



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026
7:30 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke.

PLEDGE TO FLAG & INVOCATION

Invocation by Council Member Woods.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke, Council Member Arnold, Council Member Loch, Council Member Schinzing, and Council Member Woods

ABSENT

Mayor Gunther, Council Member Ambrose

OTHERS PRESENT

City Manager Whitt, Finance Director Pesta, City Attorney Vanerian, HR Director Sears, Police Chief Shakinas, Deputy Police Chief Kolke, Fire Chief Gonzalez, DPW Superintendent Ladd, and City Clerk Stuart

CM 03-10-26 MOTION TO EXCUSE MAYOR GUNTHER AND COUNCIL MEMBER AMBROSE FROM TONIGHT'S MEETING

Motion by Schinzing, seconded by Arnold, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To excuse Mayor Gunther and Council Member Ambrose from tonight's meeting.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Arnold, Loch, O'Rourke, Schinzing, Woods
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGE

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said he would like to entertain a motion, effective immediately, to divide audience participation into two separate portions, one at the beginning pertaining to agenda items only and one at the end of the meeting for non-agenda items.

CM 03-11-26 MOTION TO HAVE AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS AND A SECOND AT THE END OF THE MEETING FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Schinzing, seconded by Arnold, MOTION CARRIED: To have audience participation at the beginning of the meeting pertaining to agenda items and second at the end of the meeting for non-agenda items.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (3) Arnold, O'Rourke, Schinzing,
Nays (2) Loch, Woods
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said he would like to entertain a motion to establish an official City of Walled Lake Facebook or Instagram page to share ongoing updates about the city, including city news, but also specifically for items that we just experienced, like water service interruptions and other important notices. He explained what he heard specifically from the community is that when the situation with the water happened just now, or when we ran into it last year, there is not that direct place that they can go to get updates from the city immediately. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said information is available on the website and the staff did a good job of putting it up on the website promptly, but it didn't seem like the community at large was going there. He said adding a City of Walled Lake Facebook page or Instagram account is necessary to ensure timely engagement with the community around these happenings.

City Manager Whitt explained his agreement with Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke and said he is ready to act immediately.

Council Member Arnold said he is also in favor and requested procedures be created for its use.

CM 03-12-26 MOTION TO CREATE A CITY OF WALLED LAKE FACEBOOK PAGE FOR GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Motion by Woods, seconded by Loch, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To create a City of Walled Lake Facebook page for government communications and notifications.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Loch, O'Rourke, Schinzing, Woods, Arnold
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2026

**CM 03-13-26 MOTION TO APPROVE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

Motion by Schinzing, seconded by Arnold, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve regular council meeting minutes of February 17, 2026.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) O'Rourke, Schinzing, Woods, Arnold, Loch
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

2. Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2026

Mayor Pro Tem explained there was correspondence from Mayor Gunther in regard to the content of meeting minutes being incomplete and requested to table approval.

**CM 03-14-26 MOTION TO TABLE APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 3, 2026**

Motion by Schinzing, seconded by Loch, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To table approval of the regular council meeting minutes of March 3, 2026.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (4) Schinzing, Arnold, Loch, O'Rourke
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (1) Woods

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tracy Millman, 741 Woods Court – said she sees that we have zoning and planning on here anyway. So, I'm here to document a formal demand for production of municipal records. Unfortunately, the mayor's not here. I'd like each of you to sign this so that you know you have been given one. I am here to request notice of audit risk, material weakness and demand for financial transparency. Also, rezoning, replacing tax rolls. So pursuant to Michigan Uniform Budget and Accounting, Walled Lake City Charter, immediate production of the following uncondensed records as required. Fund 211, marijuana regulatory. Supposedly there's 14 licenses issued in the city and \$54,000 per license is issued to the city and it's nowhere to be found. It's been absconded with. It's not accounted for, not documented. Fund 248 DDA. All records related to resolution 2025-1, 2025-18, including payments to Boss Engineering and infrastructure costs at 850 Ladd Road. Entity linkage and vendors, all contracts, 1099s, and wire transfer

