

IMLAY CITY COMMISSION  
150 N. MAIN STREET  
IMLAY CITY, MI 48444

REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 01, 2025  
7:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Barbara Yockey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Yockey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Barbara Yockey, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Tanis, Commissioner Tom Blount, Commissioner Stu Davis, Commissioner Al Ramirez, Commissioner Luke Stempien

Commissioner Joe DeLuca arrived at 7:01 PM

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** City Manager Craig Horton, DDA Director Christine Malzahn, WWTP Superintendent Pat Rankin, Spicer Design Engineer Sam Szaroletta, Clerk/Treasurer Dawn Sawicki-Franz and Public

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Blount seconded by Tanis to approve the agenda with the addition of **UNFINISHED BUSINESS G. CITY MANAGER CONTRACT**  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Tanis seconded by Davis to approve the consent agenda to include:

A. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** March 18, 2025 – Regular Minutes

B. **OTHER MINUTES** None

C. **PAYMENT OF THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF:**

|                       |    |                   |
|-----------------------|----|-------------------|
| General Fund Checking | \$ | 223,698.55        |
| Tax Account           | \$ | 783.84            |
| HRA Account           | \$ | 346.96            |
| Total                 | \$ | <u>224,829.35</u> |

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Tanis, Davis, DeLuca, Ramirez, Stempien, Blount, Yockey

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR**

None

7. **GUEST SPEAKER – AS NEEDED**

None

8. **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT**

DDA Director Malzahn shared with the Commission that two of the three new bike racks purchased through the DDA with a grant from the Four County Community Foundation are in place. One is in the shape of a jar of pickles to be placed near the Farmer's Market Park. The second rack is in the shape of a train and is placed by Armondo's Vaqurita & Grocery on Almont Avenue, with the third in the shape of a Spartan for the Imlay City School's mascot and will be placed at the end of Bancroft

**IMLAY CITY COMMISSION  
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Street. These bike racks have panels on each with an information kiosk. The I AM IMLAY CITY reveal event will be Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. The Social District signage has been ordered and two of the three licensees have been approved and the 3<sup>rd</sup> location is working on the process with the hope that all three will be approved and ready to go for the Cinco De Mayo event. The 41 Hometown Hero banners have been redesigned and will be in place before Memorial Day, the Farmer's Market will open May 22<sup>nd</sup> with flowers and strawberries, etc and the Summer Concert Series this year will have all new performers with eight performance dates and will begin on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. CITY OWNED PROPERTIES – MAYOR UPDATE**

Mayor Yockey updated the Commission regarding the DPW Barn Renovations with the bids due and the bid opening to be held on Monday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. In addition, a review meeting is to be held on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> to go over all bids that were received.

**NO MOTION, INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

**B. RESOLUTION 2025-05 DNR ROTARY PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

**MOTION** by Tanis seconded by Davis to approve Resolution 2025-05 to establish a request for funding and committal to a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Passport Recreation Grant for Imlay City Rotary Park with a City commitment obligation of \$2,500.00 of the total project cost of \$103,900.00 during the FY of 2026-2027

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Tanis, Davis, Blount, Stempien, Ramirez, DeLuca, Yockey

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. RESOLUTION 2025-06 DDA LCCF (LAPEER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION) PAVILION GRANT**

**MOTION** by Davis seconded by Blount to approve Resolution 2025-06, a resolution of support without commitment of funds for a Lapeer County Community Foundation grant application submission for \$15,000.00 for a portion of the funds needed for a Community Pavilion to be located in the vacant lot known as the Farmer's Market

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Davis, Blount, Tanis, Stempien, Ramirez, DeLuca, Yockey

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. BUSINESS APPLICATION INFORMATION**

DDA Director Malzahn presented a new application for business registration and/or change in occupancy form which includes an application for a certificate of zoning compliance, a business emergency contact form and a sign permit as well as the application form to change the businesses' water/sewer/garbage contact information. Also, a discussion regarding an emergency key box which is a small, wall mounted safe that holds building keys for fire departments, emergency medical services, and sometime police to retrieve in emergency situations.

**MOTION** by Davis to continue to work on the process to move forward.

**NO SUPPORT, MOTION FAILED**

Mayor Yockey pointed out that the fees have questions marks and these information forms and need to be sorted out, filled in and this form still needs some work.

