



**CITY OF LINDEN
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

MONDAY, JULY 13, 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 police and fire.

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

Absent: Brenda Simons

Others Present: Ellen Glass, City Manager; Brian Will, Fire Chief; Don Grice, Director of Public Works; Brooke Card, City Treasurer; Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk

a. Excuse Absent Member(s)

Armstrong excused Simons.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

a. Dotti Tynes Program Coordinator - Retirement

Tessa Sweeney, Director of Senior Services & Community Engagement presented Dotti Tynes, Loose Program Coordinator, with a plaque and recognition for retirement.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

Miller requested FOIA Information topic be added to the agenda.

Motion by Dick, second by Miller, conditionally the Mayor would withdraw her FOIA Appeal and with written withdrawal of her FOIA Appeal, the City would release all information requested. Also put FOIA Process on the agenda for discussion. Roll call. Motion carried 5-0, 1 abstention.

AYES: Dick, Miller, Hicks, Link, Howd

NAYS: None

ABSTENTION: Armstrong

ABSENT: Simons

PUBLIC COMMENT

Armstrong briefly explained public comment procedure for FOIA topic.

Public comment about timer; behavior of Mayor and some Councilors; also commented on DDA meeting recording and personal thoughts.

Public comment on occurrence during last Council meeting between Councilor and resident.

Public comment on comment cards and responses; concerns regarding public comment period, signs; and referenced photos provided for blight, hole and netting.

Public comment on behalf of the Forest Ridge Glens HOA, timeline regarding PUD Approval; asked about extension request, approval and expiration date. Also commented on Fenton Township development; shared details; and further commented on Ripley Road ditching.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes from June 22, 2026
- b. Planning Commission Vacancy Appointment: Robert Glover
- c. Application to Use Public Property - Linden Community Schools: October 16, 2026
- d. Application to Use Public Property – LAFF Pathway Pancake Fundraiser: October 18, 2026
- e. Financial Reports

Motion by Howd to approve the consent agenda.

Miller requested clarification about last month's consent agenda regarding City of Fenton Choice One Pathway payment amount, Glass addressed.

Second by Miller. Roll call. Motion carried 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Simons

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Resolution No. 11-26 Mosquito Ballot Language Approval

Glass explained topic for the renewal language and will come back next meeting for approval.

- b. Housing Readiness Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Glass referenced memo provided within agenda packet and next meeting for approval.

Councilors and Glass discussed Planning Commission recommendations incorporated from City Council.

- c. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Information/Process/FOIA Appeal

Public comment regarding FOIA response received different from social media post, shared concerns and requested response from Mayor; shared concerns regarding Charter language violation.

Public comment on previous FOIA request experiences with City; shared charges; city record-keeping and shared concern with Mayor having to FOIA.

Public comment about Charter language and City Manager; concern with Mayor having to FOIA, information to Council and reasoning; recent DDA meeting about parking lot; check register and financial statements for approval; referenced handouts received; shared FOIA experience and different charges, also commented on the City Manager.

Brief discussion about not being able to hear the person speaking. Public comment about experience with FOIA; requested Council address why Mayor was charged. Shared concerns with DDA Presentation during their meeting, referenced organizational chart.

Armstrong distributed handout to Council, read a statement regarding reasoning for her agenda item FOIA Fee Appeal and requested Council waive fees assessed.

Glass addressed public comments regarding FOIA; fees and explained policy and procedure aspects; reviewed budget timeline with Council, timeline of requests from Mayor and status of FOIAs. Dick explained motion for written withdrawal of appeal. Armstrong explained she will pay for the Fire Department FOIA, the others were budget-related. Armstrong removed herself from the discussion. Councilors further discussed Council information requests FOIA laws, rules, fees, time constraints; fees discussion; open-ended statements and timeframes. Glass further discussed FOIA requests; law and our policy. Discussion regarding attorney's statements during conversation with Councilor.

Miller called to question and requested a vote for waiving fees. Discussion regarding Dick explained Mayor's choice to withdrawal and pay her FOIA Department, Dick and Armstrong discussed her disclaimer said she will pay for the Fire Department request. Glass clarified if formal written request to withdrawal information will be provided in reasonable time, discussed timeframe. Armstrong explained reasoning for not withdrawing the Mill and Fire Apparatus requests, and confirmed she would pay for the Fire Dept. FOIA Chief Will referenced and discussed Mayor's FOIA request about the Fire Department pertaining to fire runs, redaction and costs.

Motion by Dick, second by Miller, due to budgetary constraints and considerations that the FOIA fees be waived for the fire truck and the Mill building because they are both budgetary items and Council should get the information for both of those. Roll call. Motion carried 5-0, 1 abstention.

AYES: Link, Hicks, Miller, Howd, Dick

NAYS: None

ABSTENTION: Armstrong

ABSENT: Simons

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ITEMS

- a. Monthly Grant Updates: All Pending & Newly Applied for Grants (Written on Regular Meeting Agendas Only)

Glass explained working through EPA Grant appropriation process from McDonald-Rivet office.

- b. Meeting Recording

Glass updated working on scheduling installation.

c. Contract Statuses - Museum and Library in Mill Building
Glass had no update to share.

d. Loose Van Update
Glass had no update to share.

e. Comment Cards Update
Glass had no update to share.

f. Restriping Presentation
John Windlow, Project Manager from ROWE Engineering, shared a presentation regarding truck modeling, Bridge/Broad Street intersection reconfiguration options; and explained estimate. Grice further explained presentation does not fix everything; cost; parking spaces and conversations with businesses.

Public comment shared a scenario suggestion, Windlow addressed.

Public comment about bike lane and parking spaces, Windlow and Grice addressed.

Public comment shared concerns regarding removal of parking spaces and reasoning.

Public comment about use of current parking spaces and services trash containers.

Council, Staff and Windlow discussed the presentation; having discussion with the businesses; fire truck turn; discussed different scenarios; moving lines; Grice explained if we move forward, bid process and we will return with pricing for approval, re-paint option; and requested direction, Council directed staff to move forward.

Link asked Kanyak about microphones working with current equipment.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Glass explained following up with public comment and provided a verbal update on the following items:

- Letter received from GCDC Office regarding stormwater for Forest Ridge Estates Condo
- Sutter and Gildner working on draft ordinance for scooters and solicitors ordinance update
- Lindenwood driveway approach repairs
- MML Convention Registration
- Fiscal year end, tax, utility billing and election prep
- Budget books for Council
- Council tour of Mill Building, contact staff to schedule
- New Director of Public Works introduction

No public comment received. No Councilor comments received.

COUNCIL COMMENTS & REPORTS

Dick commented on hot temperatures, Loose being a cooling center and River Roast details for this weekend.

Howd commented on road construction completion, scooter and e-bike ordinance; and Linden Mills Historical Society saluting Reverend Don Neuville in memory.

Hicks commented on mills for potential temporary parking lot and section on Broad, Grice addressed.

Miller welcomed new Planning Commissioner and also discussed room used for Council meetings and reasoning; referenced signed invoices and also asked about PUD extension, Glass will have Young follow up. Glass explained reasoning for annex and quotes for equipment. Miller asked about Council input for where meetings are held, Glass explained.

No comments received from Link and Armstrong.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Armstrong at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk

Approved: _____