



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 23, 2025

Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd, Romulus, MI 48174

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem, John Barden.

Roll Call

Present: Kathy Abdo, John Barden, Harry Crout, David Jones, Celeste Roscoe, Tina Talley

Absent / Excused: William Wadsworth

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

Robert McCraight, Mayor
Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk
Stacy Paige, Treasurer

Administrative Staff in Attendance:

S. Hitchcock, City Attorney; J. Wojtylko, Chief of Staff; D. Hockenhull, Dep. Clerk; J. Albert, Assessor;
J. Kemp, Bldg. Director; C. Maise, City Planner; J. Frayer, DDA Director; M. Farris, Finance Director; G. Harris,
Dep. Finance Director; R. Pfannes, Chief of Police; K. Chapman, Fire Chief.

Also present: State Representatives Dylan Wegela and Reggie Miller.

1. Agenda

- A. Moved by **Crout**, seconded by **Jones**, for approval of the Regular Council Meeting Agenda.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. Minutes

- A. **Res. 25-170** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley** for Approval of Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, June 9, 2025, at 7:30 p.m..

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. **Res. 25-171** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Harry Crout** for Approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting - Study Session held on Monday, June 9, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. to discuss the 2017 CIP Bond Refunding.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley,

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

3. Petitioner

- A. **Res. 25-172** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe** to approve and authorize a no-fee permit for Petitioners Joe and Jennifer Maddison for a Block Party Event scheduled on Friday, July 4, 2025, from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM. This includes the following street closures: Hearst Ave. at Dexter St. to the property line of 6225 Chamberlain; Horace Jackson/Dexter St. at Martin Place to the property line of 6358 Dexter St.; and Martin Place from the north property line of 6301 Dexter to 6304 Dexter with access granted for emergency vehicles for the stated event.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. Res. 25-173** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Harry Crout**, to approve the recommendation to grant a no-fee permit to Kerrie and James Machcinski for their Block Party event scheduled for Saturday, July 12, 2025, from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM. This includes the closure of Hillsbriar Drive at the intersections of Grande Drive and Eastwind Street, ensuring a 10-foot clearance for emergency vehicles along the entire length of the street closure.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- C. Res. 25-174** Moved by **Roscoe**, seconded by **Abdo**, to approve the first reading of the request for RZ-2022-001; Wayne Lux Estate (Beverly/Wayne Road) to rezone 2.73 acres of property, parcel DP# 80-017-0025-000 from R-1B, Single-Family Residential District to RM, Low-Rise Multiple-Family Residential District.

- A resident addressed the city council in opposition to the development.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

4. Chairperson's Report, John Barden, Mayor Pro-Tem

- Mayor Pro Tem, Barden expressed gratitude for the cards and get-well messages he received during his absence. He also thanked Councilwoman Talley for chairing the meetings in his place.
- State Representatives Dylan Wegela and Reggie Miller delivered a tribute to D'Sjonaun Hockenhull for receiving the "MAMC 2025 Deputy Clerk of the Year" award.

Res. 25-175 Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo**, to adopt a resolution recognizing and acknowledging D'Sjonaun Hockenhull as the recipient of the 2025 MAMC Deputy Clerk of the Year.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- A.** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to accept the Chairperson's Report.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

5. Mayor's Report – Robert A. McCraight, Mayor

- Mayor McCraight asked the attorney handling the lawsuit against Wayne Disposal Inc., which operates the landfill dumpsite, to give an update on the radioactive waste issue. The lawsuit was filed in September 2024 in Wayne County Circuit Court.
- Additionally, the Mayor announced a public hearing scheduled for Thursday, June 26, at 6:00 PM at Wayne County Community College. The meeting will focus on the landfill and radioactive waste dumpsite. He encouraged everyone who can to attend.
- Vanessa Toliver announced upcoming community events through a video presentation.

- A. Res. 25-176** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to approve and concur with the administration in authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of the 2025 Refunding Bonds.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. **Res. 25-177** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo**, to approve and concur with the administration and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a Professional Services Agreement for Planning Consulting Services Master Plan Update with Carlisle Wortman Associates, Inc.

