

AGENDA

Committee on Public Safety November 12, 2024 at 4:00 PM



Lansing City Hall, City Council Conference Room
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>

Council Member Kost, Chairperson
Council Member Pehlivanoglu, Vice Chairperson
Council Member Spadafore, Member

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Minutes**
 - A. October 22, 2024
4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items (Up to 3 Minutes)**
5. **Discussion/Action:**
 - B. RESOLUTION - Appointment; Patty Farhat; 3rd Ward Member; Police Board of Commissioners; Term to expire June 30, 2027
 - C. RESOLUTION - Appointment; Randy Watkins as an At-Large member of the Board of Police Commissioners for a term to expire June 30, 2026
 - D. DISCUSSION - Residential Handicap Parking Signage & Enforcement
6. **Other**
7. **Adjourn**

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TTY 711) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

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MINUTES

Committee on Public Safety

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.

City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Council Member Ryan Kost, Chair

Council Member Trini Pehlivanoglu, Vice Chair

Council Member Peter Spadafore, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Jordan Craig

Greg Venker, OCA

Nick Montry, EDP Director

Hal King, Parking Mgr.

Joe Neller, SIMTOB

Andrea Bitely

Farhan Sheikh-Omar

Lindsey LaBlanc

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 8, 2024, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

RESOLUTION – Reappointment; Andrea Bitely; 4th Ward Member LPD Commissioners; Term to Expire June 30, 2028

Ms. Bitely briefly spoke on her experience on the Board of Commissioners and what she sees for the future of the Commission. Ms. Bitely noted she is a small business owner working in public policy and public affairs. Her time so far has been on learning, hiring a new police chief, review of policies and procedures for the LPD, and review of the operating plans for the department.

Council Member Spadafore acknowledged Ms. Bitely and supported her reappointment, continuing the role. Council Member Pehlivanoglu had no questions but acknowledged the work she has done so far. Council Member Kost asked if she has the time to make the Commission meetings, and she confirmed.

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MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF ANDREA BITELY TO THE LPD COMMISSIONERS WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/28. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Appointment; Farhan Sheikh-Omar; 1st Ward Member LPD Commissioners; Term to Expire 6/30/2025

Mr. Sheikh-Omar spoke briefly about his background, why he wishes to serve in this position, and what he hopes to see while he serves. He confirmed his residency for 19 years in the City of Lansing, already involved in the community attending Council, Public Safety, Charter and Commission meetings. He continues to speak to what people want to see changed. In regard to this role, he is committed to holding accountability, and make sure the police can do their job with the community trust.

Council Member Pehlivanoglu acknowledged Mr. Sheikh-Omar for the role he has taken so far with attending meetings and bringing his experience to this Commission.

Council Member Kost acknowledged Mr. Sheikh-Omar for all his passion for the City, and work ethic by attending meetings to serve his community. He then asked if he has the time to make the Commission meetings, and Mr. Sheikh-Omar confirmed.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF FARHAN SHEIKH-OMAR TO THE LPD COMMISSIONERS WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2025. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Make Safe or Demolish; 1044 Ontario

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO REMOVE FROM THE TABLE THE RESOLUTION FOR MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH FOR 1044 ONTARIO. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Council Member Kost recapped it was tabled at the last meeting to see progress.

Mr. Montry confirmed the building permit was applied for and under review. Once that is approved, the mechanical permit is ready to go. Mr. Van Fossen did tour, the red tag was not lifted, not livable yet, but do not believe it should be a make safe or demolish at this time. Council Member Kost asked if 60 days make safe or demolish is adequate, and Mr. Montry stated it would be better 90 days.

Mr. Craig confirmed he has been in contact with general contractors and sub-contractors; has not signed contracts but is making progress. He acknowledged he could use the 90 days. Mr. Venker stated with business days, it would include holidays. Mr. Montry stated he could suggest tabling 90 days and come back.

Council Member Spadafore stated his understanding would be to move forward with make safe or demolish in 90 days, would those 90 days be sufficient. Council Member Kost stated that if he is at the finish line and would give him the 90 days. Mr. Craig asked them to consider tabling 60 days for progress check.