confirmations for Walled Lake Investments, Green Zone Michigan, Prism Triangle, Turning Point, and especially Walled Lake Investments. They are buying and selling city-owned property, 35 lots, at reduced assessor roles, selling them back to the city, and there is no auction or knowledge. Assessing being lowered. Mr. Woods, I believe, doubled his money on a recent property sale without disclosure. Bank accounts and DDA. A comprehensive list of all city held bank accounts, specifically those controlled by the DDA and the DGA and flock safety camera procurements, bypassing all city bidding for all contracting. Formal notice of known errors and illegalities. The council is hereby notified of the following material risks currently endangering the city's liability coverage. Credential fraud, I'll leave it at that. Unlawful licensing. Solo authority of city manager to issue marijuana license violates the Home Rule City Act. The expansion to 14 licenses, bypassing voter approval. Property diversion, accounting for 35 city-owned properties transferred to private LLCs, including turning point at 850 LAD without public auction or notice. Material weakness, 2024-25 audits confirm failure.

The three-minute timer expired, and Mayor Pro Tem said he would like to offer Ms. Millman about another minute or so.

Ms. Millman said these are requests for the city council to address immediately. Credential fraud, unlawful licensing, Walled Lake Investments, whoever is behind it, does not have broker, planning or licensure. Neither does zoning, planning, contracting, Ms. Pesta is signing, Ms. Stuart is signing, you're signing, it's all illegal. Those contracts needed to be divulged by city council minutes. They approved 15% administrative fees on every contract he signs. That would also include sewage and water, police, all part-time fire and emergency staff is non- They don't have insurance benefits, leaving the citizens void of proper protection. The fire, no two in, no two out. Two firemen had to stand there and watch it burn. The part-timers don't get benefits. That is to be rectified immediately. All administrative fees, secondary consulting, and out-of-state payments for planning, zoning, and assessing are to be immediately withheld. He's to be removed at midnight. No, I'm not going to finish anything. I think I got my point across. I'm going to file this because I'm moving out of the city and his threats are also my civil rights. He threatened me in a public meeting last week.

Council Member Woods said he requested the record to show the comments from Ms. Millman directed towards him are completely false.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said he would like to thank Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and DPW staff for their prompt and swift response to water service disruption issues during last week's crisis. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke explained DPW Superintendent Ladd's deep knowledge of our system enabled him to quickly locate the correct valve and open our water lines from Commerce Township while carefully, and this is a part that we had talked about at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, managing the flow rate to ensure that it did not interrupt or hurt the integrity of the existing pipes that were working. As mentioned, several times this evening, we were ahead of other communities with water restoration, and it was because Mr. Ladd knew exactly what to do and when to do it, got the approvals and took care of it, thank you very much Mr. Ladd. We also want to extend our sincerest appreciation to our

partners in Commerce Township for their collaboration and support in resolving this situation. In addition, I'd like to thank the City Manager, Dennis Whitt, our clerk, Jennifer Stuart, our finance manager, Chelsea Pesta, and human resources director, Miranda Sears, for their rapid response with clear and coordinated communication. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke explained we talked a little bit earlier in the meeting that we don't really have that go-to communication pathway, but the ones we did have, staff was on it and it meant a lot. We're equally as grateful to our fire chief, Jason Gonzalez, and the entire fire department for prioritizing the water truck and ensuring an adequate supply of bagged water was there for three days of distribution. He said he was there and it was incredible how fast you worked, how prompt you were, how you serviced every car that came in. Thanks also to our police chief, Paul Shakinis, and the police department for their continued commitment and support to ensuring the community remains safe during this challenging time. Even though, obviously your team had a lot to do with just maintaining everything in the city as people were in a very stressful environment. He said the departments did a remarkable job.

