



**CITY OF LINDEN
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025 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 all of our fallen firefighters and police officers.

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

Absent: Denise Miller

Others Present: Ellen Glass, City Manager; Scott Sutter, Chief of Police; Brian Will, Fire Chief; Don Grice, Director of Public Works; Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk; Michael Gildner, City Attorney

a. Excuse Absent Member(s)

Armstrong excused Miller from the meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

(A) Years of Service Award for Firefighter Bernard (Harold) "Red" Skinner,
Presented By: Fire Chief Will

Fire Chief, Brian Will provided introductions and presented a 56 Years of Service Award to Captain Skinner. Skinner introduced family present and thanked everyone.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Michigan Municipal League (MML) Annual Meeting Notice

(B) Email Received from Resident

Armstrong acknowledged receipt of the Correspondence items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Armstrong read the public comment procedure.

Public comment about the chicken discussion, shared thoughts on number of chickens, taking into account family size; permit; land size and area.

Public comment about scooters on sidewalks, safety concerns and requested guidelines.

Public comment sharing opinion on chickens and proposed ordinance; discussed lot size; rodent issue; ordinance officer and reasoning.

Public comment about moving here; passion for animals; experience with city not allowing her application, request and the process; referenced ordinance in regards to ducks; shared opinion on space for animals; egg use; lot size and number of chickens; shared thoughts on permit and requested details.

Public comment on behalf of Linden Mills Historical Society, invited Council and Staff to anniversary event; brief background and relationship with city; thanked Council for return of the museum and passed out invitations.

Public comment was read by Armstrong regarding concerns with this chicken ordinance.

Armstrong closed public comment.

Police Chief Sutter addressed comments about scooters. Glass thanked the Historical Society for their invitation.

CONSENT AGENDA

- (A) City Council Meeting Minutes from July 14, 2025
- (B) Board of Review Reappointment: Thomas Taylor
- (C) Rules of Procedure Amendments
- (D) Financial Reports

Motion by Howd, second by Dick to accept the consent agenda. Roll call. Motion carried 6-0.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Miller

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (A) Ordinance No. 421 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 90: Animals of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Linden

Glass provided an overview of the topic in reference to enclosed memo and materials for further discussion and requested clarification on changes.

Public comment about trying to understand why chicken topic was brought up at this time.

Motion by Hicks, second by Link to table until next month to fine tune until August. Discussion amongst Councilors and with Staff regarding difference between tabling and postponing motions and the need to discuss further this evening. No vote was taken on this motion.

Councilors discussed and clarified reasoning for ordinance changes; language for lot size and number of chickens based on size; permit reasoning and details; process for residents who presently have chickens; raising the number of chickens limit; research on surrounding communities, referenced number of chickens per acre size and square footage; the need to address complaints when received; proposed making it easier to have chickens 200' eliminate, three chickens per acre, up to a set limit, 10 square feet of open space per chicken and not

penalizing residents with larger lots; and further research needed and bring back to August Work Session. Glass confirmed Young looked at other communities when developing ordinance language.

Sutter shared one instance when resident had to remove their chickens, under current ordinance.

Council and Staff discussed confinement language and reasoning for use of cubic feet.

Motion by Hicks, second by Howd to postpone this until the August meeting to do more research and come up with better wording and planning to make this more agreeable for everybody. Motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

(A) Discussion with Brett Quitquit of Priority Waste Services

Brett Quitquit from Priority Waste Services discussed working hard to address issues pertaining to cart delivery; pick-ups; construction on Rolston; and pick-up times.

Public comment about issues and calls made; number of bins and reason for, brief discussion between resident and with Quitquit.

Glass and Quitquit briefly discussed number of carts allowed and paying for additional.

Council and Quitquit discussed how issues have been addressed; improvements witnessed; West Rolston Road construction and pick-up time issue; hope for improvements going forward; earlier pick-up times; noise ordinance and when Rolston Road construction will be done. Quitquit explained improving upon earlier notice to the city when there is a delay to inform residents.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Glass referenced previous emailed update and provided a verbal update on the following items:

- Mill Pond Treatment purpose and process
- Invitation received for new County Building location
- Purpose of this week's session

Grice provided an update on Lindenwood project wrap-up and the West Rolston Road project.

Glass explained recommendation for how residents should report trash, recycle, yard waste issues and how Priority remedies reported issues.

Council and staff discussed recent graffiti instances; West Rolston Road project details; recent help provided to a business owner and curbing within Lindenwood.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Armstrong acknowledged receipt of reports from the Police Department, Code Enforcement, Department of Public Works (DPW), Fire Department and Senior Services.

Brief discussion with Council and Chief Sutter regarding Center of Hope's Back to School Bash this Sunday and details.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Simons shared an update for Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation, their recent and upcoming events; expressed concerns about speeding and requested speed sign be moved, brief discussion with Sutter; and asked about the new sign by high school.

Hicks commented on the fireworks during River Roast and for Happening In Linden to keep up good work.

Howd shared upcoming Parks and Recreation meeting details; shared scooter concerns, brief discussion with Sutter. Discussed deer baiting not being allowed in Michigan and reasoning. Sutter discussed contacting the Police Department if baiting is witnessed. Howd suggested information about proper yard waste disposal be shared and reasoning.

Dick commented on River Roast event, gave thanks and mentioned the Holiday parade event.

Armstrong thanked Happening in Linden, event volunteers, participants; and shared positive experiences at River Roast.

No comment was received from Councilor Link.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Howd, second by Hicks to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 6-0. The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Armstrong at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk

Approved: _____