Council Member Spadafore stated the Committee could consider tabling 30 days then take action in 30 days. Council Member Kost asked if they have been assessed the fee, and Mr. Montry confirmed once it goes to Council.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO TABLE TO THE NOVEMBER 26TH, 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – SETTING A SHOW CAUSE HEARING; MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH; 122 S GRAND AVENUE

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Mr. Montry stated was heard in May, then tabled, rescheduled until August. In May they were told the owners were going to demolish themselves, but as of today there have been no demolition permits pulled. He then referenced the materials in the packet. The recommendation from EDP is a 30 day make safe or demolish.

Ms. Leblanc, Director of Development with Grainger Group, and has been working before maternity leave, and were on track to take down this fall. There is a small team 9 so that has been delayed. The consideration is to evaluate on what they want to do with the property. The easiest solution for her group is to demolish and pave for a parking lot. Their company did reach out the asbestos report, and they are working with their contractor for the demolition. Ms. Leblanc provided a timeline, and they would like to get demolition itself done.

Council Member Kost asked what the target date now, and Ms. Leblanc stated it would be when Mid-Michigan can get started, then they are looking into November with 8 weeks to complete. Council Member Pehlivanoglu asked for start to finish. Ms. Leblanc stated that Grand and Allegan are owned by MDOT, and those permits will take a while. The first step is to have the building abated by Mid-Michigan Management, and once that is done then their partner company will demolish. Council Member Pehlivanoglu asked if there was any work during May and July, and Ms. Leblanc stated the paperwork was prepped but nothing was finished because at that time they were evaluating what they wanted to do once building was removed. Council Member Spadafore asked what would change before the next Committee meeting on November 12th and Ms. Leblanc stated again, they are waiting on the abatement. Council Member Spadafore asked who paid if the city did, Mr. Venker stated it would go on the tax bill. The ultimate resolution passed, is the owner makes safe or demolish, and if they are in the process the city does not step in.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER PEHLIVANOGLU TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET THE SHOW CAUSE HEARING FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2024, FOR 122 S. GRAND AVENUE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Mr. Montry provided the certified envelope that was returned to sender when they attempted to notify of the demolition hearing in August.

RESOLUTION – Introduction and Set a Public Hearing; Amend Chapter 404; Provide designated Electric Vehicle (EV) parking space regulations

Council Member Spadafore explained that when Council spoke about EV charging rates and charging for people parking in a designated EV charging, if they are not actively plugged in to charge. These spots are designed to generate a service, and this ordinance would add a penalty. There is a forthcoming resolution for Ways and Means for fees.

Council Member Spadafore asked if it should be changed to reflect just City spots. Subsection C. speaks to parking. Mr. Venker stated they could clarify in B. Ms. Boak asked for the corrected document by Friday morning.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2024, ON THE ORDINANCE AMENDMENT WITH AMENDMENTS FOR DEFINING AND DESIGNATING *PRIVATE AND PUBLIC* FOR CHAPTER 404. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OTHER

Street Parking Enforcement – Office of the City Attorney (9/24/24)

Council Member Kost referred to a draft ordinance. Mr. Venker stated this is to address non-registered vehicles in public right of way, and all City right of way, not private lots. Under State law unregistered vehicles sitting for 3 days get towed, however they cannot tow immediately, but can make a civil offense. This would target towards storage of unregistered vehicles. When a VIN number is obscured,

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they cannot authorize towing, but the police would have to get a warrant to get into the vehicle for the VIN number. Council Member Kost asked for definition of unregistered. Mr. Venker explained it is no visible license plate, not registered to drive on roads in Michigan. Council Member Kost asked if this is enforceable by Parking and LPD, and Mr. Venker confirmed it will be.

Since there was no resolution for introduction and setting a public hearing this item was moved to "Discussion/Action" for the next meeting on November 12, 2024 for that action.

No other topics of discussion.

ADJOURN

Adjourned 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on

Application for Appointment to Board or Commission

Thank you for your interest in serving on a Lansing Board, Commission or Committee.

Certain boards, commissions or committees require appointees to be a registered elector in the City of Lansing (Charter Section 2-102) and be a resident of Lansing for one year prior to taking office (Charter Section 2-102).

Appointees to every board, commission or committee must not be in default to the City at the time of taking office (Charter Section 2-103.2) and not have been convicted, within 20 years of taking office, of a violation of the election laws of the City of Lansing, State of Michigan, or the United States; a violation of public trust; or any felony (Charter Section 2-103.1).

