



CITY OF IONIA

**IONIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
7:00 PM, October 2, 2024
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor John Milewski called the meeting of the Ionia City Council to order at 7:01 PM, and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call revealed a Quorum with Councilmembers Jeff Winters, Margot Cook, Tim Lee, Tom Millard, Brenda Cowling, Troy Waterman, and Mayor John Milewski present. Councilmember Millard made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Waterman, to excuse the absences of Councilmembers Dawn Ketchum and Rich Starr. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Millard made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Lee, to approve the agenda as presented. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 4, 2024, Regular Meeting

Councilmember Cook made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Winters, to approve the September 4, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes as presented. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE**

III. PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor John Milewski read the “Proclamation Celebrating 15 Years of Ionia Community Awareness” in honor of the work done supporting cancer victims and their families. On hand to accept the proclamation were Diane Grummet, Jenna Perry, and Missy Millard.Mitchell.

Proclamation Celebrating 15 Years of Ionia Community Awareness

WHEREAS, Ionia is a vibrant and compassionate community that takes pride in the spirit of giving and support that defines our shared values; and

WHEREAS, Ionia Community Awareness has reached a remarkable milestone, celebrating 15 years of unwavering dedication to supporting cancer survivors, fighters, and their families; and

WHEREAS, through its relentless efforts, Ionia Community Awareness has raised awareness about cancer, offered invaluable resources, and built a network of support that has profoundly enhanced the lives of those affected by cancer; and

WHEREAS, the organization has inspired the Ionia community to stand united in the face of challenges and support one another through acts of kindness and generosity; and

WHEREAS, over the past 15 years, Ionia Community Awareness has made a significant impact by assisting 155 families, providing over \$4,000 in liquid meals, and raising nearly \$300,000 in additional support through gas cards, food gift cards, and crucial assistance for utilities and lease payments; and

WHEREAS, the commitment and dedication of the volunteers, supporters, and leaders of Ionia Community Awareness exemplifies the true spirit of community service and empowers individuals and families to face the challenges of cancer with hope and resilience; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ionia recognizes the profound importance of this milestone and celebrates the achievements and contributions of Ionia Community Awareness in enhancing the quality of life for cancer survivors and fighters; now

THEREFORE, I, John R. Milewski, Mayor of the City of Ionia, do hereby proclaim Friday, September 27, 2024, as Ionia Community Awareness Day in honor of their 15 years of outstanding service and commitment to our community. May their continued efforts inspire us all to support and uplift those in need, and to join in the ongoing fight against cancer.

John R. Milewski, Mayor
City of Ionia

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Representing Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc., Michael Falk was in attendance to respond to questions from Council about the Fireworks Display proposal on the agenda, and expressed appreciation for past business.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS & ASSOCIATED ACTIONS

(V-1) Public Hearing and Second Reading/Council Action—Ordinance No. 590: An ordinance to amend sections of Chapter 1062—Parks and City Cemeteries

With the upcoming additions of the City of Ionia Dog Park and Riverside Cemetery (located on the former Deerfield-Riverside site), it was necessary to review and revise Chapter 1062 – Parks and City Cemeteries, from the city’s codified ordinances.

Proposed Ordinance No. 590 would add the City of Ionia Dog Park and Riverside Cemetery to the list of parks and cemeteries regulated as to hours of operation and use. Additional sections of Chapter 1062 were also suggested for amendment to achieve relevant updates and clarifications. The final proposed copy of the ordinance, was amended to change the language regarding open hours at the Dog Park to correspond with the Dog Park Rules approved by City Council in September.

Following the Public Hearing opened at 7:10 PM, and closed at 7:13 PM, by Mayor Milewski, regarding Ordinance No. 590, Councilmember Winters made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Millard, to amend sections of Chapter 1062—Parks and City Cemeteries of the codified ordinances of the City of Ionia, and to approve Ordinance No. 590.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Winters, Cook, Lee, Millard, Cowling, Waterman & Milewski

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

**CITY OF IONIA
IONIA COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDINANCE NO. 590

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART TEN, TITLE SIX, CHAPTER 1062,
ENTITLED “OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES; PARKS AND CITY CEMETERIES” OF
THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF IONIA, SECTIONS 1062.01
THROUGH 1062.99, INCLUSIVE**

The City of Ionia Ordains:

Section One: Addition

That Part Ten, Title Six, Chapter 1062, entitled “Other Public Services; Parks and City Cemeteries,” Sections 1062.01 through 1062.99, inclusive, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Ionia, is amended to read in its entirety as follows:

1062.01 POLICY OF THE CITY.

It shall be the policy of the City of Ionia to provide municipal parks and cemeteries for the general public to use in an inclusive, reasonable and orderly manner. In order to protect parks, park equipment and the cemetery property from vandalism, the Public Safety Department is empowered to exclude all unauthorized persons during the time the parks and cemeteries are closed or at such other times as permitted by law. The City shall work with the Ionia Department of Transportation (Dial-A-Ride) during normal operating hours to facilitate the cemeteries and parks’ accessibility.

1062.02 TIME OF OPENING AND CLOSING.

City parks and cemeteries shall be closed during all times other than those hours posted below. Closing and opening hours for City parks and cemeteries shall be as follows (all Eastern Standard times):

(a) Oak Hill Cemetery and Riverside Cemetery - 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. in summer; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in winter.

(b) Fairgrounds - 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., exclusive of fair-time activities.

(c) Neighborhood Parks (which includes the Meijer Skatepark) - 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., except by reservation for special events (weddings, etc.).

(d) Ionia Dog Park, 208 S. Steele Street – Open daily year around from sunrise to sunset. The Dog Park may be closed at the City’s discretion as conditions necessitate (i.e., spring flooding/snow melt) to prevent damages.

(e) Linear Parks (i.e., Fred Thwaites River Trail) – Given that linear trails are often used for

commuting as well as recreational purposes, linear trails shall be open 24 hours per day. Those using linear parks during non-daylight hours must utilize a headlamp or headlight and should also wear reflective clothing.

(f) Facilities that are lighted for evening use such as tennis courts, skating rinks, ball diamonds, etc., not being used for City or school organized recreational programs, shall be closed at 10:00 p.m.

1062.03 CERTAIN USES PROHIBITED WITHOUT CITY PERMISSION.

Any person desiring to use any City park or cemetery at a time other than that provided for in Section 1062.02 shall file an application with the City Recreation Director on forms to be furnished by the Recreation Department, and shall not use the park until permits are granted and in accordance with Section 1062.07.

1062.04 CERTAIN USES PROHIBITED WITHOUT COUNCIL PERMISSION.

No person shall advertise, promote, sponsor, operate or conduct an outdoor assembly attended by 50 or more person in a City Park without the prior permission of the City Council. An assembly is deemed to be any event designed to attract the attendance of persons, including, but not limited to, a concert, show, exhibition, performance, speech, display or other form of entertainment. An assembly does not include Recreation Department games and events, Free Fair grounds events arranged in and through the Free Fair Association, or events sponsored by the City of Ionia. Permission for an assembly shall be granted in the reasonable discretion of the City Council based criteria including, without limitation:

- (a) The number of persons reasonably expected to attend such assembly;
- (b) The nature of the assembly in terms of whether the assembly will be likely to interfere with residents in the area or the park or with the ordinary use of the park by the public; and
- (c) The time of the assembly.

The City Council, in granting permission, may attach such conditions as it deems necessary for the public health, safety and welfare, including, but not limited to, conditions for sanitation, noise control and clean-up of the park. The City Council may, in its discretion, require an applicant for permission to obtain a public liability insurance policy and to post a cash or surety bond for the faithful performance by the applicant of such conditions as the City Council may require.

