



**CITY OF LINDEN
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

MONDAY, JUNE 9, 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 in memory of fallen police and fire.

ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

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

Absent: None

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

a. Excuse Absent Member(s)

None.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Genesee County Board Appointment Opportunities

Armstrong acknowledged the Correspondence Item. Glass provided a brief overview.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Armstrong reviewed the public comment procedure.

Public comment on resident recognition for work down in cemetery; shared thoughts on ethics agenda item.

Public comment about events and activities of the American Legion, shared details and thanked community. Shared thoughts on recent street collection signage. Commented on recent weather, test sirens, but no city alert; also commented on blocked driveway.

Public comment on recent Priority Waste pick up experiences and inconsistency; reviewing contract; and referenced updated trash ordinance. Shared concerns with crosswalk by City Hall, referenced other crosswalk and requested city look at options.

Armstrong read a public comment received via email pertaining to speeding concern on West Broad; reasoning for Linden Postmaster request to move mailboxes to one side of the road; and commented on action to alleviate speeding; and city communication with Postmaster.

Armstrong closed public comment.

Glass addressed comments pertaining to: ethics agenda item; CivicPlus alert system purpose and alert types; suggested resident contact the Lions Club regarding signage. Grice addressed blocked driveway and confirmed requested action with resident commentor. Brief discussion with Howd and Staff regarding Genesee County Smart911 option. Glass addressed additional comments pertaining to: waste collection complaints; look into cross walk signage; clarified notice from Linden Postmaster; and will follow up on remaining comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes from May 12, 2025
- b. Parks and Recreation Vacancy Appointment
- c. Resolution No. 11-25 Establish Request for Funding for Category B Program (East Rolston)
- d. Resolution No. 12-25 Establish Request for Funding for Category B Program (Hickory)
- e. 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 ITEMS

- a. BS&A Cloud Service

Glass provided an overview of the topic and moving to cloud-based system; timing; reasoning; recent challenges with current system version; and clarified not an action item this evening.

Andrew Galvin, Genesee Conty Account manager for BS&A Software, shared a presentation on the BS&A Cloud based platform upgrade. Discussion between Galvin and Council regarding: good way to go and benefits; saving us in the long run given instances with server going down. Glass referenced quote scenarios, explained returning next meeting and next steps. Howd and Glass discussed the current security system; server replacement need; and back up for power loss.

Public comment asking about cost to restore date, Galvin addressed.

Public comment asking about cost, Glass and Galvin addressed.

b. Keeping Chickens Ordinance

Glass reviewed reasoning for agenda item; provided a brief overview of current ordinance and getting feedback and potential amendments. Hicks shared suggestions and reasoning for consideration of amendments pertaining to offset footage to 50 feet and no roosters.

Hicks, Councilors and Staff discussed potential amendments; shared resident feedback received; enclosure size and placement; maximum on chickens; egg quantities and demand; square footage and limit; requiring zoning permit; property line set back and containment; no roosters; coyote concerns.

Public comment asking if ordinance pertains to ducks, Hicks addressed.

Public comment about chicken feces removal, Hicks and Staff addressed.

Glass referenced current ordinance language; confirmed with Council will work with Zoning Administrator on requested language and best practices; 50 feet setback; ample containment square footage; maximum number of chickens; and not allowing roosters. Howd shared prevention measures against coyotes.

c. Ethics Ordinance Investigation

Gildner reviewed topic and timeline; explained addendum with Mayor's statement; Glass confirmed agenda packet was updated on website and shared with Council. Gildner referenced documents and recommendations included, Gildner reviewed potential actions by Council.

Simons shared statement of thoughts about ethics violation, residents pay for investigations; shared classes offered for Mayors; MML instructors and professional services; shared her experience being new on Council.

Motion by Howd, second by Simons to accept attorney's recommendations. Roll call. Motion carried 6-0, with 1 abstention.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Armstrong

ABSENT: None

Brief discussion amongst Council, staff and Gildner regarding vote.

Public comment on Mayor's vote.

Gildner clarified the vote should reflect abstention on Mayor's part, Armstrong confirmed.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Glass provided a verbal update on the following items:

- Fiscal Year wrap up

- Staff working on water quality report, utility bills and taxes
- Mill Update
- Recapped meeting with Historical Society and Library returning to the Mill
- Thanked all for Memorial Day help
- Grandparents' Day at Loose this Thursday

Grice provided an update on: the Lindenwood Project wrap up and tree replacement details; West Rolston Roa; over band crack fill program; and water changeover and pressure. Kanyak shared LAFF Pathway is seeking event volunteers shared contact information.

Howd and Grice discussed right of way distance. Link and Grice briefly discussed water pressure. Simons commented on Memorial Day and support LAFF pathway and event this weekend. Brief discussion regarding no council comments on Work Session agendas, staff clarified reasoning.

CLOSED SESSION

- Attorney-Client Privilege Letter

Gildner confirmed with Kanyak the date and who the letter was from.

Motion by Howd, second by Hicks to go into closed session to discuss the Plunkett-Cooney letter. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Glass confirmed we will be moving rooms. City Council entered closed session at 7:35 p.m.

Motion by Dick, second by Miller to return to open session. Roll call. Motion carried 7-0.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

City Council returned to open session at 7:49 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Armstrong, second by Miller to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Armstrong at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristyn Kanyak, City Clerk

Approved: _____