(Section Break)

Date	4/18/2018
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First Name	Patricia
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Middle	Ann
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Last Name	Farhat
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Other name(s) by which you have been known, including maiden names	I go by Patty
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Date of Birth	
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Address	2501 HAMPDEN DR
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City	LANSING
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State	MI - Michigan
Zip Code	48911-1764
Email	patty5farhat@comcast.net
Gender	
Ward	3
Precinct	31
Best phone number to contact you	
Last 4 digits of social security number	
In what year did you move to Lansing?	Born and raised here
Additional information regarding experience and credentials	I'm very involved in my community. I'm honored to be a member at-large of the Lansing Board of Police Commissioners. I've been President of the Neighborhood Watch Advisory Board for the city of Lansing for 34 years and a N. W. Coordinator for my neighborhood for 36 years. Also, President of our Neighborhood Association (Lewton Rich N. A.) since 2006. Also, involved in my church (St. Casimir) - Secretary to the Parish Council; Altar Server. Eucharistic Minister. Chairwoman of the 5-K & 10K Race held in conjunction with the St. Casimir Corn Roast the first Saturday in August. Treasurer of the Ladies Cedar Club of Lansing, a 49-year old charitable organization that donates monies to charities: like Sparrow and St. Lawrence Hospitals, VOA, Salvation Army, The Lansing Mission, St. Jude, and many more too numerous to mention.
Occupational Background	I've spent pretty much my entire adult life at the Michigan State AFL-CIO; Started out as Jr. Bookkeeper and after 18

months was promoted to Executive Secretary and worked for Presidents: Wm. Marshall, Frank Garrison & Mark Gaffney. Also, worked as Executive Secretary to Derrick Quinney, Health and Safety Director; worked as Legislative Secretary to Sie Chapple, Darrell Tennis, Tim Hughes, Ken Fletcher, & Fran Brennan, including dual roles as Recording Secretary for the Union Label and Service Trades Council and Secretary to the CEO of Michigan H.R.D.I.

Educational Background	Graduated from St. Mary Cathedral and Davenport Business University.
Please attach a resume if available	<i>Field not completed.</i>
First choice for board to serve on	Police Commissioners
Second choice of a board to serve on	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Third choice of a board to serve on	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Fourth choice of a board to serve on	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Please comment briefly on why you wish to serve on a particular board or commission. Please be specific as to your goals and ideas about how you wish to contribute to the work of the board or commission	Since I'm already a Police Commissioner, I'd like to continue to serve. I Chair two sub-committees: The Complaint Committee and the Awards & Incentives Committee. I also attend promotions and retirements. I sit on the interview panel to interview candidates to become Police Officers. I attend line-ups. Have been on several ride-a-longs. I participate in various trainings when offered by LPD and I attend many LPD/community related meetings. I've been Chair of the Police Board for two, two-year terms and have been Vice Chair for four, two-year terms.

Qualifications and Eligibility – At this time, if you do not meet one or more of the qualifications or eligibility requirements listed at the top, please state here the requirement to be met and explain how you will be qualified or eligible before you would be sworn in to an appointed office

Field not completed.

Background Check Authorization

I agree

Please type your name in this box to signify that you can serve on a board or commission and the information in this application is accurate to the best of your knowledge

Patricia (Patty) Farhat

Date & Time

4/18/2018 9:45 PM

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

The Honorable Andy Schor
Mayor of Lansing
124 West Michigan Avenue
Lansing, Michigan 48933

October 7, 2024

Mayor Schor:

I hereby resign my at-large position on the Police Board of Commissioners effective November 17, 2024.

~Best,

Patty

Patty Farhat, Police Commissioner – At Large
Lansing Police Department - Board of Police Commissioners
120 W. Michigan Ave. | Lansing, MI 48933
C: 517-388-0261 | patty5farhat@hotmail.com
[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)



BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, the Mayor has made the recommendation for the appointment of Patricia Farhat as the 3rd Ward member of the Police Board of Commissioners for a term to expire June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's office has confirmed with this resolution, that they have vetted the applicant based on the original application and believes that the applicant meets the qualifications as required by the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the nominee has resigned from her at-large seat on the Commission effective August 25, 2024 in order to accept this appointment; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Public Safety met on October 8, 2024 and took affirmative action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council, hereby, confirms the appointment of Patricia Farhat as the 3rd Ward member of the Police Board of Commissioners for a term to expire June 30, 2027.

