

**LAPEER CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
JULY 7, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Lapeer City Commission was held on July 7, 2025, at 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: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Absent: None.

City Manager: Mike Womack, present.

City Attorney: T. Allen Francis, present.

Mayor Marquardt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

134 2025 07-07 AGENDA APPROVAL

Moved by Atwood. Seconded by Petie.

Approve the Agenda for July 7, 2025, with the removal of item G-3 Wastewater Treatment Plant Restoration of Stairs – CIP #22922 and moving item C-1 DDA Back to the Bricks, Tune Up Event to G-3.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

135 2025 07-07 MINUTES

Moved by Petrie. Seconded by Glisman.

Approve the minutes of the Joint Meeting held on June 11, 2025, and the Regular Meeting held on June 16, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Susan Hough, Metamora, spoke about concerns regarding the Lapeer District Library.

Brenda McCumons gave an invocation.

An unnamed speaker commented on the debris from the fireworks.

136 2025 07-07 CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Petrie. Seconded by Glisman.

Approve the consent agenda for July 7, 2025, as presented:

2. Special Event: Lapeer County Suicide Prevention Network - Into the Light Walk, Saturday, September 20, 2025, at Rowden Park, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

137 2025 07-07 BILL LISTING

Moved by Brady. Seconded by Petrie.

Approve the bill listing for July 7, 2025, in the amount of \$1,056,139.39.

ROLL CALL VOTE.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

PROCLAMATION, RECOGNITIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

138 2025 07-07 PROCLAMATION – TRACEY RUSSELL

Moved by Swindell. Seconded by Petrie.

Adopt the proclamation in recognition of Tracey Russell, as presented.

**CITY OF LAPEER
Proclamation
In Recognition of Tracey Russell**

WHEREAS, Tracey Russell began her employment with the City of Lapeer on October 8, 2007, as the Executive Assistant in the City Manager's Office and was promoted to Executive Administrator on July 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Tracey has completed many professional training seminars that have enhanced her skills and improved her performance as an Executive Administrator; and

WHEREAS, she has received many letters, emails, and "Thank You" cards from citizens, retirees, and fellow employees in recognition of her helpfulness, professionalism, and kindness; and has consistently provided conscientious, responsible, and professional service to the residents of the City of Lapeer; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, she consistently demonstrated exceptional organizational skills, a strong work ethic and a commitment to supporting and being of service to others; and she has been an invaluable asset to the city, serving with dedication, integrity, and distinction; and

WHEREAS, Tracey will retire on July 15, 2025, after more than 17 years of exemplary service, with unwavering dedication, professionalism and excellence; leaving behind many colleagues and a community proud to have worked with her.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN that I, Mayor Deborah Marquardt, along with the Lapeer City Commission, do hereby honor and express our deepest appreciation to Tracey Russell for her outstanding public service. We extend our heartfelt wishes for continued health, happiness, and success in her retirement.

Dated this 7th day of July 2025.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

139 2025 07-07 LAPEER OPTIMIST – LAPEER DAYS BEER TENT

Moved by Swindell. Seconded by Petrie.

Adopt Resolution #2025-10 authorizing the Lapeer Optimist Club to use the city sidewalks and Cedar Street, north of Nepessing Street, to operate their beer tent during Lapeer Days on Friday, August 15, 2025, through Sunday, August 17, 2025.

**RESOLUTION #2025-10
CITY OF LAPEER
LAPEER OPTIMIST CLUB
AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE BEER TENT
DURING LAPEER DAYS**

WHEREAS, the Lapeer Optimist Club is a recognized nonprofit organization serving the Lapeer community through youth-oriented programs and charitable activities; and

WHEREAS, the Lapeer Optimist Club has requested permission from the City of Lapeer to host a beer tent as part of the annual Lapeer Days Festival,

WHEREAS, the Lapeer Optimist Club are authorized to use the city sidewalks and Cedar Street north of Nepessing Street on Friday August 15, 2025, through Sunday, August 17, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the proposed beer tent will be operated in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC), and the Lapeer Optimist Club will apply for the necessary Special Liquor License for the duration of the event; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lapeer recognizes the longstanding partnership between the City and the Lapeer Optimist Club and supports their continued contribution to the community and the success of Lapeer Days.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lapeer City Commission hereby grants its approval and support for the Lapeer Optimist Club to operate a beer tent during Lapeer Days Friday August 15, 2025, through Sunday, August 17, 2025.

Dated this 7th day of July 2025.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

140 2025 07-07 2025-2026 PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE RENEWAL

Moved by Brady. Seconded by Glisman.

Approve Highstreet Insurance & Financial Services for the City of Lapeer's Property and Liability Insurance at a cost of \$293,403 for the fiscal year July 2, 2025, through July 2, 2026, and authorize the City Manager to sign the required documents.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell, Atwood.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

141 2025 07-07 SPECIAL EVENT: BACK TO THE BRICKS TUNE UP EVENT

Moved by Petrie. Seconded by Glisman.

To approve the special event Back to the Bricks, Tune Up Event, Wednesday, August 6, 2025.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

142 2025 07-07 SPECIAL EVENT: GRAMZ CANNABIS GRAND OPENING

Motion by Swindell. Seconded by Atwood.

To approve the special event for Gramz Cannabis Grand Opening, as presented.

The Commission held a very lengthy discussion regarding the special event application.

Subsequent Motion by Brady. No Second was received.

To postpone the item indefinitely.

The subsequent motion was not considered.

The Commission engaged in further extensive discussion on the special event application, addressing various concerns and perspectives.

Withdrawal: With consent of Commissioner Atwood, Commissioner Swindell withdrew the motion. No vote was taken.

143 2025 07-07 SPECIAL EVENT: GRAMZ CANNABIS GRAND OPENING

Moved by Brady. Seconded by Glisman.

To postpone the special event application for Gramz Cannabis Grand Opening until July 7, 3033(not a typo), unless the application is withdrawn prior to such time.

Ayes: Brady, Glisman, Swindell.

Nays: Atwood, Swindell.

MOTION CARRIED 3-2.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Womack noted a special meeting will take place Monday, July 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. to begin the Goals and Objectives. Housing workshop will be needed in the future as well, date will be set at a later date.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

144 2025 07-07 REAPPOINTMENT – LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY

Moved by Glisman. Seconded by Petrie.

To confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Gary Phillips and Robert Rowden, Jr. to the Local Development Finance Authority for a term to expire August 1, 2029.

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie, Swindell.

Nays: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by . Seconded by .

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

Ayes: Atwood, Brady, Glisman, Petrie.

Nays: Swindell.

MOTION CARRIED 4-1.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The DDA Monthly Departmental Report was received into the record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Individual gave no name spoke about special event application.

Bryan Cloutier asked about fireworks ordinance.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Swindell: Expressed concern that the current Special Events policy and application process are not functioning effectively. Noted that recurring issues have gone unaddressed and emphasized the need for clear direction and prioritization. The policy requires review and revision to prevent continued problems and ensure a more consistent approach moving forward.

Commissioner Petrie: There are two businesses within the City over which the Commission has some oversight or influence. Appreciates Commissioners Brady's research, and feels his purpose was liability for the City and a precedent that may be set. The Charter and the SEA do not match. The SEA does need to be addressed. We were warned if we allowed recreational marihuana into the City, there would be a lot that comes with it. We must be very careful, because decisions we make will make a difference. It's the job of the elected officials to look at everything, and we can not treat this like any other business. This is a heavily regulated business. The 4th of July was celebrative for many, but heart wrenching for the people in Texas. Reminded people, we are not in control and loves the power of prayer, and the prayer at the beginning of the meetings.

Commissioner Brady: Residents do not want to see the City partnering with marijuana-related businesses. As a community member and board representative, he emphasized the importance of reflecting community values, and being the voice of the citizens, which is what he was doing today. While acknowledging that the Special Events policy may need improvement, he stressed the importance of adhering to existing rules and called for strong leadership from those who will follow the rules and a commitment to following the letter of the law.

Commissioner Glisman: We need a new special event application form. One element I'd like to see included in future applications is a clear statement of the purpose and/or goal of the event—this is important information to have. The grand opening event seemed a bit grandiose and might attract children, which is something we want to avoid with this type of business. I want to take a moment to express sorrow for the tragedy occurring in Texas. We grieve the loss of life—especially those of the sweet young girls. Shared a Bible verse and encourage everyone to keep them in your prayers. Hoped everyone has a great holiday and enjoys the fireworks on July 12, 2025. Looking ahead, America 250—the semi quincentennial, will take place on July 4, 2026. Decorations are already available at 50% off, so stock up early! A bit of

history: On this day in 1777, British and Patriot forces fought the Battle of Hubbardton, the only Revolutionary War battle fought in Vermont. And on July 8, 1776, the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence was held in Philadelphia.

Commissioner Atwood: Went to visit the City of Rochester Hills Youth Council will discuss more later. Voted no, because he wants to treat all business the same, no other business have done a SEA for a grand opening. Appreciates the staff and the hard work they do.

City Manager Womack: On July 7, 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor, was first woman nominated to Supreme Court in U.S. History. Although Commissioner Brady is a rule follower, government is cannot always be run simply in black and white. He will work with the applicant.

Mayor Marquardt: Thanked the Commission for all the discussion this evening. Thanked James Alt and the DDA Board for bringing Back to the Bricks to the City of Lapeer; what a great opportunity to show off our city. Our previous Library Director had family in Texas, and it is very sad.

146 2025 07-07 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Debbie Marquardt, Mayor

Romona Sanchez, City Clerk