1062.05 USE OF SOUND AMPLIFICATION EQUIPMENT PROHIBITED WITHOUT CITY MANAGER PERMISSION.

No sound amplification equipment may be used in any City Park without the prior permission of the City Manager. Permission shall be granted in the reasonable discretion of the City Manager, based on whether such sound amplification will be likely to unreasonably interfere with residents in the area of the park or with the ordinary use of the park by the public. The City Manager, in granting permission, may attach such conditions as it deems necessary,

including, but not limited to, the specific location of the equipment, the time of use, and the maximum noise level at which such sound amplification equipment may be operated.

1062.06 EXCLUSIVE PERMITS PROHIBITED.

No permit shall be issued for the exclusive use of a park, and no permit shall exclude the public from the portion of the park not covered by the permit or charge any admittance fee for entering the park, except as hereinafter provided.

1062.07 SPECIAL PERMITS.

Any individual, club, organization or association desiring to exclusively use a park or a portion of a park for a set period of time, must apply for and receive a special permit, under the following conditions:

(a) If the event or use is a money-raising function, whether to cover costs of operation or for profit, the individual, club, organization or association shall file an application with the Recreation Director, and pay to the Recreation Director a fee, as established from time to time by the City Council. The application, among other information, must designate the park, or portion of the park, desired, where ticket sales will be set up or money is to be collected, and how much per person or other unit of measurement, the location of which shall be under the control of the City Manager.

(b) If an individual, club, organization or association desires to allow participants to possess or consume alcoholic beverages during the use or event applied for, then the individual, club, organization or association shall file an application with the Director of Public Safety and pay an application fee in an amount as established from time to time by the City Council. The application, among other information, must designate the expected number of participants, the hours, during the event, during which alcohol will be consumed, and the methods used to prevent possession or consumption by minors and non-participants. The Director of Public Safety shall then submit a recommendation regarding the approval of the permit to the City Manager. Upon receipt of the application and recommendation, the City Manager may approve the special permit for alcohol possession or consumption. In addition to the application fee, the City Manager may require reimbursement for law enforcement and other City services related to the event. The method of collecting and calculating this fee shall be described in the special permit for alcohol possession or consumption. In addition to the permit provided for herein, the applicant remains responsible to obtain any license required by state or other local law.

1062.08 GENERAL REGULATIONS.

The following general regulations shall be in force in all parks and public grounds:

(a) Injury to Park Property. No person shall obstruct any walk or drive in any public park or playground and no person shall injure, mar or damage in any manner any monument, ornament, fence, bridge, seat, tree, fountain, shrub, flower, playground equipment, fireplace, or other public property within or pertaining to any park or playground. Violations of this subsection (a) shall be punishable as a misdemeanor offense and subject to the provisions of Section 202.99(a), (c)-(e).

(b) Waste Containers. No person shall place or deposit any garbage, glass, tin cans, papers or miscellaneous waste in any park or playground, except in containers provided for that purpose.

(c) Ball Games. No person shall engage in any baseball, football or softball throwing or other violent or rough exercise or play in any public park or other public place, except in such areas or spaces designated for such exercises or play by the Director.

(d) Picnics. Picnics may be held in such parts of any park as shall be designated for that purpose by the Director of Recreation subject to any rules or regulations.

(e) Open Fires. No person shall kindle or build fires in any park or playground, except in fireplaces or stoves in any park provided for that purpose. Upon leaving such fire, it shall be the duty of the person last using it to see that the fire is extinguished.

(f) Vehicles in Parks. No person shall drive or park any vehicle in any park or playground except in spaces set aside and designated as parking areas by the Director. Driving and parking on all streets and public ways within any park or bordering on the same shall be subject to all the provisions of the Code regulating traffic generally and to such additional rules and regulations as the City Manager shall adopt pursuant to this chapter.

