

**LAPEER CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MAY 5, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Lapeer City Commission was held May 5, 2025, at the Lapeer City Hall, 576 Liberty Park, Lapeer, Michigan. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Marquardt.

Commissioners: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Absent: Commissioner Atwood.

City Manager: Mike Womack, present.

City Attorney: T. Allen Francis, present.

Mayor Marquardt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

81 2025 05-05 AGENDA APPROVAL

Moved by Glisman. Seconded by Petrie.

Approve the Agenda for May 5, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

82 2025 05-05 EXCUSE – COMMISSIONER ATWOOD

Moved by Petrie. Seconded by Brady.

To excuse Commissioner Atwood from tonight's meeting, as he is traveling with the MML.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

83 2025 05-05 MINUTES

Moved by Glisman. Seconded by Petrie.

Approve the minutes of the special meeting held April 14, 2025, regular meeting held April 21, 2025, and special meeting held April 24, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Alt, Executive Director of the Downtown Development Authority, updated the Commission events and activities undertaken by the DDA.

Jessica Pettit, Kiwanis Club of Lapeer, spoke about comments made at the budget workshop.

Greg Bullen spoke about the Kiwanis Club's all-inclusive playground.

Art Sieting spoke about the Kiwanis Club's all-inclusive playground.

Ben Cummings spoke about the Kiwanis Club's all-inclusive playground.

Ann Zettle spoke about the Kiwanis Club's all-inclusive playground.

Chris Turner spoke about the Kiwanis Club's all-inclusive playground.

Melissa Petrie gave an invocation.

84 2025 05-05 CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Glisman. Seconded by Swindell.

Approve the consent agenda for May 5, 2025, as presented:

1. Boundary Transfer – 1068 S. Main St. and Vacant Land S. Main Street.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

85 2025 05-05 BILL LISTING

Moved by Brady. Seconded by Swindell.

Approve the bill listing for May 5, 2025, in the amount of \$218,808.17.

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

PROCLAMATION, RECOGNITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

Mayor Marquardt presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following board members in recognition of their service to the City of Lapeer:

Art Sieting	Economic Development, Tax Increment Finance Authority, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
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Bob Rowden Jr	Economic Development, Tax Increment Finance Authority, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
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Catherine Bostick-Tullius	Zoning Board of Appeals
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Paul Parsch	Zoning Board of Appeals
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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

86 2025 05-05 SET PUBLIC HEARING: FY2025-2026 BUDGET NOTICE

Moved by Swindell. Seconded by Petrie.

Approve setting a public hearing on May 19, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard regarding the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 City of Lapeer Budget and the first year of the proposed 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Plan and Fee Schedule.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

87 2025 05-05 2025 APPLICATION FOR FIREWORKS

Moved by Glisman. Seconded by Petrie.

Approve the 2025 Application for Fireworks and the 2025 Permit for Fireworks submitted by Ace Pyro and authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign all necessary documents.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.
Nays: None.
MOTION CARRIED.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Womack commented that the Spring Expo turned out well. Several people stopped by to talk and share their ideas, which will be shared with the attendees of the joint meeting. Asked members if they would like to do it again. All agreed it was well worth their time and effort and would like to do it again. The joint meeting will be held on June 11, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Members of other boards will be there; public is welcome and encouraged to attend to share their ideas.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

88 2025 05-05 APPOINTMENT – ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Moved by Swindell. Seconded by Glisman.

To appoint Bryan Cloutier to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire April 1, 2028.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The DDA Monthly Departmental Report, Quarterly Financial Report and Quarterly Investment Reports were received into the record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bryan Cloutier spoke about the Kiwanis Club's all-inclusive playground.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Swindell: Thanked the audience for coming to the meeting and sharing their thoughts. Supports all the wonderful clubs and their endeavors around the city. Car Show started tonight; and it's nice to see people out and about; watch out for others and share the road; watch for kids, watch for school buses. Keep the kids safe and thank you all for doing what you are doing.

