

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 Humbrey who led with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, and Gus Murphy. Absent: None. Also present: Vicki Corlew, City Treasurer; Jeremy Howard, City Manager; Diane Lyon, City Clerk; Gabe Ambrozaitis, Airport Manager; Laurie Jackson, Deputy Clerk; Devin Martin, Administrative Assistant; Sam Eberhart, Fire Chief; Eric Isaac, Fire Fighter; Luke Potter, Director of Public Works; and Dave Saad, Police Chief.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Bussell second by Commissioner Bonham to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*) (Amended Agenda, Minutes, Department Reports, Communications, Bills, and Professional Development) that are considered routine by the City Commission. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, 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. APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR TO COMMISSIONER MAEGAN JENKINS

Commissioner Maegan Jenkins has tendered her resignation due to a change of residency. Section 5.4 of the City Charter stipulates the City Commission shall select and appoint, within 30 days, a successor to serve the balance of the term of a vacant City Commission seat.

The process and method used by the City Commission to select a successor is mute in the City Charter, thus is left to the discretion and judgement of the Commission.

The City Commission is asked to appoint a city resident who has expressed interest in serving as a successor to Commissioner Jenkins or provide guidance to the City Staff in respect to its desires in creating a pool of candidates for consideration.

Motion by Commissioner Bonham second by Commissioner Murphy to nominate Nick Loomis for appointment to the City Commission. Hearing no other nominations, Nick Loomis was appointed as City Commissioner to fill the vacancy by adoption of Resolution 2026-021. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, and Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Carried.*

A. RECOGNITION OF FORMER COMMISSIONER MAEGAN JENKINS

Maegan Jenkins has long been a highly regarded and dedicated member of the City of Clare and the Greater Clare Area community. Her steadfast commitment to the growth, advancement, and well-being of the community inspired her to seek public office, culminating in her election as a Clare City Commissioner. For the past five years, Maegan has served with distinction, continuing her legacy of service both as a valued member of the Clare Fire Department and as a compassionate paramedic with Mobile Medical Response.

Effective April 2, 2026, Maegan tendered her resignation from the City Commission following her family's relocation outside the jurisdiction of the City of Clare.

The City Commission is asked to formally acknowledge Maegan for her exceptional service, her unwavering dedication to the residents of Clare, and her many invaluable contributions as a respected community leader.

Motion by Commissioner Bussell second by Commissioner Murphy to recognize Maegan Jenkins service by adoption of Resolution 2026-020. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners

Bob Bonham, Kim Bussell, Pat Humphrey, and Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Nays: None.
Absent: None. *Motion Carried.*

8. TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was provided.

9. *DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
Approved by Consent Agenda.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Lake Shamrock Dredging. Fish spawning restrictions run from March 15 to July 1, thus, mechanical dredging by the city will continue at the west end of the lake as time and weather permit once restrictions are lifted. Savin's hydraulic dredging continues to be paused due to the temperature, ice formation on the lake, and the fish spawning restriction. Savin will be back at the beginning of July to complete the dredging when the restriction is lifted. They estimate about 4 to 6 weeks of dredging remaining and hopefully completion by mid to late August.

Lake Shamrock Dam Project. GEI and Spicer have completed the design work for the new dam, emergency/auxiliary spillway, and the new walkway. Project bids came in higher than anticipated by well over 2 million dollars. Fisher Contracting was low bid at \$8,891,895 and Anlaan Corporation was \$9,970,000. We do not have enough funding in place with the grant dollars received to fully fund both phases of the project at those costs. The engineers are completing a detailed review of the bid items to find ways to allow the city to reduce the costs by changing the scope or phases if possible. We met with the engineers on April 16th to discuss strategies moving forward for the project and possible funding sources. Fisher Contracting is reviewing the project to see if there are potential cost savings on any pieces of the project. Once the bids are fully reviewed and the numbers verified, a recommendation for approval will be brought to the City Commission. We spoke with EGLE and FEMA to locate additional grants or other funding sources and have submitted for federal budget allocations from Moolenaar and Slotkin's offices, but the odds are low that we will receive an allocation. We are still waiting to receive the grant agreement with FEMA. The EGLE permit is progressing still in a timely manner. They will be able to give us a permit for both phases of the project which we can then modify if needed, and we can only do phase one at this time (dam removal and replacement, and site prep for the auxiliary spillway).

Lake Shamrock Levels and Dam - Flooding. For the past few weeks, we have seen rising lake levels that have been easily controlled by raising and lowering of one of the gates. With the recent rainstorms we had to open two and three gates for a few days to maintain water levels. With three gates open we were able to control the level and reduce the lake levels back to normal relatively quickly. The Little Tobacco Drain is very swollen due to recent spring melts and rainfall, but so far it has not caused any major issues.

2026 PILOT Report. The annual PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) report has been completed by the Assessor for review and information.

City Commission Nominating Petitions. Reminder: The City of Clare is accepting nominating petitions for the non-partisan offices of City Commissioner (2 seats). Nominating Petitions will be accepted up to 4 p.m. on April 21, 2026. City Commissioners serve a four-year term. For additional information, contact City Clerk Diane Lyon, dlyon@cityofclare.gov, 989-424-4068. The public notice provides additional information.

11. *COMMUNICATIONS: *Approved by Consent Agenda.*

12. BUDGET WORKSHOPS: FIRST OF TWO

This is the first of two budget workshops to review the proposed 2026/2027 Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) and city budget. These workshops provide the City Commission with an opportunity to direct changes or amendments to the proposed to the CIP prior to the adoption of the budget at the scheduled June 1st City Commission meeting. The City's Planning Commission has reviewed the proposed CIP schedule included in the budget proposal and has recommended approval. Notices for the workshops and the June budget hearing are publicly posted.

13. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

13. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Some of the brick pavers in the DDA District need work because they have settled and shifted.

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, and Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Carried.* The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Pat Humphrey, Mayor

Diane Lyon, City Clerk