Council Member Loch said we all worked well together sharing information that we had access to.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke explained one of the first steps in furthering government transparency was the posting of the fire and police contracts. He wanted to let the community know that, as part of our commitment to you, when we were out campaigning, we did get these items posted. They're now available on the Walled Lake website under city government.

Council Member Arnold said there's still work to be done for the other contracts, because he thinks council agrees, but he is not speaking for everybody, so certainly push back on me, but we don't want to necessarily give out private information. There is a way that looking at how some of the other adjacent cities are posting contracts, he thinks we can follow that similar approach. We can show basic things such as personal time off and how that's structured and educational support structures. So, from his standpoint, he would like to move this forward, but without just copying and pasting everything, because he thinks that's the part, we are apprehensive about. We are still in the process of reviewing some of this stuff. So maybe this is a bigger question to his peers, what would be a reasonable next step in the sense that we can request to lift out the commonality between the contracts and then bring that up and approve that, then that's what we are going to post next. He explained how the PTO structure is and how educational reimbursement is very common.

City Manager Whitt said to post his contract, there is educational bonus information there, but he has never utilized it. City Manager Whitt said there are nuisances. He explained contracts are negotiated to entice employees to come and to stay.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke explained, for example, the educational benefit is a trigger to have employees stay. He said education that's offered to the employees for the retention value and build bigger skills, we want the city to know that's part of the contract.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke introduced Mr. Giovanni Johnson, Parks and Recreation Commission member who was unanimously voted to be chairperson by fellow commission members. He said

Mr. Johnson has played a key role in community events such as the Egg Hunt, Memorial Day parade, and summer concert series. He said Mr. Johnson brings a unique trait to the city's Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mr. Johnson said he wanted to first thank Mr. O'Rourke for all his years of dedicated service, serving as the Parks and Recreation chairperson, guiding the commission into several different new programs, one of which will be discussed tonight. Mr. Johnson thanked his fellow commission members for their support. Mr. Johnson thanked Mayor Gunther, Council Member Schinzing and Arnold. Mr. Johnson said commission member Ruth Dufresne has been involved with the America 250, which is celebrating the bicentennial of our country, and there are celebrations happening all across the country. He said Ms. Dufresne had been involved in one through the Stone Crest Society, she had explained that Walled Lake had a major part in portions of the Revolutionary War. Mr. Johnson said the summer concert series is confirmed with old and new bands. He said they plan on kicking things off at the Casey J. Ambrose Memorial Park. He said Ms. Kaylee Hall will be operating the Walled Lake Market on Wednesdays. The commission met to prepare the eggs for the egg hunt on the 4th of April. He said things are moving forward and there are great new members.

1. Discussion – Board and Commission Appointments

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said there were two nominations from Mayor Gunther that he requested council to act on: Mr. Michael Langan to the DDA and Mr. Jason Easter to the Traffic Safety Board. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said Mr. Langan has been an active leader within Walled Lake for many years and owns a popular and successful business, All Star Bowling on Ladd Road. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said he is impressed with Mr. Langan's business knowledge, and he also has an outstanding vision for Walled Lake.

Council Member Woods explained there is already a Langan on the DDA, should the applicant search spread out across the DDA district. Council Member Woods explained past practice, Mr. Bryan O'Leary applied to the DDA but there was already someone from the Walled Lake Civic Fund as a member of the DDA, so he was not nominated. Council Member Woods said it would be smart and fair to cover the whole area and at least search the north side of the city for a nominee, so the whole city is represented. Council Member Woods said he does not discredit Mr. Langan's activities and support for the city but to be fair he feels there should be another nominee for the DDA.

City Manager Whitt explained there is a nomination on the floor and council either accepts or rejects it.

CM 03-15-26 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2026-06 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION TO APPOINT MICHAEL LANGAN TO THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY CHARTER; MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Motion by O'Rourke, seconded by Schinzing, MOTION CARRIED: To approve resolution 2026-06 a resolution accepting the Mayor's nomination to appoint Michael Langan to the Downtown Development Authority pursuant to the requirements of the City Charter; making an appointment to the Downtown Development Authority.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (3) Arnold, O'Rourke, Schinzing
Nays (2) Woods, Loch
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke explained the second nomination is for Mr. Jason Easter to the Traffic Safety Board. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said Mr. Easter is well known throughout the community and is also a current member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

CM 03-16-26 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2026-07 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION TO APPOINT JASON EASTER TO THE TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY CHARTER; MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO THE TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

Motion by O'Rourke, seconded by Loch, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve resolution 2026-07 a resolution accepting the Mayor's nomination to appoint Jason Easter to the Traffic Safety Board pursuant to the requirements of the City Charter; making an appointment to the Traffic Safety Board.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Arnold, Loch, O'Rourke, Schinzing, Woods, Arnold
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

Council Member Schinzing explained that the Traffic Safety Board platform may be a good platform to review the community for vulnerable citizens and housing to be notified and addressed in severe instances. He explained for the board to be some kind of community safety council.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke explained it has been observed by residents, staff, and himself that the DM Motors vehicle delivery trucks have been stopping in the middle of Maple Road to load and unload cars. Following our last meeting, Mayor Gunther and I met with the owner and his father on March 6th to directly address these concerns. We asked them to come prepared with potential solutions, given the duration of the issue. We discussed several options, including utilizing other public locations; however, those were either impractical or not appropriate for that type of activity. Ultimately, a solution was agreed upon. DM Motors will now conduct all loading and unloading operations at their secondary property located at 961 Decker Road. This site is better

suited for this purpose, as it includes a drive configuration intended to accommodate larger delivery vehicles. Moving forward, it will be important for all of us staff, council, and our police department to monitor compliance. If delivery trucks are observed again, stopping on Maple Road, we ask that it be reported so it can be addressed promptly.

Police Chief Shakinis explained he came across a car hauler unloading just this evening. The gentleman spoke very little English, but they did get him to move out of the road. Chief Shakinis explained this will take some work, but they will move forward with request, they will work in the right direction.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke explained this is a concern mentioned by DM Motors, deliveries go through a 3rd party with drivers that do not speak English and no translator is provided.

Council Member Schinzing asked if DM Motors has an approved site plan.

City Attorney Vanerian said they do, and they have been utilizing that northern property you referenced for vehicle storage, and now for loading and unloading as well. As he understood, there is an agreement between DM Motors and 961 Decker, whether that's a lease or similar arrangement, it is private between the two. City Attorney Vanerian explained from a zoning and land use perspective, that alone is not sufficient. He explained if DM Motor intends to incorporate that neighboring parcel into their business operations; it must be formally reviewed and approved through the site plan process. That means clearly identifying how the property will be used whether for vehicle storage, loading and unloading, or other related activities and delineating those areas on an approved site plan. City Attorney Vanerian explained that the city needs to ensure that this shared use does not create zoning compliance issues for the primary property owner. For example, that site is required to maintain a certain number of parking spaces for its own business operations. If those spaces are being displaced or repurposed for DM Motors' use, that could create a separate violation for that property. He said he agrees getting those delivery trucks off Maple Road addresses an immediate and significant safety concern but only as an interim solution. City Attorney Vanerian explained that the applicant still needs to move forward with full site plan approval that reflects the entirety of their operations, including all properties being utilized and the specific functions occurring on each. City Attorney Vanerian added to be clear the city's goal here is not adversarial. The city wants them to succeed and to operate in compliance just as every other business in Walled Lake is required to do.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke asked how council moves this forward, it has been well over a year.

City Attorney Vanerian explained the city had DM Motors in court on a number of occasions and if DM Motors continues to refuse compliance, circuit court action may be needed.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke asked how long council should accommodate, we have been dealing with this for a long time.

City Attorney Vanerian advised not to give DM Motors too much time, they know what the issues are, they continue to drag their feet. City Attorney Vanerian said DM Motors need to complete the site plan process, they have had review letters from the planning consultant they

have direction of what they need to do to have a compliant site plan. City Attorney Vanerian said he will prepare correspondence giving DM Motors 30 days to submit revised site plans. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke agreed 30 days seems reasonable.