Application for Appointment to Board or Commission

Thank you for your interest in serving on a Lansing Board, Commission, or Committee.

Certain boards, commissions, or committees require appointees to be a registered elector in the City of Lansing (Charter Section 2-102) and be a resident of Lansing for one year prior to taking office (Charter Section 2-102).

Appointees to every board, commission, or committee must not be in default to the City at the time of taking office (Charter Section 2-103.2) and not have been convicted, within 20 years of taking office, of a violation of the election laws of the City of Lansing, State of Michigan, or the United States; a violation of public trust; or any felony (Charter Section 2-103.1).

Lansing City Charter, Section 5-104, Ineligibility For Boards, restricts certain City employee activities on some boards: "No person holding another City office or activity employed by the City shall be eligible to be a voting member on any board."

Date	07/24/2024
First Name	Randy
Middle	Arthur
Last Name	Watkins
Date of Birth	
	1321 West Kalamazoo Street
City	Lansing
State	MI
Zip Code	48915
Email	rawatki@hotmail.com
Gender	male
If you don't know which ward you live in, visit the Lansing Neighborhoods Ward Map and type in your address to find out!	
Ward	Ward 4
Precinct	36

Best Phone Number to Contact You	15173678710
In what year did you move to Lansing?	life resident
Occupational Background	Instructor Lansing Community College
Educational Background	Master in Social Science University of Michigan Master in Public Administration Western Michigan University
Previous Appointments	Human Resources Advisory
Current Appointments	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
First Choice for Board to Serve on	Police Commissioners
Second Choice of a Board to Serve on	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Advisory Board
Third Choice of a Board to Serve on	Downtown Lansing, Inc.
Fourth Choice of a Board to Serve on	Ethics Board
Please comment briefly on why you wish to serve on a particular board or commission. Please be specific as to your goals and ideas about how you wish to contribute to the work of the board or commission.	Police Commission - Currently serve as chair of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety subcommittee of the DEI Board
This certification is not required but may impact potential consideration of the appointment being sought. I authorize the use of the information provided above to conduct a background search, including but not limited to criminal history, residency, and indebtedness to the City of Lansing. If selected to serve, I further authorize additional background checks during the term of my service to ensure the required criteria continue to be met. I also acknowledge that I have the affirmative duty to inform the City if I become aware of any change or condition in my status that fails to meet the required criteria.	
Agreement to Background Check Authorization	I agree
Please type your name in this box to signify that you can serve on a board or commission and the information in this application is accurate to the best of your knowledge.	Randy Arthur Watkins
Receive an email copy of this form.	Yes

Andy Schor
Mayor



City Hall - 9th Floor
124 W. Michigan Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933-1694
PH: 517.483.4141 – FAX: 517.483.6066
Lansing.Mayor@lansingmi.gov

Andy Schor, Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

October 16, 2024

Randy Watkins
1324 W Kalamazoo St.
Lansing, MI 48915

Dear Randy,

On behalf of the residents of Lansing, I want to thank you personally for your years of service on the DEI and MIDAC Boards.

Your commitment and insights have significantly contributed to fostering a more inclusive environment within our community and charted a course for the City as we move towards a higher level of equity in and out of City Hall. Your voice was an important and powerful one in this process, and I appreciate your willing to give of your time and talent to move our city forward.

As you transition from the DEI Advisory Board, I am pleased to have offered a Resolution of appointment for you to the Lansing Police Board of Commissioners. Your experience and knowledge will be a tremendous asset on this Commission just as it has been. I believe your voice will continue to make a meaningful impact.

Again, thank you for your continued service to the City of Lansing, I appreciate your leadership on these very important issues.

Sincerely,

Andy Schor
Mayor

BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, the Mayor has made recommendation for the appointment of Randy Watkins as an At-Large member of the Police Board of Commissioners for a term to expire June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's office has confirmed with this resolution, that they have vetted the applicant based on the original application and believes that the applicant meets the qualifications as required by the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Public Safety met on November 12, 2024 and took affirmative action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council, hereby, confirms the appointment of Randy Watkins as an At-Large member of the Police Board of Commissioners for a term to expire June 30, 2026.