



Agenda: Battle Creek City Commission

Meeting Date: July 21, 2026 - 7:00 PM
Location: City Commission Chambers
Chair: Mayor Mark A. Behnke
Title: Battle Creek City Hall - City Commission Chambers - 3rd Floor

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PROCLAMATIONS AWARDS

Beautiful Battle Creek Awards for July 2026

Random Act of Kindness Certificate - Michele Vogel

CHAIR NOTES ADDED OR DELETED RESOLUTIONS

PETITIONS COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ANY REMAINING AGENDA ITEMS

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

#16-2026 - A Proposed Ordinance, #16-2026, to amend Chapter 298 of the Battle Creek Code of Ordinances to establish an Administrative Hearings Bureau.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES

426 - A Resolution adopting Ordinance 14-2026 to amend Chapter 1240 Zoning Districts and Map, Chapter 1241 Schedule of Regulations, and Chapter 1250, Section 1250.04 Form-based development standards for T-3, T-4, and T-5 of the zoning code to add a T-6 zoning district that will encompass part of the Lakeview District; specifically, those properties that are currently zoned B-2 and make minor corrections to each Chapter. The new district will include regulations that reflect the recommendations of the Lakeview District Subplan to create a mixed-use walkable district.

427 - A Resolution adopting Ordinance 15-2026 to rezone 84 parcels located along the Beckley Road Corridor from B-2 Regional Commercial District to T-6 Lakeview Business District.

COMMISSION COMMENT REGARDING MEETING BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

Minutes for the July 7, 2026 City Commission Regular Meeting

Petitions, Communications, Reports

City Manager's Report for July 21, 2026

Review Committee Meeting Minutes for July 14, 2026

Resolutions

428 - A Resolution reappointing Kara Beer to the Battle Creek Downtown Development Authority.

429 - A Resolution reappointing Marcie Gillette as a member to the Battle Creek Housing Commission.

430 - A Resolution reappointing Mark Stephens and Clare Tanner to the Community Oversight Board.

431 - A Resolution appointing Loraine Smith as the Dangerous Building Hearings Officer.

432 - A Resolution reappointing Mark Stephens to the Sustainable Battle Creek Committee.

433 - A Resolution appointing Grace Hernandez to the Post Franklin Neighborhood Planning Council #1.

434 - A Resolution appointing Rochelle Hatcher to North Central Neighborhood Planning Council #2

435 - A Resolution seeking approval for the City of Battle Creek to participate in the funding of the FY 2027 local share cost of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study.

436 - A Resolution seeking approval to distribute the proposed Housing Strategy Subplan of the Master Plan for review and comment, pursuant to the Municipal Planning Act (PA 33 of 2008). Upon approval to distribute, the Planning and Zoning staff will send notices to contiguous municipalities and townships, county and regional planning commissions, and utility and railroad companies.

RESOLUTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONSENT AGENDA

437 - A Resolution Amending Water and Sewer System Rates for Certain Non-City Customers for FY2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

(Limited to three minutes per individual)

COMMISSION COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

It is the desire of the City Commission to encourage public expression in the course of its meetings. Such expression can be integral to the decision-making process of the City Commission. It is the intention of the City Commission to respect the rights of persons addressing the Commission. Public comment periods are a time for citizens to make comments; they are not intended as a forum for debate or to engage in question-answer dialogues with the Commission or staff. Commissioners are encouraged not to directly respond to speakers during public comment periods. At the conclusion of the speaker's remarks, the Mayor or individual Commissioners may refer a question to City staff, if appropriate. Also, individual Commissioners may choose to respond to speakers during the "Commission Comment" period.

It is with these aims in mind, so as to promote decorum and civility and an orderly process for conducting its public business meetings, that the following rules concerning public comments, consistent with applicable law, are adopted by the City Commission.

(1) Persons attending a regular or special Commission Meeting shall be permitted to address the City Commission in conformity with this rule. The opportunity to address the Commission shall be limited to the following:

(a) Persons desiring to address the City Commission are encouraged, but shall not be required, to fill out and turn in to either the City Clerk, Mayor, or presiding Commissioner, prior to the meeting, a comment card disclosing the following information: The person's name, address, and telephone number; the specific issue, topic or resolution the individual wishes to address.

(b) During public hearings when scheduled, but only when the law requires a separate period of public comment, speakers may present facts and opinions on the specific matter being heard by the Commission. A three-minute time limit is imposed per speaker. In the discretion of the Mayor or presiding officer, the time limit for individual speakers may be lengthened or shortened when appropriate.

(c) During the public comment period on any specific agenda item, whether it be a public hearing, an ordinance introduction or adoption, a consent agenda item, or a resolution not on the consent agenda, each speaker may address the Commission once, regarding anything on the meeting agenda, for a total not to exceed four minutes regardless of how many agenda items the speaker is addressing, which time period may be lengthened or shortened by the Mayor or presiding officer when appropriate.

(d) During the General Public Comment portion of the meeting, speakers may address the City Commission on any matter within the control and jurisdiction of the City of Battle Creek. A speaker shall be permitted to address the City Commission once, for up to three minutes, during this portion of the meeting.

(e) Applicants or Appellants, as defined below, or an attorney retained to represent them, are not bound by the specific time limitations set out above but may have the amount of time deemed reasonably necessary by the Mayor or presiding official to present their case to the City Commission without violating the rules set out below in subsection 4(a) through (g), with which they are obligated to comply.

(i) Applicant is defined an individual or business entity seeking a City Commission final decision on a matter for which the individual has made application to the City

based upon a specific provision in a City Ordinance or state statute for permission to take a specific action;

(ii) Appellant is an individual appealing a decision of a City official or an inferior body based upon a specific provision in City ordinances entitling the individual to appeal the decision to the City Commission.

(2) An individual wishing to address the City Commission shall wait to be recognized by the Mayor or presiding Commissioner before speaking. An individual who has not filled out a card requesting to address the City Commission shall raise their hand and wait to be recognized by the Mayor or presiding Commissioner before speaking and shall identify themselves by name and address and, if appropriate, group affiliation for the record.

(3) Speakers shall address all remarks to the Mayor, or the presiding Commissioner or official, and not to individual Commissioners or staff members. Speakers shall not address their remarks to members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

(4) A speaker will be ruled out-of-order by the Mayor or presiding Commissioner and the Commission will continue with its business, and the speaker may be required to leave the meeting after having been ruled out-of-order for a breach of the peace committed at the meeting as permitted by the OMA, when the speaker violates above sub-section 3 or the following:

(a) Becomes repetitive or speaks longer than the allotted time;

(b) Attempts to yield any unused portion of time to other speakers;

(c) Engages in a personal attack upon a city employee, administrator or Commissioner only if the personal attack is totally unrelated to the manner in which the employee, administrator or Commissioner carries out their public duties or office;

(d) Uses obscene or profane language;

(e) Engages in slanderous or defamatory speech;

(f) Uses derogatory racial, sexual or ethnic slurs or epithets relating to any individual or category of persons; or

(g) Engages in conduct that interrupts or disrupts the meeting.

(5) Individuals attending City Commission meetings or workshops, excluding City staff, shall not pass the commission chambers bar upon which the podium is affixed (and which divides the audience section from the well of the chambers) without having been invited to do so by the Mayor or official presiding over the meeting, or after requesting and explicitly being granted permission to do so. Any individual violating this subsection will be ruled out-of-order by the Mayor or presiding official and the individual may be required to leave the meeting for a breach of the peace committed at the meeting as permitted by the OMA.