City Manager Whitt stated when things become an issue the revoking of the license may be the possibility to pursue.

City Attorney Vanerian explained DM Motors is required to have a state license for auto sales, another course of action could be to file an administrative complaint with the state. City Attorney Vanerian explained this potential action will be included in his correspondence to DM Motors.

Council Member Schinzing said we still do not have a quorum for planning commission. He said he would like to lower the minimum membership of the planning commission from 7 to 5. He said instead of just throwing people at it and hoping we get some people, and then they do not know what they are doing, he would rather put qualified people on the commission.

City Attorney Vanerian said this will require an ordinance amendment and he will prepare first reading for the next council meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Consent Agenda Written Departmental / Divisional Statistical Reports

- a. Police**
- b. Fire**
- c. Finance**
 - Warrant**
- d. Code Enforcement**

CM 03-17-26 MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA WRITTEN DEPARTMENTAL / DIVISIONAL STATISTICAL REPORTS

Motion by Woods, seconded by Loch, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve consent agenda written departmental / divisional statistical reports.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Arnold, Loch, O'Rourke, Schinzing, Woods
Nays (0)
Abstain (0)
Absent (0)

2. After Action Report Water Main Break

City Manager Whitt explained the recent water main break occurred in the area of Drake Road. This incident was separate from the ongoing construction activity along 14 Mile Road, which is not City-led work but rather being conducted by GLWA and its contractors. While not under City control, that work significantly impacted traffic and overall conditions,

He explained the city was notified by email, but he was contacted by the Police Department in the early morning hours approximately 4:00–5:00 a.m. As with all emergency situations, the Police Department served as the primary point of contact. City Manager Whitt said by 5:30 a.m., City staff were mobilized and operating within established emergency response roles. Based on prior experience with similar incidents, staff anticipated a prolonged outage and immediately began implementing response protocols. City Manager Whitt explained that administrative coordination and communication support were provided internally to ensure timely updates were relayed to City leadership, including the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.

Police Chief Shakinas explained he has been a part of 17 coordination calls/Zoom meetings from Saturday morning through Monday.

3. Discussion on Improvement to Notification Process from Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) to Walled Lake

City Manager Whitt said council just improved this tonight with taking action to create a social media platform to communicate.

Council Member Woods stated that, in addition to the City Manager's report, a key concern discussed at a recent Novi City Council meeting which he attended was communication from GLWA. He said GLWA's CEO acknowledged delays in communication and committed to improving the timeliness and flow of information to member communities. Council Member Woods emphasized that timely communication from GLWA is critical, as the City's ability to provide updates to residents depends on receiving accurate and prompt information at the Novi city council meeting, communication from GLWA was slow.

City Manager Whitt asked Ms. Sears to hand out the new laptops requested by and for Mayor Gunther, Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke, Council Member Arnold, and Council Member Schinzing. City Manager Whitt reminded council and staff of the first budget work session scheduled for Saturday, March 21st at 9am.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said these were laptops requested to keep city business separate from personal business.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Oakland County Treasurer Robert Whittenberg – Foreclosure Prevention Memo

Correspondence read into record by Finance Director Pesta.

The Oakland County Treasurer's Office is in the final stretch of our foreclosure prevention efforts. The tax foreclosure deadline for the 2023 and/or prior year taxes is on March 31, 2026. That means if these taxes aren't paid off by March 31st or any interested party hasn't entered into a

repayment schedule with the Treasurer's office by then, the property will be foreclosed.

Since December of 2025, the Treasurer's office has conducted over a thousand Taxpayer Assistance Meetings to assist taxpayers with keeping their properties by working with them to get on a repayment schedule and/or by identifying resources that may be beneficial to them and their situation. We are here to help and strongly encourage taxpayers to contact us before the tax foreclosure deadline if they have delinquent taxes for 2023 and/or prior tax years. Taxpayers interested in scheduling a Taxpayer Assistance Meeting may call us at 248-858-0611 or they may visit www.oakgov.com/treasurer.