Commissioner Petrie: Thanked WMPC for sponsoring the National Day of Prayer. She inquired about upcoming plans for Bike Night as well as the city's emergency preparedness plans. She expressed her appreciation to the Kiwanis Club, the Optimist Club, and all community volunteers for their dedication and contributions to our community. As a recently elected official, she is still learning the full scope of the board's responsibilities and emphasized her commitment to monitoring the use of taxpayer dollars. It is her understanding that TIFA funds are to be designated for projects within the district, and she is not yet prepared to state how she will vote on the current funding request. She supports the concept of an inclusive park but emphasized the importance of aligning expenditures with taxpayer priorities.

Commissioner Brady: Things he is thinking about are policy matters not personnel or personal matters; spends more time looking at the spreadsheet numbers than thinking about people. Regarding the Kiwanis playground project, he expressed support in principle but does not view

it as an appropriate expenditure for TIFA funds unless it was explicitly planned for from the beginning. He strongly encourages continued fundraising efforts by Kiwanis, including participating in fundraising activities such as sitting in the dunk tank. The TIFA development plan outlines specific, district-based projects and emphasizes the requirement of a direct economic benefit to TIFA 3 residents. Given that Rowden Park is located approximately a mile outside the TIFA 3 boundaries, he questioned whether the proposed playground meets this standard. He acknowledges the potential for increased foot traffic to the area, he requested data-supported evidence of this economic impact. He further stated that TIFA is a tax-funded entity with a development mandate—not a charitable organization. He raised a policy concern regarding the precedent that could be set by approving funds for this purpose, specifically questioning whether such an action could open the door to future requests from any organization. He also noted that Lapeer County did not provide funding for the project. Does not support allocating funds to the park fund in support of the Kiwanis project but remains open to continued dialogue on the matter.

Commissioner Glisman: Has not made a decision regarding the allocation of TIFA funds to the proposed project. Acknowledged it as a very worthy cause but emphasized the importance of ensuring compliance with all applicable rules and regulations. Expressed concern about the potential for legal challenges if funds are misused and underscored her responsibility to safeguard public resources. Thanked all attendees for coming and sharing their perspectives, noting the value of hearing a range of viewpoints. She also has projects she is passionate about and would like to see them realized. Shared that her proposal for a lilac festival which received the most support at last year's joint meeting and an action plan has since been developed. Hopes to get support moving forward, as she believes it could be a valuable addition to the city, and that the success of the event would require a lot of volunteer participation. Recently toured the Pentier Group business.

City Manager Womack: Echoed Commissioner Swindell's remarks, noting how wonderful it was to see people out and about, enjoying the nice weather. Mentioned that approximately 80 cars were participating in the Car Cruise event. Visited the garden areas at Rowden Park, which were improved thanks to grant funding secured by Mr. Church. DDA events are now underway, including the Car Cruise, Food Truck Festival, and Ladies Night Out. Announced that roadwork on Nepessing Street, between M-24 and Mason Street, is scheduled to begin on May 7, 2025, and is expected to be completed by Friday. Thanked the LDFA for approving their budget earlier today; extended birthday wishes to two staff members; welcomed several new employees to the city. Had a recent meeting with Lapeer County Administrator Moses Sanzo and James Alt to discuss parking around the county building and the need for improvements to pedestrian crossings for safety. Noted ongoing work at Parking Lot #5, including the addition of green space. Stated he would follow up on plans for Bike Night and the city's emergency preparedness plan and report back to the commission.

Mayor Marquardt: She also attended the tour of the Pentier Group and found it to be a fascinating experience. She extended her gratitude to the Fire and Police Departments for their swift response and efforts during a recent brush fire and a separate apartment fire. Construction work will begin on Wilder Road near the railroad tracks starting May 17, 2025. Thanked City employees who went above and beyond to make several repairs at the Community Center, resulting in cost savings of over \$8,000. DTE has launched a new feature on its website that helps residents track where infrastructure improvements are being made and also allows for comparison of annual utility billings. Reminded everyone that the next Heart & Soul Event will take place at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow at the Dog House.

89 2025 05-05 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Debbie Marquardt, Mayor

Romona Sanchez, City Clerk