washington, and renovations. Mr. Funkhouser stated the contractors have been in for the preconstruction meeting, and on schedule to being this fall. They have gotten Tri County Regional planning to hold their meetings there, and they will locate there first. They will then go for more funding to expand. Mr. Brieshke added they are excited for the building at the new location; the board meetings are there, the bid documents were released on July 27th, and due August 31st. They anticipate construction this fall, and it is usable now.

Council Member Kost asked about the elimination of Route 1 late night, were the MSU game schedule taken into consideration. Mr. Brieshke it was considered, but when looking at the margin, it was a small number of riders. It has been addressed at public comments, and they are looking at alternatives. In terms of 3 night per week, on a bus that is not regularly utilized, it was a tough decision, but has been looked to offer alternative services. Council Member Kost about student transit vs 10 years ago. Mr. Brieshke stated in East Lansing they are seeing changes in housing with students. It is becoming concentrated in town, more people walking.

Council Member Nevarez Martinez asked about getting MSU student opinions and input. Mr. Funkhouser stated he rides the bus and the uniqueness of campus, they put staff on the two points of transit centers, and they are talking to them. Mr. Brieshke stated they having listening sessions and they have staff at ramp on Shaw Lane during the first week of school. They can address service routes throughout the year, and can make alterations.

Lansing Board of Water and Light Proposed Rate Changes

Mr. Peffley spoke on the public hearing last week. During the hearing there was one speak and no electronic call ins. They did communications with paid ads, social media, to inform the public of the strategy. The best practice with utilities is to have third parties, and they used USF review for conformity. Committed to not cut back on any services. Mr. Taylor touched on the filing which listed additional revenues.

Council Member Kost stepped away at 6:03 p.m.

Mr. Taylor spoke on the notice for the hearing, proposed rate sheets, and included of the filing was the customer impact. With the rate increases they were lower then the original proposed.

Council Member Kost returned to the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Mr. Taylor went through the document in the packet outlining the changes in the services, simplifying the street light structure, transition from steam to hot water, and if approved by BWL tomorrow they take effect in October.

Council Member Nevarez Martinez referred to the filing, and asked how they are justifying the difference in charging business vs. residents. The gross amount the business pay is a lot, but the percentage is larger for the residents. Mr. Peffly stated each customer class is based on cost of service, and that protection protects residential. When looking at each rate class, they look at what costs BWL, and do not let those costs go to other classes, so best practices for all utilities. They are under cost of service for residential. Council Member Nevarez Martinez asked when they look at budget do they look at other things to cut instead of rate increases, and making administration costs, and eliminate staff. Mr. Peffley stated their salaries are less then other utilities make and they need to be able to recruit and are in line with other industries.

Council Member Hussain stated they trimmed budget by $7 million last year, how was that done. Mr. Taylor stated it came from a variety of places; trim trimming has gained a lot of efficiencies and able to complete trim cycles at lower costs; refine estimates, and tighten budget down. Went through departments, and rather than outside consultants, they will provide oversight and train internal staff do to the consultant service costs. Council Member Hussain asked how they compare to other municipal owned utilities in water and electric. Mr. Taylor stated they bench mark again their competitors, and could look at other but they have different areas. Council Member Hussain spoke briefly asking about the annual rate increases. He then asked about new pole infrastructure, and Mr. Peffley stated once BWL finishes their project, they are being told by end of summer, and full completion will be next summer.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (up to 3 minutes)
Ms. Stanaway spoke about BWL rates, and asking Council to consider that their increases which does not include City increase on the recent millage passed on the ballot, the increases with sewer, etc. She also voiced her concern with the document which speaks to the meters, and also the holidays are vague in the document. Ms. Stanaway concluded with speaking about CATA, and wants more discussion on safety at the CATA Center on S. Grand.

Mr. Nolan spoke about incidents at CATA and on a situation he was involved in on a CATA bus, asking for Council to look into his case. He also pointed to his concern with the violence a the bus station.

Mr. Smalligan spoke on what he believes was a safe secure election. He then spoke about the recent vote on the PILOT ordinance, and saw that as a sign of good governance. Lastly, he asked for BWL overview, to improve governance at BWL, not letting them choose their own regulators.

Ms. Fischoff spoke on her concerns with the BWL rate increases, service charges.

Discussion/Action:
RESOLUTION – Fireworks Permit -Pyrotecnico; Frances Park
Council Member Kost summarized the application.

Mr. Falk stated the he was contacted by the Union Mission Baptist Church which will have a car show, movie in the park, and fireworks.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE FIREWORKS PERMIT FOR FRANCES PARK. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

ORDINANCE – Amending Chapter 247; transition of Boards and Commission to the ward structure provided by the City Charter
Council Member Kost outlined the change, conforming to the new Charter that was passed.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 247 FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO WARD STRUCTURE PER CITY CHARTER.