Thank you,

*Robert Whittenberg
Oakland County Treasurer*

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

1. Request for Closed Session to discuss Confidential Attorney Client Communications pursuant to Section 8 (f) of the Open Meetings Act

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said correspondence was received from Mayor Gunther requesting to postpone until he is in attendance for the meeting.

CM 03-18-26 MOTION TO TABLE CLOSED SESSION UNTIL MAYOR GUNTHER IS IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE MEETING

Motion by O'Rourke, seconded by Schinzing, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To table closed session until Mayor Gunther is in attendance for the meeting.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Loch, O'Rourke, Schinzing, Woods, Arnold
Nays (0)
Abstain (0)
Absent (0)

2. Update Administrative Appeal – Marijuana Facility, Green Zone, LLC

City Attorney Vanerian stated that this item is an open report. He explained that Green Zone LLC had received City approval several years ago to operate as a grower and processor facility, including initial zoning approval and issuance of their first business license. The facility was slow to commence operations and, over time, issues arose regarding compliance with City ordinances and state marijuana regulations during their build-out. He explained when Green Zone LLC's business license came up for renewal in August 2025, the City Manager denied the renewal based on observed non-compliance and prior investigations. The company subsequently

requested an administrative appeal before the City Council. City Attorney Vanerian outlined the process for the appeal, noting that the Council would hold a hearing, review the applicant's submission and the City's documentation, and then decide whether to uphold or overturn the denial. City Attorney Vanerian explained that, due to the extended timeline of events and the number of issues involved, the hearing could be lengthy and potentially require several hours. City Attorney Vanerian suggested that Council consider whether to schedule the appeal during a regular meeting or as a special meeting dedicated solely to this matter and requested guidance from Council on how they would like to proceed.

City Manager Whitt said he or the mayor can call the special meeting and advertise it as a special meeting to meet the Open Meeting Act requirements.

Council Member Schinzing asked if the council's decision would be the final of this process or is there another appeal they may enter.

City Attorney Vanerian stated that the outcome of the administrative appeal is at the discretion of Green Zone LLC. If the City Council were to reverse the denial of the renewal application, the company would receive its license, and it is likely that no further action would be taken. However, if the Council upholds the denial, the company could potentially appeal the decision to the circuit court to seek further relief. The choice to pursue additional legal action would be at the company's discretion.

Council Member Schinzing stated that he would like to learn more about the process for renewing business licenses annually, specifically for businesses such as Green Zone LLC. He asked for clarification on the criteria used by the City to determine whether to approve or deny a renewal and expressed interest in understanding the factors considered in evaluating compliance with City ordinances and state regulations.

City Manager Whitt stated that he would be available to meet with Council to provide additional details on the annual business license renewal process. He explained that similar to businesses in other regulated industries such as liquor establishments licensed businesses must comply with both City ordinances and applicable state regulations. If a business violates rules over time, the City has the authority to report the violations to the relevant state agency and, in certain circumstances, revoke the license. City Manager Whitt noted that revocation is typically reserved for repeated noncompliance and emphasized that the process is generally straightforward, focused on ensuring compliance with applicable rules.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Resolution 2026-04 Agreements and Contracts

Addressed earlier in the meeting.

2. First Reading C-378-26 Amendment to Chapter 51 Zoning to amend Article 30.00 Commercial Planned Unit Development

CM 03-19-26 MOTION TO TABLE FIRST READING C-378-26 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 51, "ZONING", OF TITLE V, "ZONING AND PLANNING", THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO AMEND ARTICLE 30.00 "COMMERCIAL UNIT DEVELOPMENT" AS PROVIDED BY THIS ORDINANCE

