



City Commission Minutes
Monday, July 27, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.
151 Martin Street, Birmingham
City Commission Room 205
Vimeo Link: <https://vimeo.com/1213374050>

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Clinton Baller, Mayor, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Bingham called the roll.

Present: Mayor Clinton Baller, Temporary Mayor Pro Tem Therese Longe, Commissioner Andrew Haig, Commissioner Brad Host (arrived 7:02 p.m.), Commissioner Kevin Kozlowski, Commissioner William Kolb

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Ecker; Assistant City Engineer Akram, City Planner Aldred-Arens, Ice Arena Manager Anderson, Birmingham Shopping District Director Bassett, Human Resources Manager Cilluffo, Assistant City Manager Clemence, City Engineer Coatta, Planning Director Dupuis, Parking Systems Manager Ford, City Attorney Gaudenzi, Deputy Treasurer Katz, Department of Public Services Director Zielinski

3. PROCLAMATIONS, CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS, ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS, INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City Clerk's Office reminds voters that the Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Early voting is available now through Sunday, August 2, at:

- Bloomfield Township Library
- Waterford Oaks Activity Center

Absentee voting deadlines:

- By mail: Request an absentee ballot by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31.
- In person: Request an absentee ballot through 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3.

For your convenience, absentee ballot drop boxes are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at:

- Fire Station #1
- City Hall grounds

The City Clerk's Office will also be open on Saturday, August 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to assist with last-minute voter registration and absentee ballot requests.

For more information about voting and upcoming elections, visit mi.gov/vote or bhamgov.org/vote.

The Early Childhood Center at the Community House will be operated by Birmingham Public Schools.

The Community House is seeking volunteers for its Finance and Audit, Development and Communications, Facilities, Programming, and Events Committees. Interested parties may contact the Community House at BirminghamCommunityHouse@Gmail.com, or via the Mayor at CBaller@Bhamgov.org.

DPSD Zielinski introduced IAM Anderson.

4. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

David Bloom commented regarding the City's finances.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

07-192-26 Consent Agenda

MOTION: Motion by Haig, seconded by Longe:

To move the consent agenda with the exception of Item G, that has been withdrawn.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Haig, Longe, Baller, Host, Kozlowski, Kolb

Nays: None

Recused: None

- A. Resolution to approve the special City Commission meeting minutes of July 27, 2026.
- B. Resolution to approve the regular City Commission meeting minutes of July 27, 2026.
- C. Resolution to approve the warrant list, including Automated Clearing House payments, dated July 15, 2026, in the amount of \$4,126,585.95.
- D. Resolution to approve the warrant list, including Automated Clearing House payments, dated July 22, 2026, in the amount of \$5,205,579.14.
- E. Resolution to award the Sidewalk Trip Elimination Contract #3-26 (SW) to Precision Concrete Cutting, Inc. in the amount not to exceed of \$845,100.00. In addition, to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the agreement on behalf of the City contingent upon the execution of the agreement and meeting all the insurance and bond requirements by Precision Concrete Cutting, Inc.
- F. Resolution to approve a special event permit as requested by the Piety Hill Chapter, NSDAR to hold the Veterans Day 2026 Annual Wreath-Laying Ceremony on November 11, 2026 contingent upon compliance with all permit and insurance requirements and payment of all fees and, further pursuant to any minor modifications that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff at the time of the event, or event cancellation that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff, leading up to or at the time of the event.
- H. Resolution to approve the purchase of replacement SCBA equipment from MacQueen in the amount not to exceed \$346,887.00 from the Capital Projects fund #403.0-901.336-971.0100

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CM Ecker delivered the report.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

07-193-26 Stop Signs Along Wimbledon

ACE Akram, CM Ecker, Julie Kroll of Fleis and Vandenbrink, and ACM Clemence presented the item.

Commission discussion included the following:

- If the intersections are redesigned, the cost would be approximately \$1,000 per intersection.
- Speed on Wimbledon remains a concern. The optimal outcome would comply with consultants' recommendations while also providing appropriate speed mitigation measures.
- All-way Stops are not possible in option 2B.
- Once a street receives stop signs, residents of that street tend to prefer to retain them.

MOTION: Motion by Haig, seconded by Host:

To approve options 3A and 5B, with the exception that the notes on the drawings say the stop bars cannot be painted because it is cape seal. The stop bars cannot be painted because it is asphalt.