(g) Linear Park. The Grand River Linear Rivertrail system is designed and intended for non-motorized vehicle usage only. Motorized vehicles will generally be prohibited (including mopeds, ORV's, motorcycles, etc.). Exceptions expressly allowed include E-bikes (Class 1 and Class 2 E-bikes) and electric scooters/hoverboards. In addition, advertising, writing, carving and other similar acts are prohibited from placement on the east and west Grand River bridges. Violations of this subsection (g) shall be punishable as a misdemeanor offense and subject to the provisions of Section 202.99(a), (c)-(e).

(h) Meijer Skatepark. The City operates a skatepark that shall be open to both bicycles and skateboards/skaters. All use of the park shall be at the user's risk; no risk shall be borne by the City and the City assumes no liability for the actions of users. Protective pads and equipment are strongly recommended but the park is not monitored and it is the user's responsibility to ensure proper usage.

(i) Additional Rules. The City Manager is hereby empowered to make such additional rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the City Council, pertaining to the conduct and use of parks and public grounds, as are necessary to administer the same and to protect public property and the safety, health, morals and welfare of the public, and no person shall fail to comply with such rules and regulations.

1062.09 OVERNIGHT CAMPING, SLEEPING OR PARKING.

No overnight camping, sleeping, or parking shall be permitted, nor shall any vehicle be stored or parked, in any public park or public property during those hours the park or public grounds are closed, except as may be otherwise provided in this Code.

1062.10 IONIA FREE FAIR ASSOCIATION.

This chapter shall not interfere with the Ionia Free Fair Association when the Association operates in accordance with the lease between the City of Ionia and the Ionia Free Fair Association.

1062.11 AUTHORIZED OVERNIGHT FISHING AND CAMPING.

The area of Riverside Park adjacent to the Grand River may be used for overnight fishing and overnight camping of trailers or campers that have self-contained sewer facilities. Fishing and camping overnight during hours the park is closed will be allowed on a one day-one night basis by special permit secured at the Recreation Department.

1062.12 UNAUTHORIZED OVERNIGHT PRESENCE.

No person shall loiter or remain upon any public park or playground between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., provided, however, that this section shall not apply to employees of the City of Ionia in the course of their duties or to activities being held under the auspices of the Recreation Department. The City Manager is hereby empowered to waive this section when such action will serve the public benefit and welfare.

1062.13 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

No person shall possess or consume alcoholic beverages in a park at any time, unless he or she is a participant in an event for which an individual, or a club, organization or association has received a special permit for alcoholic possession or consumption, as described in Section 1062.07, or similar ordinance. "Participant" is defined in Section 606.01 of this Code of Ordinances.

1062.14 MOTORCYCLES.

No motorcycles, motor scooters, motor bicycles or motor cars commonly known as "go carts" shall be permitted in any public park, linear park, or playground.

1062.15 FIREWORKS.

No person shall bring into a park, or have in his or her possession, or set off or otherwise cause to explode, in a park, any firecrackers, torpedoes, rockets or other fireworks or explosives, or discharge them or throw them into any park area from land or highway adjacent thereto, provided only that a special permit may be granted therefor by the City Manager and Public Safety Director which should include restrictions as to time and location.

1062.16 DISORDERLY CONDUCT.

No person shall sleep on the seats or benches or other areas in a park, or engage in loud, boisterous, threatening, abusive, insulting or indecent language or behavior, or engage in any

disorderly conduct or behavior tending to a breach of the public peace. Violations of this section shall be punishable as a misdemeanor offense and subject to the provisions of Section 202.99(a), (c)-(e).

1062.17 PROTECTION OF PARK PROPERTY; ERECTION OF STRUCTURES.

No person shall willfully mar, deface, disfigure, tamper with, displace or remove any building, tables, benches, fireplaces, trees, shrubs, flowers or any other park property or appurtenances whatsoever, either real or personal. No structure, booth, tent or stall shall be erected on park property for any purpose without permission from the City Manager. Violations of this section shall be punishable as a misdemeanor offense and subject to the provisions of Section 202.99(a), (c)-(e).

1062.18 SERVICE AND REPAIR OF AUTOS.

No person shall clean, wash, polish, repair, or in any manner service any motor vehicle or trailer in any public park or playground or cause the same to be done. For the purpose of this chapter, the term "repair" shall be deemed to mean the replacement of old, worn-out parts of the vehicle with new parts, and the term "service" shall be deemed to mean the draining of oil, sludge, gasoline and water and other engine cooling fluids for the purpose of replacing same with a new supply. This prohibition shall not apply to the changing of deflated tires or the performing of necessary emergency work on a disabled car for the purpose of immediate movement.

1062.19 GLASS BOTTLES.

No glass bottles shall be allowed in any park. Plastic, aluminum or other similar containers are allowed, but must be disposed of in the proper containers. Failure to do so shall result in a charge of littering under applicable City ordinances.

1062.99 PENALTY.

Except where expressly designated to the contrary, a violation of any section or subsection in this chapter shall be deemed a municipal civil infraction and subject to the provisions of Section 202.99 (b) – (e) of this Code.

Section Two: Repealer

That all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section Three: Publication and Effective Date

The City Clerk shall cause a notice of adoption of this ordinance to be published. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication of a summary thereof as permitted by law, along with the date of its adoption, in the *Daily News*, a newspaper of general circulation in the City.

ORDINANCE No. 590 APPROVED

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

None

VII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

(VII-1) Resolution 2024-17 Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC)—Amendment #42 to GVMC Articles of Incorporation

The City of Ionia is a member of the Grand Valley Metro Council (GVMC), a regional planning agency that provides information and resources to many communities in the Western Michigan region. Recently, at the request of Blendon Township, the GVMC Board of Directors approved a motion to add Blendon Township as a member of the organization. Amendment No. 42 to the GVMC Articles of Incorporation is required to officially add Blendon as a member and list them within the Articles of Incorporation.

Councilmember Cowling made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Lee, to approve Resolution 2024-17 authorizing Amendment No. 42 to the GVMC Articles of Incorporation, which would admit Blendon Township as a GVMC member.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Winters, Cook, Lee, Millard, Cowling, Waterman & Milewski

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution No. 2024-17

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Council Member Cowling and seconded by Council Member Lee:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 42 IN THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the members of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council ("Metro Council") have by majority vote approved Amendment No. 42 (Addition of Blendon Township) in the Articles of Incorporation of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council; which is stated as follows:

**AMENDMENT NO. 42
To Add Blendon Township as a Member**

1. The first paragraph of the Articles of Incorporation is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
GRAND VALLEY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

These Articles of Incorporation are adopted and executed by the incorporating units (“Units”), the City of Grand Rapids, the City of Kentwood, the City of East Grand Rapids, the City of Grandville, the City of Rockford, the City of Hudsonville, the City of Cedar Springs, Byron Township, Plainfield Township, Alpine Township, Gaines Township, Kent County, Grand Rapids Township, Algoma Township, City of Coopersville, City of Greenville, City of Ionia, City of Walker, Courtland Township, City of Wayland, Village of Middleville, Tallmadge Township, Georgetown Township, Ottawa County, Caledonia Township, Cannon Township, Allendale Township, Cascade Township, Jamestown Township, the City of Wyoming, the

City of Lowell, the City of Belding, Ada Township, the Village of Sand Lake, Lowell Township, Nelson Township, the Village of Sparta, the Village of Caledonia, and Blendon Township for the purpose of constituting a Metropolitan Council pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 292 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1989 (the "Act").

and

WHEREAS, the amendments have now been submitted for approval by the legislative bodies of the local governmental units that belong to Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Ionia, Michigan has considered Amendment No. 42 in the Articles of Incorporation of Metro Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED:

1. Amendment No. 42 in the Articles of Incorporation of Grand Valley Metropolitan Council is hereby APPROVED.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

AYES: Winters, Cook, Lee, Millard, Cowling, Waterman, Mayor Milewski

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ketchum, Starr

RESOLUTION 2024-17 DECLARED ADOPTED

(VII-2) FY24-25 Budget Amendment #1

Three months into Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025), most revenue and expenditure assumptions made in developing the FY25 budget are still accurate, but a few amendments were reviewed that reflect changes since the budget was first approved. Council reviewed the detailed budget amendments on a fund-by-fund basis.

Proposed amendments to the 101 - General Fund:

- Revenues were increased by \$8,000 to reflect sale of excess property.
- Expenditures remain unchanged.

With the modest revenue adjustment, total GF revenues and expenditures would amend to:

Revenues	\$7,455,600
Expenses	<u>\$7,890,600</u>
NET	(\$ 435,000)

Councilmember Winters made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Waterman, to approve Budget Amendment #1 to the FY24-25 budget, which includes the General Fund and multiple special funds as detailed.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Winters, Cook, Lee, Millard, Cowling, Waterman & Milewski

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

FY 24-25 Council Budget Adjustment #1

GL Number	Description	24-25 Amended Budget	Proposed Amendment #1	Proposed Budget After Amendment
Fund: 101 GENERAL				
101-000.000-695.000	SALE OF PROPERTY	5,000	8,000	13,000
Revenues		7,447,600	8,000	7,455,600
Expenditures		7,890,600	-	7,890,600
Fund 101 - GENERAL:				
TOTAL REVENUES		7,447,600	8,000	7,455,600
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		7,890,600	-	7,890,600
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES:		(443,000)		(435,000)
BEG. FUND BALANCE		4,239,844		4,239,844
END FUND BALANCE		3,796,844		3,804,844
Fund: 228 SOLID WASTE FUND				
Revenues		748,000	-	748,000
Account Category: Expenditures Department: 463.700 LEAF AND BRUSH PICKUP				
228-463.700-801.000	CONTRACTUAL & PROFESSIONAL SEV	25,000	20,000	45,000
Total Dept 463.700 - LEAF AND BRUSH PICKUP		109,600	20,000	129,600
Expenditures		713,600	20,000	733,600
Fund 228 - SOLID WASTE FUND:				
TOTAL REVENUES		748,000	-	748,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		713,600	20,000	733,600
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES:		34,400		14,400
BEG. FUND BALANCE		389,894		389,894
END FUND BALANCE		424,294		404,294
Fund: 239 PARKS - FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS				
Revenues		871,000	-	871,000

Account Category: Expenditures
 Department: 545.810 Dog
 Park

239-545.810-801.000	CONTRACTUAL & PROFESSIONAL SEV	50,000	275,000	325,000
Total Dept 545.810 - Dog Park		55,000	275,000	330,000
Expenditures		967,000	275,000	1,242,000
Fund 239 - PARKS - FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS:				
TOTAL REVENUES		871,000	-	871,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		967,000	275,000	1,242,000
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES:		(96,000)		(371,000)
BEG. FUND BALANCE		1,000,154		1,000,154
END FUND BALANCE		904,154		629,154

Fund: 420 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Account Category: Revenues

420-000.000-699.590	CONTRIBUTION FROM SEWER FUND	172,500	75,000	247,500
420-000.000-699.591	CONTRIBUTION FROM WATER FUND	172,500	75,000	247,500
Revenues		345,000	150,000	495,000

Account Category: Expenditures

Department: 543.560 KING STREET IMPROVEMENTS

420-543.560-801.000	CONTRACTUAL & PROFESSIONAL SEV	300,000	150,000	450,000
Total Dept 543.560 - KING STREET IMPROVEMENTS		345,000	150,000	495,000
Expenditures		345,000	150,000	495,000

Fund 420 - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS:

TOTAL REVENUES		345,000	150,000	495,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		345,000	150,000	495,000
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES:		-		-
BEG. FUND BALANCE		1,000		1,000
END FUND BALANCE		1,000		1,000

Fund: 588 DIAL-A-RIDE

Revenues	1,665,967	-	1,665,967
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Account Category: Expenditures

Department: 558.000 ADMINISTRATIVE

588-558.000-920.000	PUBLIC UTILITIES	15,000	6,300	21,300
Total Dept 558.000 - ADMINISTRATIVE		383,731	6,300	390,031
Expenditures		1,695,254	6,300	1,701,554
Fund 588 - DIAL-A-RIDE:				
TOTAL REVENUES		1,665,967	-	1,665,967
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,695,254	6,300	1,701,554
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES:		(29,287)		(35,587)
BEG. FUND BALANCE		1,097,808		1,097,808
END FUND BALANCE		1,068,521		1,062,221

Fund: 590 SEWER DEPT.

Revenues		3,552,000	-	3,552,000
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Account Category: Expenditures
Department: 558.000 ADMINISTRATIVE

590-558.000-999.420	CONTRIB TO GRANT PROJECTS	172,500	75,000	247,500
Total Dept 558.000 - ADMINISTRATIVE		1,496,422	75,000	1,571,422
Expenditures		3,599,922	75,000	3,674,922
Fund 590 - SEWER DEPT.:				
TOTAL REVENUES		3,552,000	-	3,552,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		3,599,922	75,000	3,674,922
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES:		(47,922)		(122,922)
BEG. FUND BALANCE		13,386,931		13,386,931
END FUND BALANCE		13,339,009		13,264,009

Fund: 591 WATER DEPT.

Revenues		3,025,000	-	3,025,000
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Account Category: Expenditures
Department: 558.000 ADMINISTRATIVE

591-558.000-999.420	CONTRIB TO GRANT PROJECTS	172,500	75,000	247,500
Total Dept 558.000 - ADMINISTRATIVE		1,636,860	75,000	1,711,860
Expenditures		2,898,360	75,000	2,973,360

Fund 591 - WATER DEPT.:			
TOTAL REVENUES	3,025,000	-	3,025,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,898,360	75,000	2,973,360
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES:	126,640		51,640
BEG. FUND BALANCE	11,357,992		11,357,992
END FUND BALANCE	11,484,632		11,409,632

(VII-3) Property & Liability Insurance Renewal – November 1, 2024 - October 31, 2025

The City of Ionia has obtained its property and liability insurance from the Michigan Municipal League Liability and Property Pool as a pool member since 1983. While satisfied with the coverage and service provided, it was time to look at potential other options. Because municipal operations are quite unique when compared to private businesses, proposals were sought from only insurers that specialize in municipal coverage. As a result, two proposals were received and evaluated: one from the existing provider, the MML Liability and Property Pool and the second from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA). Copies of both proposals were reviewed by Council that included an extensive evaluation regarding both insurance providers and their proposals.

Councilmember Millard made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Winters, to approve the property and liability insurance proposal from Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) of \$176,953 (\$151,953 premium + \$25,000 self-insured retention) for November 1, 2024 -October 31, 2025. It is further requested City Council name Precia Garland, city manager, as its Member Representative regarding this proposal. Monies have been budgeted for this expense in various city funds on a pro-rata basis commensurate with associated property and liability risk.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Winteres, Cook, Lee, Millard, Cowling, Waterman & Milewski

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

(VII-4) MML Liability & Property Pool – Directors Election

The City of Ionia currently procures its liability and property insurance through the MML Liability & Property Pool. Annually, representatives of the fund members are elected to the board, which oversees the Pool’s operations. This year, two (2) incumbent directors are seeking re-election. Biographical information regarding each candidate follows this communication, as well as the official ballot, which requests the City vote for three director candidates for three-year terms beginning January 1, 2025. The two candidates are:

- Thad Beard, City Manager, City of Rockford
- Dan Swallow, City Manager, City of Tecumseh

Councilmember Millard made a motion to cast a ballot for the two director candidates as listed to serve on the MML Liability and Property Pool for a three (3) year term beginning January 1, 2025. There was not a second, and the motion failed.