Motion by O'Rourke, seconded by Woods, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To table first reading C-378-26 an ordinance to amend Chapter 51, "Zoning", of Title V, "Zoning and Planning", the City of Walled Lake Zoning Ordinance, to amend Article 30.00 "Commercial Unit Development" as provided by this ordinance.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) O'Rourke, Schinzing, Woods, Arnold, Loch
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed Resolution 20206-06 Public Safety Fire Division Purchase Eco Compressed Air Foam System (CAF)

Fire Chief Gonzalez presented a request for the use of dedicated fire department equipment funds to purchase a 30-gallon compressed air foam (CAF) system for Squad 19, the Department's second busiest truck. He explained that Squad 19 currently has no active firefighting capability beyond handheld fire extinguishers and serves primarily as a support vehicle for medical emergencies, car accidents, and fire calls, averaging approximately 60 responses per month. The proposed foam system is self-contained, reusable, and pressurized using existing station air compressors to 175 PSI. Chief Gonzalez noted that the foam is environmentally safe and 100% biodegradable, consistent with materials already used in the Department's handheld extinguishers. The unit measures 44 inches long, 22 inches wide, and 23 inches tall, weighing 280 pounds when full, and is movable to other vehicles or future trucks as needed. Chief Gonzalez provided details of Squad 19's current capabilities, which include water and ice rescue equipment, extrication tools, portable fire extinguishers, and life support equipment. He shared that all firefighters on the truck are trained ice rescue technicians and participate in annual training exercises. Chief Gonzalez stated that the total cost of the unit is \$8,522 and that the purchase would be funded entirely from existing equipment line-item funds. No additional funding is being requested.

Further discussion was held on the durability, depreciation and training requirements if any for the new equipment.

CM 03-20-26 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2026-08 RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF ECO CAF 30 GALLON SKID UNIT COMPRESSED AIR FOAM SYSTEM FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT FIRE DIVISION

Motion by O'Rourke, seconded by Loch, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve resolution 2026-08 resolution appropriating funds for the purchase of Eco CAF 30 Gallon Skid Unit Compressed Air Foam System for the Public Safety Department Fire Division.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5) Schinzing, Woods, Arnold, Loch, O'Rourke
Nays (0)
Absent (2) Ambrose, Gunther
Abstain (0)

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION None

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Woods said he would like to add to the fire department stating he received phone calls right when the water went out, how will the city put out fires Council Member Woods said he completed a walk through on the training with Fire Chief Gonzalez. Council Member Woods commented the city has a pumper truck available and mutual assistance if needed. Council Member Woods said the fire department is well suited.

Council Member Schinzing explained the fire department did a great job in response to the recent fire on Sparks Lane. He said he was surprised to hear how many residents on Sparks Lane alone took advantage of the free smoke detectors handed out by the fire department.

Fire Chief Gonzalez said he will be submitting an order to the state Fire Marshal for more and reminded everyone smoke detectors are good for approximately ten years.

City Manager Whitt explained with the recent tragic event in West Bloomfield, Police Chief Shakinas sent two officers to assist the fire department covering Commerce Township's department as they were providing aid to West Bloomfield. He explained the mutual aid coverage to neighboring communities during this time is beneficial and important.

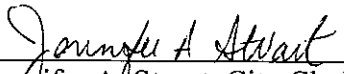
MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said thank you to everybody for their courtesy and for their assistance in preparing and chairing this evening's meeting as it was his first as Mayor Pro Tem interim Mayor role. Mayor Pro Tem O'Rourke said we wish Mayor Gunther a quick and healthy recovery.

ADJOURNMENT

CM 03-21-26 ADJOURNMENT

Motion by O'Rourke, seconded by Loch, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**: To adjourn the meeting at 9:19 P.M.



Jennifer A. Stuart, City Clerk
approved 4/21/26

Dennis O'Rourke, Mayor Pro Tem

History: Chapter 6, The Council: Procedure and Miscellaneous Powers and Duties: *Section 6.7 (a) A journal of the proceedings of each meeting shall be kept in the English language by the Clerk and shall be signed by the presiding officer and Clerk of the meeting.*