Commission discussion included the following:

- The goal is to sharpen the corners, allow more stop signs, and to maintain adequate pedestrian crossings on Wimbleton.
- It may not be necessary to reconfigure Poppleton since the area is nearly exclusively used by local residents. The stop signs should still be added.
- People cross Wimbleton at Warwick even without a formal pedestrian crossing. Consequently, the stop sign at that intersection is likely appropriate.
- The Swift-Rager household would not gain parking in front of their home with option 5E due to the intersection and the crosswalk.
- Option 5B might allow parking in front of the Swift-Rager household as long as it occurs 25 feet north of the stop bar.
- Option 5B has a three-direction stop, which reduces the likelihood of drivers ignoring the stops at that intersection altogether.
- When this intersection is redesigned, the engineers should do their best to maintain parking for the Swift-Rager household, and should re-examine the angle of the sidewalk approach as well so that pedestrians look less directly into the Swift-Rager’s front room.
- Any further thoughts about how this project might impact on the Swift-Rager household should be discussed outside of this meeting.

Public Comment

Cliff Rager and Sally Swift supported option 5E over option 5B.

Travis Bouchard commented regarding the item.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Haig, Longe, Baller, Kozlowski, Kolb

Nays: Host

Recused: None

07-194-26 Single Family Stormwater Management Standards

CP Aldred-Arens presented the item.

Commission discussion included the following:

- This proposal is a step in the right direction.

MOTION: Motion by Kolb, seconded by Host:

To adopt an ordinance to amend Part II of the City Code, Chapter 114 – Utilities, and to add Article VII. – Single Family Stormwater Management Standards in order to assist in reducing the burden of unmanaged stormwater runoff in the City of Birmingham.

Commission discussion included the following:

- Staff’s work on this item was appreciated.
- If the motion passes, congratulations to staff were in order.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Host, Haig, Longe, Baller, Kozlowski, Kolb

Nays: None

Recused: None

Sustainability Fee

PD Dupuis and PSM Ford presented the item.

Commission discussion included the following:

- If the City wants to fund its sustainability goals, this is one of the best ways to fund it. This proposal charges drivers a small fee, since drivers create more emissions than pedestrians or cyclists. It connects the responsibility to mitigate emissions to the people who generate the emissions.
- If the sustainability goals are funded via the General Fund, that puts the cost burden on all taxpayers rather than just on drivers. If the sustainability goals are funded via this sustainability fee, it spreads the cost burden amongst both taxpayer and non-taxpayer drivers that park in the downtown area.
- This is a way for non-taxpayers who drive into the City to contribute to the City's sustainability agenda, and to mitigate their contribution to the City's carbon emissions.
- Residents have easier options for avoiding the 10 cent fee than visitors if they utilize alternate modes of transportation. This means that residents have more flexibility vis-a-vis the fee.
- This is not a tax.
- There was some interest in having taxpayers fund even less of the sustainability efforts of the City. Proposals for achieving that were not raised.
- Since the Commission is interested in revaluating parking fees overall, this proposal should be considered within that context.
- It would be of interest to understand how this proposal might interact with the economics of the City, EV charging, air quality sensors, and years beyond the first year of the program.
- Matters of parking and parking capital improvement can be evaluated separately. A modest 10 cent fee would not likely interfere with any long range parking planning.
- This proposal is not an insignificant effort towards moving the City's sustainability goals forward.
- Staff deserved credit for proposing this idea.
- If one goal is to put less of the financial burden for sustainability on the residents, then it is better to fund the City's sustainability efforts via a sustainability fee than via the General Fund.
- The goal of this proposal is to generate initial funding for some environmental sustainability goals, not to resolve concerns about every kind of sustainability.
- Many other cities have implemented similar initiatives.
- This proposal does not relate to whether it is appropriate to have millions of visits a year to the City's downtown. That is a separate philosophical conversation.
- Commissioner Haig could meet with staff to determine whether some of his concerns could be addressed within the proposal.
- Alternatively, having to meet individually with a Commissioner to address specific concerns represents a burden on an already busy staff.
- Integrating some of Commissioner Haig's ideas might result in the fourth vote required to get an iteration of this proposal passed.
- Commissioner Haig agreed to meet with staff for further discussion. Commissioner Haig was encouraged to take a leadership role on this deliverable.
- The supposition that the 10 cent fee would be coming out of the Parking Enterprise Fund was raised twice. It was noted that the 10 cent fee would not be coming out of the Parking Enterprise Fund.

8. NEW BUSINESS

07-195-26 Public Hearing for Confirmation of the Roll - S. Eton Water Main Project - Water Laterals Special Assessment District Roll 923

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 8:47 p.m.

DT Katz presented the item.