Council Member Hussain asked OCA about this transition in 2029, and with sworn into office January 2030, and asked about what the plan in 2028 will look like. Mr. Venker stated the Ward alignment will be set by the Election Commission; City Attorney, Assessor and City Clerk. In 2028 that process will begin with looking at it in line with election law, balancing ward on density and size. They have not started the discussions, but begin in 2028, and have it done in time for applications in 2029 to run for office, so they know what Ward they live in. They would like to be done with their task before November 2028. Council Member Hussain asked if the new wards require a vote of Council, and Mr. Venker reviewed ordinance, and would provide to Council Member Hussain.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Mr. Venker confirmed 2-203 Wards, they will apply the census, Council shall approve, and have to be done 120 days before primary in 2029.

ORDINANCE – Amending Chapter 248; transition of Board of Water and Light members to the ward structure provided by the City Charter
Council Member Kost stated this will conform with new charter.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 248 FOR BWL BOARD MEMBERS TO A WARD STRUCTURE PER CITY CHARTER. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

ORDINANCE – Amending Chapter 266; provide for an eight (8) member Arts and Culture Commission in accordance with the City Charter
Council Member Kost stated this will go from 12 to 8 members, and conform to the Charter and ordinance. This one and the two previous have had their public hearings.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 266; EIGHT (8) MEMBERS TO THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY CHARTER. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Other
Council Member Kost made it clear to the public that the City Council does not vote on the BWL rates, it is the BWL Board, and encouraged the public to attend the BWL meetings to voice their concerns on rates and services.

Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at: 6:33 pm
Respectfully Submitted by,
Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council
Approved by the Committee

By the Committee of the Whole
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Lansing requires the Council to adopt an annual statement of Budget Policies and Priorities serving to guide the Administration in developing and presenting the **Fiscal Year 2027/2028** Budget; and

WHEREAS, the City Council established the following Mission;

The City of Lansing's mission is to ensure quality of life by:

I. Promoting a vibrant, safe, healthy and inclusive community that provides opportunity for personal and economic growth for residents, businesses and visitors,
II. Securing short- and long-term financial stability through prudent management of city resources,
III. Providing reliable, efficient and quality services that are responsive to the needs of residents and businesses,
IV. Adopting sustainable practices that protect and enhance our cultural, natural and historical resources,
V. Facilitating regional collaboration and connecting communities; and

WHEREAS, the standing committees of the City Council have met to evaluate the budget and recommend an annual statement of budget policies and priorities to guide the Administration in developing and presenting the Fiscal Year 2027/2028 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lansing City Council has established the following as its Fiscal Year 2027/2028 Budget Policies and Priorities and requests that the Administration review them and encourages that they, to the extent practical, be included in the Administration's budget presented due to the City Council by the fourth Monday in March 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the **Committee of the Whole** has established the following priorities:

1. (1) FTE Eviction Diversion Specialist

2. Fund sidewalk repair for a total of $1.5 million, with a priority placed on underserved areas.

3. Fund local street repair funding by $2 million additionally over the Fiscal Year 2026 funding for local street repair, with a priority placed on underserved areas.

4. Funding for GED prep and passage program.
5. Funding for additional staffing to assist the Sustainability Manager with grant writing, project implementation and other related duties.

6. $400,000: Funding for additional staff arborists and equipment in forestry to more efficiently survey and maintain tree inventory consisting of hundreds of thousands of trees in what is known as a USA City of Trees.

7. Repeat Offenses: Implement a tiered fine structure that increases penalties for repeat violations of the same ordinance or regulation. This approach encourages compliance, deters chronic offenders, and ensures that enforcement costs are more fairly borne by those who repeatedly disregard local laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the **Committee on Development and Planning** has established the following priorities**:**

1. $300,000 - Increase the current contract of $300,000 to $600,000 with LEDC to reflect inflationary costs with consideration of yearly increase of inflation.

2. $500,000: Increase funding for the Façade Improvement Grant Program

3. $40,000: Initiate an RFP for Engagement of Stakeholders and Completion of Community Facilities Plan, including school and county buildings, complete with inventory of assets and goals/objectives for facilities, that will serve as the basis for community facility decisions into the future.
4. $150,000: Neighborhood Revitalization & Housing Stabilization. A targeted fund for neighborhood revitalization projects such as small-scall housing rehabilitation, blight elimination, and home repair assistance for low-to-moderate income homeowners. With an annual report to Council on the number of homes assisted, neighborhoods impacted, and how this stabilizes the local tax base

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the **Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion** has established the following priorities: COMMITTEE STILL WORKING ON FINALZIING – 9/15/2026.

