

The regular meeting of the Clare City Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers of Clare City Hall, 202 West Fifth Street, Clare, Michigan by Mayor Pat Humphrey who led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, Maegan Jenkins, and Gus Murphy. Absent: None. Also, present: Vicki Corlew, City Treasurer; Diane Lyon, City Clerk; Jeremy Howard, City Manager; and Dave Saad, Police Chief.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Bussell second by Commissioner Jenkins to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*), Agenda, Minutes, Communications, Professional Development, and Bills) that are considered routine by the City Commission. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, Maegan Jenkins, and Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Carried.*

3. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approved by Consent Agenda.

4. *APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Approved by Consent Agenda.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. SUMMERFEST FIREWORKS PERMIT

The Clare Area Chamber of Commerce plans to sponsor the annual summer fireworks show in the City on Saturday, June 27, 2026 (inclement weather date: Sunday, June 28, 2026) as part of the annual Clare Summerfest event. In order to lock in the selected date for the show, the Chamber must submit the approved permit to the fireworks vendor. The State of Michigan requires the governing body hosting fireworks displays to approve said permit for the display. The Commission has traditionally approved the permit in the past and is asked to do so again this year.

Motion by Commissioner Murphy second by Commissioner Bussell to approve the fireworks permit by adoption of Resolutions 2025-004. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, Maegan Jenkins, and Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Carried.*

8. TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer provided a report to the Commission.

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Lake Shamrock Dredging. Mechanical dredging by the city continues at the west end of the lake as time and weather permit. Savin's hydraulic dredging has been paused due to the temperature and ice formation on the lake. They have pulled the barge for the season and will be back to start work in 2026 as soon as possible, weather permitting, to hopefully complete before the March 15th through June 30th fish spawning pause occurs.

Lake Shamrock Dam Project. For the dam project, our engineering firms, GEI and Spicer, have essentially completed the design work for the new dam, emergency/auxiliary spillway, and the new walkway. GEI and Spicer are continuing to work with the city on finalizing some details, but the bid documents have been posted to the City's website. Sealed bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. There is a mandatory Pre-bid meeting for contractors interested in bidding on the project that will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall. Once the bids are received and reviewed, we will be bringing a recommendation to the City Commission for approval. The project will commence this Spring. We are still waiting on the grant agreement with FEMA and will bring that to you at a future meeting.

Storm Cleanup/Brush Chipping. After the recent storms that hit Mid-Michigan and the Clare area quite hard, DPW crews are still actively working on picking up and chipping brush that has been piled at the curb throughout the city. Due to the massive amount of tree damage, it is taking significant time to get through the entire city. Additional snow and ice storms have also delayed the process and caused issues with the chipping and buried some of the piles.

DPW Dump Truck. As you may remember, last July the City Commission approved the purchase of a new dump truck to replace a 1989 F800. As you know, these types of purchases have very long lead times. We just recently received the 2025 International Cab and Chassis from Weiland Sales. I have attached a picture of the new truck. We are now waiting for the remaining parts (dump body and underbody scraper from Truck and Trailer Specialties) to be scheduled later this year which will complete the purchase and build which will allow us to put it into service at that time.

City Wide Let Run Water Notice. The City of Clare has issued a 'Let Water Run' order effective January 26, 2026 until further notice.

11. *COMMUNICATIONS: *Approved by Consent Agenda.*
12. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: Steven Sentz announced his intent to run for Clare County Sheriff.
13. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS: Abandoned vehicles in yards, specifically 316 John Street; speeding vehicles on Wilcox Parkway; and holding meetings once a month rather than twice a month. Chief Saad will address the first two concerns, and the City Manager will consult with the attorney on the third topic due to language in the City Charter. The island on McEwan Street at the corner of Wheaton Avenue has worked out well for school crossing safety.
14. *APPROVAL OF BILLS: *Approved by Consent Agenda.*
15. *PROFESSIONAL & EDUCATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES: *Approved by Consent Agenda.*
16. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Commissioner Bonham seconded by Commissioner Murphy to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, Maegan Jenkins, and Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Nays: None. Absent: None. None. *Motion Carried.* The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Pat Humphrey, Mayor

Diane M. Lyon, City Clerk