

Council Meeting
Common Council
July 20, 2026

The regular meeting of the Common Council was held at 21 S. Elm Street, Zeeland, MI 49464 on Monday, July 20, 2026. Mayor VanDorp called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilmembers - Mayor VanDorp, Mayor Pro-Tern Gruppen, Lam,
Langeland, Perkins, Bult
ABSENT: Timmer

Staff Present: City Attorney Jim Donkersloot, Interim City Manager/Finance Director Kevin Plockmeyer, and City Clerk Kristi DeVerney

The Invocation was offered by Pastor Michael Schout – Grace Fellowship Orthodox Presbyterian Church.
The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Gruppen and Supported by Councilmember Lam to excuse Councilmember Timmer absence.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Councilmember Lam and Supported by Councilmember Langeland to approve the Consent Agenda.

1. Approve minutes of the City Council Work Study of July 6, 2026.
2. Approve minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of July 6, 2026.
3. Receive for information draft minutes of June 4, 2026, Planning Commission meeting.
4. Receive for information draft minutes of July 6, 2026, and July 14, 2026, Elections Commission meetings.
5. Receive for information draft minutes of July 14, 2026, Board of Public Works meeting.
6. Ratify BPW Action #26.041 – Approve Cash Disbursements and Recommended Cash Transfers.
7. Ratify BPW Action #26.042 – Approve MPPA Capacity Purchase Recommendation, Planning Year 2030/2031.
8. Ratify BPW Action #26.043 – Approve MPPA Board of Commissioners Primary and Alternate Representatives.
9. Ratify BPW Action #26.044 – Approve MMEA Board of Commissioners Primary and Alternate Representatives.
10. Ratify BPW Action #26.045 – Approve MPPA Member Authorized Representative.
11. Ratify BPW Action #26.046 – Approve FY2027 Ottawa County Community Action Agency Payment Assistance Administration Agreement.

Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Gruppen, Lam, Langeland, Perkins, Bult, Mayor VanDorp
No Vote: None
Absent: Timmer

Communications

None

Interim City Managers Report

ICM Kevin Plockmeyer reported:

Church Street Construction Project – Work continues on the project, and the contractors continue to stay on schedule. Over the past week, work included water service tie-ins, including temporary water service interruptions for City Hall and the Howard Miller Library. Additionally, crews finished the storm sewer south of Central Avenue. Next week, the focus will change as crews south of Central switch to the installation of sanitary sewer, and crews north of Central begin to install storm sewer. As a reminder, the storm sewer installation will result in significant disruption, as the depths for this piping exceed 15 feet.

Lincoln Cemetery Irrigation – As a result of the construction project through Lincoln Cemetery, we do not currently have irrigation west of the access drive. This means we are unable to sprinkle the Veterans section and the area around the flowered cross so the grass will probably look brown as we have not had rain.

Early Voting – This will begin on Saturday, July 25th and continue through Sunday, August 2nd, and will be available from 8am-4pm each day at the Howard Miller Library/Community Center.

Planning Commission Meeting – The Commission worked on the City's Master Plan update, discussed proposed revisions to its bylaws, and procedures for addressing potential conflicts.

E-Bikes – Questions about their speed, where they can travel, and what qualifies as an e-bike, moped, skateboard, etc., has become a broader topic of conversation. Other jurisdictions, our police department and other police departments, and the State are working on legislation.

Zeeland BPW Behind the Meter Generation (BTMG) Project – Work continues on the BPW's BTMG project. The City Council will continue to be informed as the project progresses.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey – Throughout the month of July, residents are invited to participate in a survey regarding our City Park system. This feedback will be incorporated into our Parks and Recreation master plan and meets the public engagement requirement per the State of Michigan. Council Members are invited to participate in the survey at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/zeeland>. So far, there has been a good response.

BPW Administrative Building Opening – The BPW customer service staff moved back to their administrative offices on July 16. Many thanks go to the Facilities and the Howard Miller Staff for their accommodation of the BPW customer service center over the last several months.

Pig Out – Despite the heat and wildfire smoke, the event was a success. Numbers were down a little due to the circumstances.

Events – July is busy with events: Zeelmania, Soundz of Summer, and Music on Main which highlight how special Zeeland is.

Action Items

26.119 JPRO Diagnostic Tool Purchase

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Gruppen and Supported by Councilmember Langeland to

approve the purchase of the JPRO Professional Diagnostic Service Kit and three-year subscription package from Noregon Systems, LLC, in the amount not to exceed \$14,794.98.

Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Gruppen, Lam, Langeland, Perkins, Bult, Mayor VanDorp
No Vote: None
Absent: Timmer

26.120 Esri Geographic Information System License Renewal

Motion was made by Councilmember Lam and Supported by Councilmember Bult to approve the three-year Esri license renewal in an amount not to exceed \$61,800, payable in annual installments of \$20,600.

Ayes: Lam, Langeland, Perkins, Bult, Mayor Pro-Tem Gruppen, Mayor VanDorp
No Vote: None
Absent: Timmer

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilmember Langeland and Supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Gruppen to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 P.M. Motion carried. All voting aye.

Mayor Richard VanDorp III

City Clerk Kristi DeVerney

MEMORANDUM OF-STUDY SESSION
Zeeland City Hall Council Chambers Monday, July 20, 2026
6:30 P.M.

Mayor VanDorp called the Study Session to order at 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilmembers - Mayor VanDorp, Mayor Pro-Tern Gruppen, Lam, Langeland, Perkins, Bult

ABSENT: Timmer

Staff Present: City Attorney Jim Donkersloot, Interim City Manager/Finance Director Kevin Plockmeyer, and City Clerk Kristi DeVerney

JPRO Diagnostic Tool Purchase

ICM Plockmeyer stated that, as part of the City's Strategic Action Plan, the Streets Department identified the purchase of a vehicle and equipment diagnostic tool as an opportunity to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the City's fleet maintenance operations.

Modern vehicles and equipment increasingly rely on electronic systems that require specialized software and equipment to accurately identify mechanical and electrical issues. The JPRO system provides broad coverage across multiple vehicle and equipment manufacturers, allowing staff to use one platform to diagnose a significant portion of the City's fleet.

The recommended package includes the JPRO Professional diagnostic software, various accessories, and the Technician as a Service (TaaS). TaaS will also provide staff with access to certified technicians who can remotely assist with diagnostic procedures and repairs.

The JPRO platform is expected to provide several operational benefits, including faster diagnosis of equipment issues, access to current repair procedures and wiring information, reduced reliance on multiple diagnostic subscriptions, and the ability to complete more diagnostic work internally. Faster and more accurate diagnosis should reduce equipment downtime, avoid unnecessary replacement of parts, and help staff determine when outside repair services are necessary.

Staff recommend selecting the three-year package. Although this option requires an additional upfront investment of \$4,169, it includes the JPRO, NextStep Repair, Fault Guidance, and Technician as a Service subscription through 2029. Purchasing the subscriptions in advance provides a total three-year savings of \$3,029 compared with purchasing the initial package and paying the standard annual renewal rates. It also protects the City from potential subscription price increases during the three-year term and provides budget certainty for the Streets Department. After the prepaid term expires, the current annual renewal rate is \$3,599.

Recommendation is to have City Council approve the purchase of the JPRO Professional Diagnostic Service Kit and three-year subscription package from Noregon Systems, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$14,794.98.

Esri Geographic Information System License Renewal

ICM Plockmeyer noted the City of Zeeland and Zeeland Board of Public Works (Zeeland BPW) use Esri's ArcGIS platform to manage and map electric, water, sanitary sewer, stormwater, and other infrastructure information.

Esri is considered a sole-source provider because the City of Zeeland and Zeeland BPW have developed numerous maps, applications, datasets, and operational processes within the ArcGIS environment. Replacing the platform would require significant migration, redevelopment, and retraining.

Esri has proposed a three-year enterprise agreement at \$20,600 per year, for a total cost of \$61,800.

The annual cost of \$20,600 has already been included in the approved budgets for each year of the three-year agreement. This cost is budgeted under Information Technology as a shared cost between the City of Zeeland and Zeeland BPW.

Recommendation is to have City Council approve the three-year Esri license renewal in an amount not to exceed \$61,800, payable in annual installments of \$20,600.

Renewal will maintain uninterrupted access to the City of Zeeland and Zeeland BPW GIS environment, preserve existing investments in data and applications, and support continued use and expansion of GIS services across the organization.

2026 Strategic Action Plan Update

ICM Plockmeyer updated Council that each year City Council adopts a Strategic Action plan that serves as a roadmap for directing staff time, resources and attention toward the priorities established by City Council. This year's plan includes 22 organizational goals and 38 departmental supports. The goals and supports were assigned a combined total of 100 points for purposes of the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Performance Incentive Program.

Staff noted that the Purchasing Policy line item was a duplicate on the plan list and asked the Council to consider reassigning the 1 point to succession planning goal.

Implementation is progressing well on the 2026 Strategic Action Plan and several items have already been completed.

There being no further items to discuss, Work Study was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Kristi DeVerney, City Clerk