1. $200,000 - Housing Support. Committee recommends prioritize resources to implement Lansing's Path Forward Study of April 2025.
    a. Approved regional collaboration across providers of homeless services
    b. Partner to increase access to affordable housing
    c. Strengthen housing solutions for people experiencing prolonged homelessness
    d. Expand age appropriate specialized shelter options
    e. Enhance family housing
    f. Support long-term housing stability for women and vulnerable populations
    g. Build on equity progress
    h. Improve cross sector coordination resource alignment
    i. Build public awareness advocacy capacity

2. $50,000 - Citizen Complaints. Committee recommends creating and deploying a Complaint Awareness campaign identifying the citizen complaint process and history of general outcomes. Additionally, add 311 and Lansing Connect to that complaint process.

3. $150,000 Disability Inclusion. Committee recommends hiring a disability consultant to address the needs of persons with seen and unseen disabilities.

4. $100,000 – Citywide Language Access & Accessibility: Dedicated funding for translation of essential City materials, interpretation at meetings and resident appointments, ASL/CART services, multilingual outreach, and development/implementation of a citywide language access plan.

5. $250,000 – Increase Basic Human Services/Racial Justice & Equity funding: An additional investment in community-based organizations addressing housing instability, food insecurity, language/immigration barriers, disability/accessibility needs, and other disparities affecting Lansing residents.

6. $100,000 – Equitable Contracting & Small Business Access: Fund an assessment of disparities/barriers in City procurement and contracting, along with technical assistance to help small, local, minority-, women-, and immigrant-owned businesses compete for City contracts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the **Committee on Public Safety** has established the following priorities:

1. $100,000 – Continue funding for Permanent Speed Bumps

2. Continue/Sustain Funding – LFD apprenticeship/internship program

3. 2 additional Code Enforcement Officers

4. Funding for in-field technology for Code Enforcement Officers

5. Funding for (3) LPD officers.

6. $270,000 - Increase the LFD's personnel budget to raise the hiring target from the baseline resolution up to the maximum limit of six new employees per year, ensuring safe ambulance staffing and relieving unsustainable member workloads.

7. $150,000 -$300,000- Toward LFD collective bargaining competitive wage adjustments and retention incentives to stem employee turnover to neighboring departments, within the LFD.

8. $250,000 -Downtown Clean & Sager Ambassador Program - Of the City's State of Michigan Capital City Allocation Funding ($1,000,000), direct these funds to the Downtown Clean & Safe Ambassador Program, with the remaining $750,000 to be considered for other capital city priorities in the budget process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the **Committee on Ways and Means** has established the following priorities:

1. Establish a Performance-Based Budgeting Framework- Request that the Administration return to Ways & Means with a proposed performance-based budgeting framework and identify opportunities to incorporate performance measures into the FY2027–2028 budget process.

2. Funded Vacancy & Workforce Efficiency Review- Request the Administration to provide a vacancy and workforce utilization report to Ways & Means as part of the FY2027–2028 budget development process.

3. Neighborhood Investment Equity Review- Request that the Administration work with Council to develop a standardized neighborhood investment reporting format for consideration during the FY2027–2028 budget process.
4. $750,000 – Neighborhood Sidewalk & Accessibility Investment: Additional dedicated funding for sidewalk repairs, critical sidewalk gaps, ADA/accessibility improvements, pedestrian crossings, and related pedestrian-safety needs. I would also like us to consider prioritization criteria based on condition, safety, accessibility, proximity to schools/transit/services, and neighborhood need, along with geographic reporting on where these investments are made.

5. $250,000 – Neighborhood Improvement/Participatory Mini-Grants**:** Additional dedicated pool for resident-identified physical neighborhood improvements, such as lighting, trees, benches, pedestrian improvements, traffic calming, community gardens, small park improvements, and other projects that can make a noticeable difference at the neighborhood level.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council would like to continue its commitment, if funding is available, to:

- Maintain and improve the City's infrastructure;
- Preserve and ensure clean, safe, well-maintained housing and neighborhoods;
- Provide comprehensive and affordable recreational programs and youth and family services;
- Explore alternatives for improved efficiency in service and delivery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council has accepted the following recommendations from the 2026 Board of Public Service for FY 2027/2028:

1.

BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing and the Capitol City Labor Program Non Supervisory Unit have negotiated additional provisions to the collective bargaining agreement (the “CBA”) for the period covering July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026, specifically a wage reopener which is summarized in the Tentative Agreement Document approved by the parties (“Tentative Agreement”) and which contains the changes to the prior CBA; and

WHEREAS, the Union membership ratified this agreement on August 24th, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor recommends the CBA, as summarized in the Tentative Agreement, be approved.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby ratifies the Tentative Agreement of the parties for the wage reopener between the City of Lansing and the Union, Capitol City Labor Program Non Supervisory Unit.