

**CITY OF LINDEN
MEETING MINUTES
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING**

Thursday, May 28, 2026

8:30 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Linden Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Sapelak. The meeting was held within the Linden Community Center, located at 105 Mill Street Linden, Michigan 48451.

ROLL CALL

Present: Tod Fisher, Brandon Raudebaugh, Marta Wright, Keri Burns, Ryan McDonald, Denise Miller, Jeanine Sapelak, Greg Jones

Absent: Michelle Robins

Others Present: Tessa Sweeney, Director of Senior Services and Community Engagement; Nicole Weissenborn, Deputy Clerk

Excused Absence(s):

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(A) Approve Minutes of the April 23, 2026 Regular Meeting

Motion by Wright, second by Miller to approve minutes of the April 23, 2026. Motion carried 8-0.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items Only

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

(A) Check Register

Sweeney reviewed budget items to board members.

Motion by Miller, second by Jones to approve the bills in the amount of \$ 695.59. Roll call. Motion carried 8-0.

Ayes: Jones, Raudebaugh, MacDonald, Fisher, Miller, Wright, Burns, Sapelak,

Nays: None

Absent: Robins

PUBLIC HEARING/PRESENTATION

(A) Information Meeting – PA 57 of 2018

Sweeney reviewed the presentation in detail.

There were no comments received by the public or board members.

DISCUSSION

(A) Sponsorship Funding Prerequisite Requirements

Sweeney reviewed the correspondence with board members.

Robins entered meeting at 8:37.

Board members discussed the proposed resolution, including adoption requirements, allowable event funding amounts, applicable rules, and provisions for special approvals. Sweeney advised that the matter will be put on the next meeting for consideration and vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(A) Sunset Corals Weekly Car Cruise

Jones reported that participation in the car show continues to grow, averaging approximately 50 vehicles per week. He requested assistance with advertising, gift cards, prizes, and children's activities, noting that such support could help increase attendance and enhance the event.

Motion by Miller, second by Fisher to sponsor \$ 750.00 for the weekly Sunset Corals Car Cruise. Roll Call. Motion carried 7-1, with 1 abstention.

Ayes: Wright, Burns, Fisher, Sapelak, Raudebaugh, MacDonald, Miller

Nays: Robins

Absent: None

Abstain: Jones

NEW BUSINESS

(A) Summer Shop Hop

Sweeney reported that Mae Designs requested sponsorship assistance for the Shop Hop Event. Owners Hannah and April Rheingans explained that the requested support would be for a gift basket and promotional efforts. Board members briefly discussed.

Motion by Sapelak, second by McDonald to sponsor \$ 250.00 for the Summer Shop Hop basket and \$ 50.00 for the posters. Roll Call. Motion carried 8-1.

Ayes: Burns, Fisher, MacDonald, Miller, Sapelak, Jones, Raudebaugh, Wright

Nays: Robins

Absent: None

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Sweeney discussed the following items:

- Parks and Recreation upcoming Events
- Karaoke by the Mill
- Business Marketing Campaign at Music by the Mill
- Business signage on county right away
- America 250 Décor
- Snow removal language being reviewed with city attorney

MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Miller commented on the success of the Parks and Recreation Kite Event, the car show, and upcoming hot dog event, and requested an update on 106 Bridge street. Sweeney responded.

Jones provided information regarding the Genesee County America 250 passbook with related events.

Raudebaugh shared an idea for a community fundraising initiative tied to a Happening in Linden Event. Board members expressed positive interest into this concept. Raudebaugh indicated that he will continue researching. Public comment suggested holding the event during spring or summer months.

Robins discussed past sponsorship issues and reviewed the roles of Grow Linden and Happening in Linden within the community. Board members discussed the establishment of sponsorship parameters for community events and the evolution of all organizations. Robins encouraged businesses to support Happening in Linden events through donations and volunteer efforts.

Miller expressed appreciation for the Memorial Day Parade and thanked City staff and all involved in organizing the event.

Robins encouraged board members to watch City Council meetings and expressed support for the City Manager and staff. Board members briefly discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Sapelak shared the date and time of the next meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Sapelak at 9:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Weissenborn, Deputy Clerk

Approved: _____