

September 22, 2025

Mayor Sharrard opened the regular meeting of the Gaylord City Council with a prayer by Councilmember Wilson at 7:00PM on Monday, September 22, 2025. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed the invocation. The meeting was held in the City Council Chambers, located at City Hall, 305 East Main Street, Gaylord, Michigan.

Members Present: Sharrard, Awrey, Ouellette, Wilson, Ryan, Jaques and Witt

Motion by Witt, supported by Wilson to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the September 8, 2025 meeting and accept them as presented.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Additions to Agenda: Motion by Witt, supported by Wilson to add the following items to tonight's agenda:

Agenda Item #24 – Approval of GHS Homecoming Parade and Route.

Agenda Item #25 – Approval of Employment Agreement – WWTP Superintendent.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Public Comment:

C. Buckleitner, owner of White Birch Outfitters spoke regarding his water problem in the basement of his business.

New Business:

Motion by Witt, supported by Ouellette to approve the purchase of a new generator for City Hall.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Jaques, supported by Wilson to approve the Extension of Purchase Agreement for the City Owned 18 acres for an additional 90 days.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Witt, supported by Wilson to approve the Zoning Ordinance Adoption – Second Reading.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Wilson, supported by Witt to approve the following Resolution to Adopt the Annual Exemption Option for Health Insurance:

WHEREAS, 2011 Public Act 152 (the "Act") was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor on September 24, 2011;

WHEREAS, the Act contains three options for complying with the requirements of the Act;

WHEREAS, the three options are as follows:

- 1) Section 3 - "Hard Caps" Option - limits a public employer's total annual health care costs for employees based on coverage levels, as defined in the Act;
- 2) Section 4 - "80%/20%" Option - limits a public employer's share of total annual health care costs to not more than 80%. This option requires an annual majority vote of the governing body;
- 3) Section 8 - "Exemption" Option - a local unit of government, as defined in the Act, may exempt itself from the requirements of the Act by an annual 2/3 vote of the governing body;

WHEREAS, the City of Gaylord has decided to adopt the annual Exemption option as its choice of compliance under the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Gaylord City Council of the CITY of GAYLORD elects to comply with the requirements of 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, by adopting the annual Exemption option for the medical benefit plan coverage year January, 1, 2026 through December, 31, 2026.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Witt, supported by Wilson to approve the Board Member Application appointing Petronella Feeheley to the Planning Commission

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Witt, supported by Jaques to approve the Gaylord Soccer League Request for Assistance with the Cost of Irrigation. Council approved a one-time credit of \$3000.00

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Wilson, supported by Jaques to approve the Proclamation for Domestic Abuse Awareness Month for October 2025.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Awrey, supported by Ouellette to approve the Homecoming Parade and Route on October 3, 2025. The route is the same as previous years, beginning at Otsego County Fairgrounds, commencing south on North Center Avenue to Main St, West on Main St to North Otsego Ave, north on North Otsego to Shipp St., east on Shipp St to North Center Ave, north on North Center Ave and ending at the Fairgrounds.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Motion by Ouellette, supported by Witt to approve the Employment Agreement with Greg Dowker as the new WWTP Superintendent.

Ayes: Unanimous. Motion Carried.

No other business was presented, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Jennifer Molski, City Clerk

Todd Sharrard, Mayor