



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

August 24, 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 Councilmember Stanton at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance:

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

Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Cummins, Zoning Director Moore, Attorney Witte and Clerk Wolters.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Holly Anderson opened by highlighting City Manager Ryan Cummins's report on civic engagement and an article titled *"Democracy Is a Skill We May Be Forgetting."* She said the article thoughtfully describes how people may be becoming less connected with neighbors and local community life while engaging more online, which can encourage division and weaken public trust. Anderson noted that local government increasingly depends on a small, recurring group of volunteers and faces difficulty recruiting future leaders. She encouraged residents to seek broader perspectives, avoid divisive or "snarky" social-media exchanges, engage in constructive dialogue, and volunteer for local events, boards, and commissions.

City Manager Comments:

City Manager Ryan Cummins provided updates on several city priorities. He said staff are evaluating deer-management options, including the USDA and a private culling firm, with the private firm potentially available as early as winter; he expects to bring Council a high-level plan at a September workshop. Cummins reported that Maple Street construction is progressing well, with water-valve work tentatively planned for October 19–20—and October 24–25 as a backup—to minimize conflicts with local events and complete any boil-water advisories before Halloween weekend. He also announced a Park Street open house on September 1, from 4–7 p.m. at the Mount Baldhead pavilion, where residents can review and comment on pedestrian and non-motorized improvement concepts.

Agenda Changes: None.

Guest Speakers: None.