(VII-5) 2025 and 2026 Fireworks Display Bids

The City of Ionia DDA conducts an annual Independence Day fireworks display. Its most recent contract for such displays was exhausted after this year’s 2024 display, prompting it to solicit bids for

the next two years. A request for proposal (RFP) document was prepared and released for any and all qualified professional firework display companies to offer a bid. As in past years, prospective contractors were asked to provide pricing for an 18-20 minute display with shells ranging in size from an 1.5 to 4 inch diameter. Bids were due on September 13, and two bids were received:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Bid Amounts (2024 and 2025) & Dates</u>
Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc.	Rockford, MI	2025 - \$14,000; Thursday, June 26 2026 - \$14,000; Thursday, June 25
American Fireworks Co.	Hudson, OH	2025 - \$14,000; Thursday, June 26 2026 - \$14,000; Thursday, June 25

Pyrotecnico Fireworks is the company the City has worked with for the past several years, is known to provide its public firework displays in a safe and professional manner and is very familiar with the layout/set-up conditions in Ionia.

Councilmember Millard made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Winters, to approve the proposal from Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc. in the amount of \$14,000 each year for 2025 and 2026 to provide Independence Day firework displays. The DDA conducts fundraising for this activity, which are budgeted and available for this purchase.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Winters, Cook, Lee, Millard, Cowling, Waterman & Milewski
NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

(VII-6) Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) Bylaws

The newly appointed board serving the City of Ionia Local Development Finance Authority recently held its first meeting in 20+ years. One item of business was to approve “Bylaws/Rules of Procedure of the Local Development Finance Authority of the City of Ionia.” Councilmembers reviewed the draft bylaws.

Per PA 57 of 2018, as amended, commonly referred to as the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act, these proposed bylaws are subject to approval of the governing body (Ionia City Council) – see specifically MCL 125.4405. Sec. 405 (4).

Councilmember Lee made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Winters, to approve the bylaws of the City of Ionia Local Development Finance Authority in accordance with the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Winters, Cook, Lee, Millard, Cowling, Waterman & Milewski
NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

VIII. APPOINTMENTS

None

IX. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS & MINUTES FROM BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Written reports provided to Council.

X. GOOD OF THE ORDER/CITY COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

City Manager Precia Garland: (1) Requests that the public be patient while the dog park is seeded in two weeks, followed by a resting period for it. It remains locked during this time and expected to open late October; (2) Work on Hale Park work was delayed while the redesign was done, resulting in the contractor being delayed and the City needing to get “back in line” for the work to continue.

Mayor John Milewski: (1) The Tourism report pointed out Ionia’s assets and possibilities, with the brewery and bike trails noted as shining stars; (2) Ionia’s Community Awareness/Purple Week events were excellent with lots of community involvement.

City Clerk Mary Patrick: As of October 1, 705 regular Absentee Voter ballots have been sent and 12 military and overseas ballots. Four of our election workers volunteered to assist with getting them folded, labeled, and mailed. Early voting for Ionia County will take place Saturday, October 26 through Sunday, November 3, at the Ionia Library/Mercantile Bank building on Main Street.

Tom Millard: (1) Community Awareness was great, ending with a Sunday program; (2) Looking forward to the many Fall events, including the Chili-Dawg Challenge that will be held on October 24.

Troy Waterman: Gave a shout-out to the Community Awareness Committee, and especially enjoyed the light show.

XI. CLOSED SESSION

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Cook made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cowling, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM by Voice Vote.

Submitted by:

Mary Patrick
Ionia City Clerk