- Mayor McCraight asked Attorney Pat McGowen to explain the resolution regarding the 2025 Refunding Bonds and to answer any questions the council may have.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- C. **Res. 25-178** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Harry Crout** to approve and concur with the administration to authorize a no-fee permit for all Pumpkin Festival and Parade of Lights activities during the Pumpkin Festival weekend of September 19 through September 21, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Res. 25-179 Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to approve and concur with the administration to authorize the closure of Hunt Street between Goddard Road and Bibbins Street, beginning at 12:00 pm on Friday, September 19, 2025, and ending on Sunday, September 21, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. for the primary midway of the Pumpkin Festival festivities.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Res. 25-180 Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to approve and concur with the administration to authorize the closure of Goddard Road from Gabriel Street to east of the Post Office driveway on Saturday, September 20, 2025, beginning at 8:00 a.m., and reopening at 8:00 p.m. for the Pumpkin Festival Car Show and Pumpkin Chuckin competition.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Res. 25-181 Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to approve and concur with the administration to authorize the closure of Goddard Road from Moore Street to east of the Post Office driveway on Sunday, September 21, 2025, beginning at 8:00 a.m. and reopening at 8:00 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- D. **Res. 25-182** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Harry Crout** to approve and concur with the administration to approve Change Order #3 for RFP 24/25-02 regarding the Goddard Park Plaza Improvements to extend additional work in the Goddard Park Plaza (Eagle Alley) at a total cost of \$12,438.80.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- E. **Res. # 25-183** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **David Jones** to approve and concur with the administration and consent to the Piggyback on GSA Contract #GL-07F-173 CA - Actron Security Alarm Systems, Inc. - Purchase and Installation of Video Conferencing Equipment at the Chambers Building for a total cost of \$15,333.60, which will include a three (3) year warranty on hardware and a one (1) year warranty on labor.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley
Nays - None
Motion Carried Unanimously

- F. **Res. 25-184** Moved by **David Jones**, seconded by **Celeste Roscoe**, to approve and concur with the administration and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a three -year Inter-Governmental Agreement with Romulus Community School District for one School Resource Officer, commencing on June 28, 2025, ending June 30, 2028.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley
Nays - None
Motion Carried Unanimously

- G. **Res. 25-185** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Harry Crout**, to approve and concur with the administration and authorize the Fire Department to waive the bidding process for the purchase of one (1) Type 1 Fire Engine from R&R Fire Truck Repair, Inc. with a total apparatus cost of \$953,381.00.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley
Nays - None
Motion Carried Unanimously

- H. **Res. 25-186** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo**, to approve and concur with the administration and introduce Budget Amendment 24/25-19 to cover health insurance rate increase, dental insurance, and staffing changes for FY 24/25.

FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
General Fund				
Fund Balance				
205-336-501.094	General Fund Fund Balance	\$13,964,748.83	\$97,460.00	\$13,867,288.83
Expense				
101-171-718.000	Mayor Health Ins.	\$25,350.00	\$5,000.00	\$30,350.00
101-171-719.000	Mayor Dental Ins.	\$-	\$5,700.00	\$5,700.00
101-215-718.000	Clerk Health Ins.	\$47,100.00	\$10,000.00	\$57,100.00
101-215-719.000	Clerk Dental Ins.	\$-	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
101-215-703.000	Clerk Part-time	\$-	\$4,510.00	\$4,510.00
101-253-718.000	Treasurer Health Ins.	\$75,520.00	\$11,000.00	\$86,520.00
101-253-719.000	Treasurer Dental Ins.	\$-	\$6,100.00	\$6,100.00
101-430-716.000	Animal Control Defined Contr.	\$11,710.00	\$6,500.00	\$18,210.00
101 -430-718.000	Animal Control Health Ins.	\$26,190.00	\$29,800.00	\$55,990.00
101-430-719.000	Animal Control Dental Ins.	\$-	\$4,750.00	\$4,750.00
101-431-716.000	Ordinance Defined	\$17,570.00	\$1,000.00	\$18,570.00

