



**CITY OF LINDEN
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026 AT 6:30 P.M.

LOCATION: LOOSE SENIOR CENTER, 707 NORTH BRIDGE STREET, LINDEN, MI 48451

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Elizabeth Armstrong. The meeting was held at The Loose Senior Center located at 707 North Bridge Street, Linden, Michigan 48451.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. A Moment of Silence was observed for our military heroes overseas.

City Council Present: Mayor Elizabeth Armstrong, Mayor Pro tem Jerry Link, Brad Dick, Tom Hicks, Pam Howd, Denise Miller, Brenda Simons

Absent: None

Others Present: Ellen Glass, City Manager; Brian Will, Fire Chief; Don Grice, Director of Public Works; Tess Sweeney, Director of Senior Services & Community Engagement; Brooke Card, City Treasurer; Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk; Pat Parker, City Attorney

a. Excuse Absent Member(s)

None.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) 2025 Fire Department Annual Report

(B) Letter Received from Fenton Township

Armstrong acknowledged receipt of items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Armstrong explained public comment procedure.

Public comment about trespass complaint and CivicPlus.

Public comment about draft zoning changes and status.

Glass addressed comments. Brief discussion with Armstrong and Staff about previous vote of draft zoning amendments and reasoning it was brought back.

CONSENT AGENDA

- (A) City Council Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2026
- (B) Library Board Vacancy Appointment: Mary Wickstrom
- (C) Financial Reports

Motion by Howd, second by Miller to approve the consent agenda. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

AYES: Dick, Miller, Hicks, Simons, Link, Armstrong, Howd

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

DISCUSSION

(A) Loose Senior Center

Public comment made about uses and library services.

Public comment made about staff; library services and other activities; artwork and communication.

Public comment made about activities, advisory board and participation.

Public comment made about participation, library services and considerations.

Public comment advisory board, activity options, services and input.

Public comment about advisory board; library services; evening activity options; and director involvement.

Public comment about programming options; experiences at other centers; and advisory board.

Public comment about advisory board; other senior centers, evening programming; activities and times.

Public comment about library services; activities and participation.

Public comment about remodel, things removed and activity options.

Public comment about location of items; activity options; quiet area and representation.

Glass explained staff will follow up. Armstrong explained reasoning for adding to agenda, read two letters sent to her from Argentine Township Supervisor and City of Fenton Mayor; asked when Council had voted on the advisory committee, staff addressed. Armstrong discussed proposed item and further reasoning. Miller shared her involvements at Loose, feedback; evening activity options; staff. Dick explained old board and previous evening activities, and working with SLPR to bring back and revisit contract; working with Director, things in the works. Simons explained this is a city department; give staff time to implement. Hicks commented on membership and learning more; thanked for concerns. Howd commented on membership; evening programming; advisory board; volunteering; Google ratings; books. Link commented on advisory board representation; pool table bring back and library, monthly luncheon, bookshelf back and monthly sit-down in the works and address pool table issue;

evening activities, staff to address. Armstrong discussed not a member yet and reasoning; importance of activities and varying programming; concerns regarding advisory board revisiting contract.

Motion by Armstrong, second by Miller to pause the Friends of the Loose Senior Center i.e. advisory board and bring back in March.

Howd discussed this is a city department. Armstrong requested a special meeting for the Loose Senior Center. Further discussion with Council and staff regarding reasoning for special meeting and approach.

Parker and Armstrong discussed motion withdrawal, Armstrong withdrew the motion.

Glass discussed SLPR agreement and advisory committee appointments; postponement of advisory meetings to discuss agreement; will hold monthly meeting with Loose members and await City Council direction. Parker discussed his history with Loose; past CDBG funds and impact; Loose as sole member, and City of Linden now operates and makes decisions.

Brief discussion between Glass and Armstrong regarding letter and meeting details within Armstrong can change verbiage after and further explained. Glass explained meeting with SLPR regarding agreement details and no special meeting necessary until after, will keep Council updated. Miller requested copy or contract, Glass addressed. Council and Staff discussed funding sources for senior center; board make up; staff role; SLPR role and discussions; agreements; and will bring back after we have discussion with Tyler.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

(A) Motion to Approve 2026 Mill Pond Treatment Contract with Aquatic Nuisance Plant Control, Inc.

Glass briefly reviewed. Nick Brookshire from Aquatic Nuisance Plant Control Inc. reviewed the proposed treatment plan and reasoning; discussed last season and celery concern. No public comment was received. Council and Brookshire discussed species; treatment and proposed treatment. No public comment was received.

Motion by Howd, second by Miller to approve the 2026 Mill Pond Treatment Plan in the amount of \$11,950 as proposed. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

AYES: Armstrong, Link, Simons, Howd, Dick, Miller, Hicks

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

(B) Conditional Rezoning Request: 1013 North Bridge St.

Glass referenced items within the agenda packet.

Public comment about the request, nonconforming residences and zoning ordinance language.

Public comment from applicant reviewing reasoning for request; local organizations, involvement.

Councilors discussed the request and use; other nonconforming uses for the zoning ordinance discussion; other properties within the Local Service (LS) District; shared concerns pertaining to lights and noise, with businesses across the street and future owners, Parker addressed. No comment was received by Councilor Hicks.

Motion by Dick, second by Simons to approve conditional rezoning request for 1013 North Bridge Street, from the LS, Local Service District to the R-3, Single-Family Residential District, in consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation of adoption and agreement with the Planning Commission's findings that the request satisfies the review standards of Section 154.030,(E) of the City of Linden Zoning Ordinance. I further move that the condition offered by the applicant be incorporated into a signed statement of conditions acceptable to the City Attorney. Roll call. Motion failed 3-4.

AYES: Howd, Dick, Simons

NAYS: Link, Hicks, Armstrong, Miller

ABSENT: None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Glass provided a verbal update on the following items:

- Parks and Recreation events and America250
- SLPR after-hours programming at Loose
- MTA shuttle services to library from Loose
- Chamber EXPO Booth sign-up
- Winter tax collection/budget
- Survey for monthly utility billing
- Forest Ridge Estates

No public comment was received. No Council comments were received.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Armstrong thanked the Departments for their reports which included reports from the Police Department, Code Enforcement, Fire Department and Senior Services Department.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Simons requested to include Loose under Senior Services Department, on the agenda.

Hicks thanked seniors.

Howd commented on evening activities; upcoming Expo; storm drain clean-up.

Miller referenced photos shared on-screen of bingo and recognized Happening In Linden (HIL); asked to have the Linden Library District man come speak to seniors; commented on condition of theatre and Sisters of the Moon business sign; classes taken; and Soup for the Soul event details.

Dick commented on HIL bingo, 4 bills have dropped in state house impact on local level and explained.

Link thanked everyone for coming for all the discussions and commented on Unfinished Business items and reasoning.

Armstrong thanked seniors, students and DPW. Also commented on Parks and Recreation Commission and America 250 event planning details; thanked Historical Society for passport involvement.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Miller, second by Hicks to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Armstrong at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk

Approved: _____