**IMLAY CITY COMMISSION  
150 N. MAIN STREET  
IMLAY CITY, MI 48444**

**REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 01, 2025  
7:00 PM**

**MOTION** by Blount seconded by Stempien to postpone to the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and work with DDA Director Malzahn on the business application forms.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**E. WWTP (WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT) SPLITTER BOX**

WWTP Superintendent Rankin explained that two fixes were reviewed at the last Commission meeting to repair the splitter box issue. One option is to remove and reroute at the splitter box to eliminate any further settling and would require additional piping and valves to be installed, etc. The second option is to repair and support the existing splitter box to eliminate further settling. Rankin then deferred to Design Engineer Sam Szaroletta from Spicer to explain and answer questions regarding the need and processes for the splitter box repair. Szaroletta presented his choice plan option as the number two option: to shore up the spitter box using stainless steel helical piles to prevent further settlement with the recommendation to approve the bid from American Excavating Ltd in the amount of \$106,550.00, to provide the most cost effective and minimally invasive correction as a permanent repair to this splitter box.

**MOTION** by Davis seconded by Ramirez to approve the bid from American Excavating in the amount of \$106,550.00 to repair the splitter box

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Davis, Ramirez, DeLuca, Blount, Stempien, Tanis, Yockey

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**F. FY 2025-2026 DRAFT BUDGET REVIEW**

- i. **AUTHORIZE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE PUBLICATION AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE**

**MOTION** by Davis seconded by Tanis to approve the Public Hearing publication notice as presented and set the Budget Public Hearing for Tuesday, May 06, 2025 at 7:00 PM

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Davis, Tanis, Blount, Ramirez, DeLuca, Stempien, Yockey

Nays: None

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**G. CITY MANAGER CONTRACT**

Mayor Yockey explained that the current City Manager Contract expires on June 30, 2025 and an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of herself, Mayor Pro Tem Tanis and Commissioner Blount have met several times together and with City Manager Horton, and have come to an agreement to present this contract to the City Commission for their approval.

**MOTION** by Ramirez seconded by DeLuca to postpone approval of this contract to April 15<sup>th</sup> before the City Commission Meeting at 6:00 PM

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Ramirez, DeLuca, Stempien

Nays: Davis, Tanis, Blount, Yockey

Absent: None

**MOTION FAILED**

Mayor Yockey then entertained another motion to accept, deny or postpone the City Manager Contract as presented

Commissioner Tanis stated that the Ad Hoc Committee met three times, and we had asked for volunteers and myself, Commissioner Blount and Mayor Yockey volunteered, and we were set to do a job and now I will make a motion.

**IMLAY CITY COMMISSION  
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**REGULAR MEETING  
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**MOTION** by Tanis seconded by Blount to approve the contract as written as recommended by the ad hoc committee

After much discussion, Blount shared that the Ad Hoc Committee met three times to do a job and have brought this contract here today for the Commission. Blount then withdrew his support to the motion to have the questions that were raised by other Commissioners answered.

Then Tanis stated that he understands where this is coming from, but this Commission set us to negotiate this contract and this makes me feel like you think we did not do our job and with that Tanis withdrew his motion.

**NO MOTION PASSED**

Mayor Yockey confirmed that the Motion has been withdrawn and asked if there is another Motion on this subject

**MOTION** by DeLuca seconded by Stempien to postpone the negotiation of this Contract until a special workshop meeting set for Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM right before our regularly scheduled City Commission Meeting

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: DeLuca, Stempien, Tanis, Blount, Davis, Ramirez

Nays: Yockey

Absent: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**11. CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR**

None

**12. CLOSED SESSION – AS NEEDED**

None

**13. CITY MANAGER TIME**

City Manager Horton highlighted the number of grants that are in process including the pavilion, the Polly Ann Trail Connectivity Grant connecting the Polly Ann Trail to Lions Park and we are also working on Rotary Park and looking for grant funds and appropriations for that park as well. We are still working on grants for 4<sup>th</sup> Street and of course, for the Wastewater Treatment Plant as the two projects are much needed upgrades in our City.

**14. COMMISSIONER TIME**

Commissioner Ramirez stated that he has been asked by a resident to review the allowing of golf carts in our City.

Commissioner Tanis shared that he does not see an issue with golf carts in the City as long people follow the rules and do research on this and discuss with the Police Chief.

Commissioner DeLuca stated that each of the Commissioners need to have a copy of the current City Manager contract to review and compare before the next meeting.

Mayor Yockey would like to thank the City Manager and the City Staff for the fine job that has been done on the budget as it takes a lot to put all that together.

**IMLAY CITY COMMISSION  
150 N. MAIN STREET  
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**REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 01, 2025  
7:00 PM**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Davis seconded by Stempien to adjourn at 8:14 PM

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

City Commission Special Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 6:00 PM

City Commission Workshop Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Next Regular Commission Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Sawicki-Franz, City Clerk

**APPROVED: April 15, 2025**