



**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
40TH CITY COUNCIL
OAK PARK, MICHIGAN
JANUARY 21, 2025
7:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor McClellan in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 14000 Oak Park Boulevard, Oak Park, MI 48237. (248) 691-7544.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor McClellan, Council Member Edgar, Council Member Whitehead

ABSENT: Council Member Radner

OTHERS

PRESENT: City Manager Tungate, City Clerk Norris, City Attorney Duff

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Edgar, seconded by Whitehead, CARRIED, to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice Vote:	Yes:	McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
	No:	None
	Absent:	Radner

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Edgar, seconded by Whitehead, CARRIED, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items:

Voice Vote:	Yes:	McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
	No:	None
	Absent:	Radner

- A. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2025
CM-01-17-2025
- B. Request authorization to bid the 2025 Joint and Crack Sealing Project, M-780.
CM-01-18-2025
- C. Request authorization to bid the 2025 Catch Basin Line Replacement Project, M-779
CM-01-19-2025
- D. Approval of Pay Application No. 2 for the 2024 Sewer & Catch Basin Cleaning & TV Inspection Project, M-774 in the amount of \$94,463.65
CM-01-20-2025

- E. Request to approve Payment Applications No. 4 and 5 for the Eight Mile Booster Station Rehabilitation Project, M-732, to CSM Mechanical of Milford, MI in the amount of \$62,272.98 and \$58,896.90.

CM-01-21-2025

- F. Public Safety Activity Summary Report for December 2024

CM-01-22-2025

- G. Request to approve Payment Application No. 1 for the 2024 Block Pruning Project, to Limb Walkers Tree & Snow, LLC of Kenockee, MI in the amount of \$4,075.00

CM-01-23-2025

- H. New and Renewal Licenses for January 21, 2025

CM-01-24-2025

6. RECOGNITION OF VISITING ELECTED OFFICIALS

There were no elected officials present who wished to speak.

7. SPECIAL RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

- A. Mayor Pro Tem Shaun Whitehead - Oath of Office

City Clerk Norris administered the Oath of Office for Mayor Pro Tem Whitehead who is assuming that position due to Carolyn Burns' resignation.

- B. Interstate 696 Project Update

Deputy City Manager DeCoster provided information about the lane closures on I-696 scheduled to begin on March 1, 2025.

8. ACCOUNTING REPORTS

- A. Approval for payment of invoices submitted by Garan, Lucow, Miller, PC for legal services in the amount of \$15,388.63

CM-01-25-2025

Motion by Whitehead, seconded by Edgar, CARRIED, to approve payment of invoices submitted by Garan, Lucow, Miller, PC for legal services in the amount of \$15,388.63.

Roll Call Vote:	Yes:	McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
	No:	None
	Absent:	Radner

9. CITY MANAGER

- A. Discussion of finalists for City Council vacancy.

City Manager Tungate presented the following candidate finalists that city council selected to be interviewed for the city council vacancy. These candidates will be interviewed at a Special Council Meeting on January 29, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.:

Juanita Bell
Stephanie Crawford
Larmender Davis
JoElla Dean

Marc Shulman
Tunesia Turner

Motion by Whitehead, seconded by Edgar, CARRIED, to approve the six finalists to be interviewed for the City Council vacancy.

CM-01-26-2025

Roll Call Vote: Yes: McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
 No: None
 Absent: Radner

City Manager Tungate indicated that the Council allowed him to ask the interview questions the last time the city interviewed candidates for a vacancy and the members of council agreed to follow the same procedure for the interviews on January 29. Mr. Tungate presented the following questions that were used previously:

Questions for City Council Candidates

1. Discuss your interest in serving on the City Council and how your prior experience will help you be successful in serving the City of Oak Park.

2. What do you perceive as the three most important concerns facing the City of Oak Park.

3. What areas of Oak Park do you think present an opportunity for redevelopment and revitalization?

4. Is there an Oak Park-related issue that you would like to take on? If so, what would you like to see?

5. How do you envision Oak Park developing over the next 10 years?

6. In the past year, how many City Council meetings have you attended either in person, via Zoom or via You Tube.

Motion by Whitehead, seconded by Edgar, CARRIED, to approve the questions to be asked for the City Council candidate interviews.

CM-01-27-2025

Voice Vote: Yes: McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
 No: None
 Absent: Radner

B. Finance/Assessing

1. Request to approve compensation for the Board of Review and an additional meeting date.

CM-01-28-2025

Motion by Whitehead, seconded by Edgar, CARRIED, to approve compensation for the Board of Review and an additional meeting date.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
 No: None

Absent: Radner

The City Charter (Section 10.6) states that the rate of compensation for the Board of Review shall be established by City Council.

The City Charter (Section 10.7) states that the Board of Review shall meet on the second and fourth Monday in March for the purpose of hearing tax assessment appeals. The Assessing Department is requesting to schedule one additional date with the option to add additional dates if needed.

2. Request to approve the 2025 poverty exemption application and income guidelines.
CM-01-29-2025

Motion by Whitehead, seconded by Edgar, CARRIED, to approve the 2025 poverty exemption application and income guidelines.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
 No: None
 Absent: Radner

The Poverty Exemption Policy states the applicant's income cannot exceed 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines set forth by the US Department of Health and Human Services as established by the State Tax Commission and to be updated annually as approved by the City of Oak Park City Council.

C. City Clerk

1. Request to approve a License Agreement with the Board of County Election Commissioners for Oakland County to use the Oak Park Community Center, 14300 Oak Park Blvd. as an early voting regional site and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the city.
CM-01-30-2025

Motion by Whitehead, seconded by Edgar, CARRIED, to approve a license agreement with the Board of County Election Commissioners for Oakland County to use the Oak Park Community Center, 14300 Oak Park Blvd. as an early voting regional site and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the city.

Voice Vote: Yes: McClellan, Edgar, Whitehead
 No: None
 Absent: Radner

The Early Voting Facility License Agreement provides for the Board of County Election Commissioners for Oakland County to use the Oak Park Community Center as a regional early voting site for elections the next two years. This agreement is similar to the last license agreement that expired this past December. The early voting site services the municipalities of Oak Park, Huntington Woods, Berkley, and Pleasant Ridge for the 9 days of mandated early voting for all elections.

D. Elevate Oak Park

City Manager Tungate indicated that the "Event Hub" project is scheduled to begin in May

2025.

10. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

1. Ken Sherman, 23840 Jerome, asked about public input for the council interviews and what the city will be doing to assist the businesses in Oak Park during the entrance ramp closures along I-696.

11. CALL TO THE COUNCIL

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor McClellan adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

T. Edwin Norris, City Clerk