101-431-718.000	Contr. Ordinance Health Ins.	\$49,810.00	\$8,000.00	\$57,810.00
101-431-719.000	Ordinance Dental Ins.	\$-	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
			\$97,460.00	
<u>Library</u>				
271-000-390.000	Library Fund Balance	\$536,795.69	\$20,510.00	\$516,285.69
<u>Expenses</u>				
271-790-718.000	Library Health Ins.	\$86,110.00	\$19,600.00	\$105,710.00
271-790-719.000	Library Dental Ins.	\$4,000.00	\$850.00	\$4,850.00
271-790-721.000	Library Long-Short Term Disb.	\$1,200.00	\$60.00	\$1,260.00
			\$20,510.00	
<u>Tech Services</u>				
664-000-390.000	Tech Services Fund Balance	\$19,484.72	\$16,600.00	\$2,884.72
<u>Expenses</u>				
664-228-718.000	Tech Services Health Ins.	\$53,590.00	\$13,000.00	\$66,590.00
664-228-719.000	Tech Services Dental Ins.	\$-	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00
			\$16,600.00	

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- After the Mayor concluded his report, he expressed gratitude to the Clerk for the successful work done for the Juneteenth Community Celebration Event.

6. Clerk's Report – Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk

- The Clerk expressed sincere appreciation to everyone involved in the coordination of the 2025 Juneteenth Community Celebration. She acknowledged the dedication and hard work of the committee members and volunteers, and extended gratitude to local businesses for their generous contributions and donations. Special thanks were given to Blocks for donating fresh produce, as well as the APA and the Rotary Club for their participation, all of which contributed to the event's success.
- A. **Res. 25-187** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **David Jones**, to approve the Second Reading and Final Adoption of amendments to Chapter 36, adding Section 36-325, Offenses Involving Unmanned Aircraft, to the City of Romulus Code of Ordinances. This amendment was introduced at the 6/9/25 Regular Council Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. Res. 25-188** Moved by **David Jones**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to approve and concur with the recommendation of the Romulus Election Commission and adopt the Resolution Establishing Romulus High School as the Temporary Polling location for precincts 5&6 (consolidated), 7, & 10, for the August 5, 2025, Special School Election pursuant to MCL 168.662(6).

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- C. Res. 25-189** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to approve the Second Reading and Final Adoption of a proposed Zoning Map Amendment (rezoning) to Lots 6-12 from C-2, General business to C-3, Highway Service and Lots 13-30 from R-1B, Single Family Residential to C-3, Highway Service to redevelop the current party store property to a retail plaza with vehicle fuel pumps. (RZ-2024-002; Super Y Plaza (7130 Middlebelt). This amendment was introduced at the 4/28/2025 Regular Council Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- D. Res. 25-190** Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Tina Talley**, to approve the Public Hearing Request for Monday, July 14, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. to hear comments and/or objections to the Application for commercial Facilities Exemption Certificate filed by Detroit Airport hotel Limited Partnership III pursuant to MCL 207.656.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- E. Notice of Determination of Water & Sewer Rates and Fees changes**

The determination of the administration shall take effect ten (10 days following the date of the meeting in which the City Council was presented with official notice of such determination, unless rejected by a 2/3 majority vote of the City Council. Pursuant to Ch 62, Article V, Sections 62-405 and 62-506 of the Romulus Code of Ordinance. **No action taken by the City Council.**

7. Treasurer's Report – Stacy Paige, Treasurer

- The City Treasurer reminded the public that the 2025 Summer Tax Bills were scheduled to be mailed on July 1, 2025, with a payment due date of September 30, 2025.

8. Public Comment -

- A resident shared an update on her 1st "Vendor and Craft Show" held on Sunday, June 1st. She reported the event was a success, allowing her to donate \$200 each to the Animal Shelter, the Blessing Box, and Grindline Special Events. She also noted that approximately 95% of the vendors were Romulus residents and stated her intent to request a permit to host the event again on the first Sunday in June next year.

9. Unfinished Business

- Councilwoman Talley inquired about setting up a study session to discuss and complete the council vacancy process.
- The Clerk further recognized and thanked Vanessa Toliver, a Juneteenth Committee member, for her efforts in coordinating more than 35 vendors for the celebration.

10. New Business

11. Warrant

- A. **Res. 25-191** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Harry Crout**, to approve Warrant #25-12 for checks presented in the amount of \$2,235,371.77.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

12. Communication

- Councilwoman Talley commended recent community events, including the Flag Day celebration, Music in the Park, and the kickball event hosted by St. John's Lodge.
- The Clerk announced that absentee ballots for the August 5, 2025, Special Election would be mailed on Thursday, June 26, 2025.

13. Adjournment

Moved by **Celeste Roscoe**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo**, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Crout, Jones, Roscoe, Talley

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on June 23, 2025.



Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan