

**Regular** Council Meeting of the City of Melvindale was held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nicole M. Shkira and roll call was taken:

PRESENT COUNCIL MEMBERS: Jackson, Rauser, Frederick, Cartrette

**ALSO PRESENT:** Diana Zarazua, City Clerk; Richard S. Ortiz, City Administrator/Finance Director; Lawrence J. Coogan, Corporation Counsel; Robert Kennaley, Chief of Police; Laura Ridenour, Deputy Fire Chief; John Resac, Inspector Building Department; Larrie Ordus, DPW Director; Sandy Law, Senior Center

Councilman Saleim Abuali was absent and excused.

Councilman Stan Filipowski was absent.

**24-04-200** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes dated April 3, 2024.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-201** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to remove from table the nomination of Stacy Bazman, to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), new term expires November 17, 2027.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-202** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to confirm the nomination of Stacy Bazman, to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), new term expires November 17, 2027.

Yeas: Jackson, Frederick

Nays: Rauser, Cartrette

Motion Fails

**24-04-203** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to remove from table the nomination of Ken Winkles, to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), November 17, 2027.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-204** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to confirm the nomination of Ken Winkles, to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), November 17, 2027.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-205** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to remove from table the nomination of Angelo Gargarello to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), new term expires November 21, 2029.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-206** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to confirm the nomination of Angello Gargarello to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), new term expires November 21, 2029.

Yeas: None

Nays: Jackson, Rauser, Frederick, Cartrette

Motion Fails

**24-04-207** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to remove from table the nomination of Autumn Rhea Smith, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, new term expires November 18, 2026.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-208** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to confirm the nomination of Autumn Rhea Smith, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, new term expires November 18, 2026.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-209** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to remove from table the nomination of Dave Asseel, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, to fill the unexpired term of Herbert Parsons, unexpired term expires November 19, 2025.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-210** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to confirm the nomination of Dave Asseel, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, to fill the unexpired term of Herbert Parsons, unexpired term expires November 19, 2025.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-211** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to remove from table the nomination of Martha Carl, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, to fill the unexpired term of Vickie Fitzgerald, unexpired term expires November 20, 2024.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-212** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to confirm the nomination of Martha Carl, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, to fill the unexpired term of Vickie Fitzgerald, unexpired term expires November 20, 2024.

Passed Unanimously

Audience Participation

**24-04-213** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to close the Regular Council meeting at 8:21 p.m. for the Public Hearing regarding the CDBG – DR (Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery) Grant Application

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-214** Moved by Jackson and supported by Cartrette, to open the Public Hearing at 8:21 p.m. regarding the CDBG – DR (Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery) Grant Application and further 3 calls were made for public comment.

Comments:

Angelo Gargarello –  
Bill Colovos – 12595 Sherry Lane, Southgate, MI 48195  
John Resac – City of Melvindale Building Inspector

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-215** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to close the Public Hearing at 8:35 p.m. for the CDBG – DR (Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery) Grant Application and further 3 calls were offered for public comment.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-216** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-217** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to close the Regular Council meeting at 8:36 p.m. for the Public Hearing regarding the 2025 SRF Project Plan (Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Plan).

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-218** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to open the Public Hearing at 8:37 p.m. regarding the 2025 SRF Project Plan (Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Plan), 3 (three) calls were offered for public comment.

Comments:

Angello Gargarello  
Mayor Nicole Shkira  
Mike Hachem

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-219** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to close the Public Hearing at 8:50 p.m. regarding the 2025 SRF Project Plan (Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Plan).

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-220** Moved by Jackson and supported by Cartrette, to open the Regular Council meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-221** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to approve the CDBG – DR (Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery) Grant Application as presented.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MELVINDALE COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DISASTER RECOVERY (CDBG-DR) GRANT  
APPLICATION AND DESIGNATING AN AUTHORIZED PROJECT  
REPRESENTATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Strategic Fund has invited Units of General Local Government to apply for its Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Funding Round; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Melvindale desires to request \$2,565,805.00 in CDBG-DR funds to complete a Sanitary Sewer Cured-In-Place Lining Program to improve its wastewater collection system; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed project is consistent with the local Community Development Plan

described in the Application; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Melvindale hereby designates the Mayor as the Environmental Review Certifying Officer, the person authorized to certify the Michigan CDBG-DR Application, the person authorized to sign the Grant Agreement and payment requests, and the person authorized to execute any additional documents required to carry out and complete the grant.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-222** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to approve the 2025 SRF Project Plan (Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Plan) as presented.

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2025 MELVINDALE CWSRF AND DWSRF PROJECT PLAN FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGNATING AN AUTHORIZED PROJECT REPRESENTATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Melvindale recognizes the need to make improvements to its existing drinking water distribution system and wastewater collection system; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Melvindale authorized Hennessey Engineers to prepare a Project Plan for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Programs, which recommends the construction of the following projects: Lead Service Line Replacement Program, Watermain Replacement and Looping Program (Oakwood, Wabash, Downing, Margaret, Blanche, Palmer), and the Sanitary Sewer Cleaning Televising and Lining Program.

**WHEREAS**, said Project Plan was presented at a Public Hearing held on April 17, 2024 and all public comments have been considered and addressed;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Melvindale formally adopts said Project Plan and agrees to implement the selected alternatives for the Lead Service Replacement Program, Watermain Replacement Program, and the Sanitary Sewer Cleaning Televising and Lining Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director of Public Services, a position currently held by Mr. Larrie Ordus, is designated as the authorized representative for all activities associated with the project referenced above, including the submittal of said Project Plan as the first step in applying to the State of Michigan for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan to assist in the implementation of the selected alternatives.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-223** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to concur with Public Safety resolution P.S. 24.04.03 regarding department increase in manpower.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-224** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to concur with Robert Kennaley, Chief of Police regarding Directive 038 – Awards.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-225** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to approve the purchase of 2023 Chevrolet for Robert Kennaley, Chief of Police, in the amount of \$29,515.00 (twenty nine thousand five hundred fifteen dollars) from Dix Auto Sale, LLC, 18745 Dix Rd., Melvindale, MI 48122.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-226** Moved by Rauser and supported by Cartrette, to approve the payout for Alan Lang in the amount of \$1,840.03 (one thousand eight hundred forty and three cents).

Alan Lang Retirement Payout

Retirement Date: 04/09/2024 Unused Sick Time: 8 Hours

Unused Comp Time: 1.38 Hours

Accrued Vacation: 66 Hours

TOTAL HOURS: 75.38 Hours

75.38 Hours @ \$24.41 = **\$1,840.03**

**GRAND TOTAL: \$1,840.03**

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-227** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to enter into closed session at 9:27 p.m. regarding contractual negotiations, Public Safety Resolution 24.04.06 Nick Martinez – Deputy Chief Position, and Deputy Chief Salary.

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Passed Unanimously

**24-04-228** Moved by Jackson and supported by Cartrette, to reconvene the Regular Council meeting at 11:25 p.m.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-229** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to adopt the 2025 presentation by Stephen Saph regarding liability coverage for the City of Melvindale in the amount of \$590,962.00 (five hundred ninety thousand nine hundred sixty-two dollars).

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-230** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to waive the 7-day waiting period for resolution #24-04-229.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-231** Moved by Jackson and supported by Cartrette, to approve the annual base rate of \$85,044.77 (eighty-five thousand forty-four dollar and seventy-seven cents), for Deputy Chief Nick Martinez, and further for the annual base salary to take effect on April 21, 2024.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-232** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to concur with Public Safety resolution 24.04.06 regarding the Deputy Chief Position.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-233** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to approve the AGREEMENT between THE CHARTER COUNTY OF WAYNE and THE CITY OF MELVINDALE for Improvements to LANKFORD PARK FY 2023-2024 and further that Mayor Nicole M. Shkira is authorized to sign the agreement.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-234** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to receive and place on file the March 2024 Treasurer's report.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-235** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to instruct Lawrence J. Coogan, Corporation Counsel to draft an Ordinance that prohibits a non-city officials and non-city employees from attending private city business meetings.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-236** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to table the appointment of Mary Glowe to the Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Suann Scott, unexpired term expires November 19, 2025.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-237** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to rename B – Street to Martin H. Solis, Jr. Street.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-238** Moved by Rauser and supported by Jackson, to receive and place on file the invoice and cover sheet and to authorize the payment of invoices totaling \$232,930.55 and the electronic transfers totaling \$322,640.32.

Passed Unanimously

**24-04-239** Moved by Jackson and supported by Rauser, to adjourn at 11:55 p.m., no objections, so ordered.

Passed Unanimously

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Mayor Nicole Shkira

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Diana Zarazua, City Clerk