Seeing no public comment, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 8:48 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Haig, seconded by Host:

To make a motion adopting a resolution confirming Special Assessment Rolls 923 as follows

WHEREAS, Special Assessment Roll, designated Roll No. 923, has been heretofore prepared for Collection; and

WHEREAS, notice was given pursuant to Section 94-7 of the City Code, to each owner or party-in-interest of property to be assessed; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has deemed it practicable to cause payment of the cost thereof to be made after the time of construction; and

WHEREAS, the Commission Resolution 07-182-26 provided it would meet this 27th day of July, 2026 for the sole purpose of reviewing the assessment roll; and

WHEREAS, at said hearing held this July 27, 2026, all those property owners or their representatives present have been given an opportunity to be heard specifically concerning costs appearing in said special assessment roll;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Special Assessment Roll No. 923 be in all things ratified and confirmed, and that the City Clerk be and is hereby instructed to endorse said roll, showing the date of confirmation thereof, and to certify said assessment roll to the City Treasurer for collection at or near the time of construction of the improvement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special assessment shall be payable in five (5) payments as provided in Section 94-10 of the Code of the City of Birmingham, with an annual interest rate of seven and three-quarters percent (7.75%) on all unpaid installments. Sidwell number, street address, and estimated water SAD costs are as tabulated on page 152 of the entire printed package.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Host, Haig, Longe, Baller, Kozlowski, Kolb

Nays: None

Recused: None

Commission Items for Future Discussion

07-196-26 Police Staffing

MOTION: Motion by Haig, seconded by Host:

To discuss adding at least one more patrol officer head to the staff and any adjustments to budget that are necessary for that.

Commission discussion included the following:

- This may be outside of the Commission’s purview and within the City Manager’s purview.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Host, Haig, Baller, Kozlowski, Kolb

Nays: Longe

Recused: None

07-197-26 Weekend Vehicular Traffic Limitations on Old Woodward

MOTION: Motion by Haig:

To look at shutting down Old Woodward to vehicular traffic on Friday and Saturday nights at, say, 10:00 p.m. through midnight to help control downtown and big Woodward a bit easier.

Commission discussion included the following:

- One Commissioner’s friend reportedly saw a long line outside of a restaurant at 11:45 p.m. on a Saturday night.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Longe, Host, Haig, Baller, Kozlowski, Kolb

Nays: None

Recused: None

07-198-26 Curfews for Teens

MOTION: Motion by Haig:

To see us do curfews for certain teen age groups.

Commission discussion included the following:

- Detroit may only do curfews for specific events.
- Detroit may do curfews on weekends.
- Curfews are a pretty serious infringement of personal liberties that should be used very cautiously.
- Feedback from the City Attorney would be necessary.
- It would be helpful to get a report on the rate of incidents with teenagers.
- Community events, ice cream shops, coffee shops are all places that are open later than teens under 18 can visit during evening hours.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Host, Haig, Kolb

Nays: Longe, Baller, Kozlowski

Recused: None

07-199-26 S. Eton Traffic Study

MOTION: Motion by Haig, seconded by Host:

To see a reworked traffic study for S. Eton to understand the impact of the Sheetz and Kroger construction projects in Royal Oak is going to be.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Host, Haig, Kolb, Baller

Nays: Longe, Kozlowski

Recused: None

07-200-26 Parking System Demand

MOTION: Motion by Host, seconded by Kolb:

To discuss the supply and demand of the current parking system.

Commission discussion included the following:

- This might be as simple as stating the figures and may not require a second step.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Kozlowski, Host, Haig, Kolb

Nays: Longe, Baller

Recused: None

Commission discussion on items from a prior meeting

Bringing Board and Committee Reviews to the City Commission

The Mayor presented the item.

Commission discussion included the following:

- Advisory boards and committees report to the Commission.
- When an advisory board or committee discusses funds in some way, that discussion should

be flagged for the Commission either via a section in the City Manager's report or a report under City staff.

- It might be appropriate to consider changing the governing ordinances regarding whether advisory boards and committees or the Commission reviews funding considerations.

9. REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

10. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Communications regarding Wimbledon
- B. Communication regarding Flock
- C. Communication regarding noise on Willits & Bates

11. REPORTS

- A. Commissioner Reports
- B. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Haig and Mayor Baller supported the City's continued exploration of Large Language Model tools to support efficiency.

Commissioner Kozlowski requested an updated timeline on the parking garage capital projects.

Commissioner Host said it could be useful to have another joint meeting with the APC to discuss parking rates and noted that there was a news report about the pool party that took place on Westchester in June.

- C. Advisory Boards, Committees, Commissions' Report
- D. Legislation
- E. City Staff
 1. Wimbledon Phase 1 Project Updates
 2. Short Term Rental Report

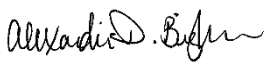
Commission discussion included the following:

- Even if the Planning Board declines to include the central business and rail districts in its public hearing on short term rentals, the Commission could choose to include those two districts in its own public hearing.

- F. Information Only

12. ADJOURN

The Commission motioned to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.



Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk



Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist