CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
October13, 2026

The City Council met to have a Regular Council Meeting at City Hall at 6:30 p.m.
102 Butler St., Saugatuck, MI 49453.

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order by Anderson at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance:
Present: Mayor Anderson, Mayor Pro-Tem Clark, and Councilmembers Gardner, Muncey, Peterson, Stanton.
Absent: Dean.

Motion by Muncey, second by Stanton, to excuse Councilmember Dean from tonight's meeting. Via voice vote, motion carried 6-0.

Others Present: City Manager Cummins, Attorney Patterson, Engineer Moxey, DPW Director Ondersma, Treasurer Bredeweg, and Deputy Clerk Williams.

Mayor's Comments:
Mayor Anderson commented on the beautiful late summer weather and praised the progress on Maple Street. She thanked staff for their work and recognized local businesses, workers, and residents for supporting the busy summer season.

City Manager Comments:
City Manager Cummins reported that the city secured funding to replace about 135 lead service lines in a nearly $1.7 million project, with 10% as a grant and the remainder available as a zero-interest loan. He said staff would bring an engineering proposal and work through financing and bonding details at the next workshop. He also noted Maple Street work was nearing completion, announced upcoming Water Street valve maintenance, welcomed Deputy Garcia to the night shift, and described a new orientation guide for deputies that was created with the help of staff. Finally, he said the parking study had been shared with the community, with further discussion planned for December or January, and reminded council about the October 20th business town hall from 11 am through 1 pm.

Agenda Changes: None.

Guest Speakers: None.

Public Comment on Agenda Item Only:

Kevin Tringali

Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of City Council Regular Minutes – September 28, 2026.
B. Brand Guidelines Prepared by Concept A Creative Studio.
C. Special Event – SHS Homecoming Parade.

Motion by Clark, second by Peterson to approve the consent agenda as presented. Via roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Accounts Payable:

Motion by Peterson, second by Gardner to approve the accounts payable in the amount of $168,743.09. Via roll call, motion carried 6-0.

Public Hearing: None.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Ordinance No. 261013-A Short Term Rental Licensing Ordinance Amendment and Resolution No. 261013-A Updating Penalty Fee for Later Renewal Applications:

City Manager Cummins recapped the history of the short-term rental renewal rules, including the existing five-day grace period and an exception for extraordinary circumstances. He explained that two properties were excluded from an earlier round of relief because their renewal applications came in after the licenses had expired. Following council's workshop discussion, the proposal would extend the grace period to 30 days after license expiration and set the late fee at $100 per calendar day to retain a strong incentive to renew on time.

Motion by Muncey, second by Gardner, to approve Ordinance Number 26013-A Short Term Rental Licensing Ordinance Amendment, and Resolution No. 261013-A, approving a change in the City's schedule of fees to update the penalty fee for late renewal applications. Via roll call vote, motion carried 4-2.

Yes: Gardner, Muncey, Peterson, and Stanton.
No: Anderson, Clark
Absent: Dean

Proposal to Provide Architectural & Engineering Design, Bidding & Construction Administration Services for Wicks Park Restroom Replacement & Village Square Restroom Renovations:

DPW Director Ondersma said the work was in the design phase for replacing the Wicks Park restroom and renovating the Village Square restroom. Plans for Wicks Park included surveying and preliminary drawings, raising the building to reduce flooding, reviewing drainage, and adding ADA improvements. At Village Square, the work would include exterior repairs and upgrades to fixtures. He also said staff would seek pricing for reproducing the existing Wicks Park artwork, including options from a local artist or a building wrap; the existing artwork was already a replica, and they had not located the original artist.

Motion by Stanton, second by Muncey to approve Architectural & Engineering Design, Bidding & Construction Administration Services for Wicks Park Restroom Replacement & Village Square Restroom Renovations from Fleis & VandenBrink in the amount of $72,800. Via roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

Staff Reports, Boards, Commissions & Committees:

Monthly department activity reports were provided by the City Manager, Zoning Director, City Clerk, DPW

Director, Treasurer, Engineer, Police, and Assessor.

Public Comment:
Christopher Hauck
Victor Rodriguez
Dave Anderson
Tommy Brown

Correspondence: None.

Council Comments:
Councilmember Peterson reported on a Harbor Authority meeting involving Saugatuck Township & Douglas. She supported creating a steering committee with two representatives from each community, saying harbor decisions should remain with elected officials. She also urged the city to quickly explore dredging costs with a local company called King Co. Inc, and work with its state representative Joey Andrews to pursue available state funding before it is allocated elsewhere.

Councilmember Gardner welcomed Deputy Garcia and thanked the Maple Street residents for sharing information with Council. He reiterated his opposition to removing the fence and gate at the Rose Mize Garden, saying the enclosed garden offers a distinct, quiet place for people to step away from the busy downtown. He worried that removing the barrier could change how the space is used, raise safety concerns, and diminish the garden's character and the Mize family's intent for it.

Mayor Pro-Tem Clark congratulated staff on securing the drinking water revolving fund support, noting that the grant and zero-interest financing would generate substantial savings and positively affect the city's finances.

Councilmember Muncey enjoyed seeing locals out during the beautiful weekend for Oktoberfest and the chili cook-off. He also recommended a free neighborhood haunted trail on Lorrimar Lane in Saugatuck Township. He noted that it runs through October and asked visitors to follow safety guidance. He said community-led events like these reflect Saugatuck's spirit.

Councilmember Stanton said the beautiful weekend brought many out-of-state visitors to Saugatuck. She encouraged volunteers to help with homecoming parade safety, promoted Tuesday's business town hall at the Saugatuck Center for the Arts, and invited residents to support the boys' soccer team in its district game, noting it was the team's first undefeated season.

Mayor Holly Anderson thanked everyone who attended and spoke, acknowledged the work done during the meeting, and expressed appreciation for the staff.

Adjournment:
Motion by Muncey, second by Gardner to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote, motion carried 6-0. Mayor Anderson adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

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Sara Williams, Deputy Clerk