

IMLAY CITY COMMISSION
150 N. MAIN STREET
IMLAY CITY, MI 48444

REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026
7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barbara Yockey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Yockey led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Barbara Yockey, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Tanis, Commissioner Tom Blount, Commissioner Stu Davis, Commissioner Joe DeLuca, Commissioner Al Ramirez, Commissioner Luke Stempien

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Craig Horton, Interim Police Chief Charles Rushton, DDA Director Chuck Bennett, Attorney Audrey J Forbush, Clerk/Treasurer Dawn Sawicki-Franz and Public

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Blount seconded by Tanis to approve the agenda as amended to add **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS B. NIA APPLICATION DISCUSSION**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Davis seconded by Blount to approve the consent agenda to include:

- A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** January 06, 2026 – City Commission Regular Meeting
- B. OTHER MINUTES** December 22, 2025 – Downtown Development Authority Special Meeting
- C. PAYMENT OF THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF:** General Fund Checking \$ 456,061.54
Tax Account \$ 97,398.84
HRA Account \$ 520.58

Total \$ 553,980.96

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Davis, Blount, Tanis, Stempien, Ramirez, DeLuca, Yockey

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR

One member of the public spoke.

7. GUEST SPEAKERS – AS NEEDED

None

8. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT – AS NEEDED

None

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9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. CITY OWNED PROPERTIES

1. COMMUNITY CENTER

DDA Director Bennett updated the Commission and public on the progress at the new Community Center and advised that a meeting was recently held with many of the City Department Heads to plan options for finishing and for marketing the Community Center in the near future with the possibility of naming rights for a predetermined amount of donation as well as the possibility of a donor board with levels of giving. Bennett continued explaining that DPW Superintendent Priehs and his team would be able to assist with installing a limestone parking lot at an estimate of \$68,000.00 instead of the \$425,000.00 that would be the cost for blacktop, and some of the landscaping that is necessary with the elevation challenges. Bennett stated that the cost so far into this building project is \$186,000.00 of the \$200,000.00 planned with several items still needed to bring this to fruition as the bathrooms are not done and the interior walls of steel and drywall need finished. Bennett asked the Commission if they would be able to commit an additional \$25,000.00 if the Downtown Development Authority would commit and additional \$25,000.00.

MOTION by Davis to commit \$25,000.00 additional fund if the DDA is willing to do so also.

MOTION DIES WITH NO SUPPORT

Commissioner DeLuca asked that a detailed list of needed items be brought back to the next Commission meeting in order to justify the additional \$25,000.00 and DDA Director Bennett agreed to do this.

B. NIA APPLICATION DISCUSSION

Mayor Yockey reported that only one application had been received prior to this Commission meeting for the NIA Board positions available and therefore we should extend the deadline to review the applications. One other option to look at, is placing the Imlay City Planning Commission Board as the Board for the NIA. We will review the applications for the NIA Board at the February 17, 2026 Commission Meeting.

NO MOTION, INFORMATIONAL ONLY

10. NEW BUSINESS

None

11. CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR

One member of the public spoke

12. CLOSED SESSION – AS NEEDED

MOTION by Stempien seconded by Tanis to recess into Closed Session to consider attorney/client privileged communication pursuant to section 8 of the open meetings act at 7:38 PM

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Stempien, Tanis, Blount, Davis, DeLuca, Ramirez, Yockey

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MML Attorney Audrey J Forbush shared the defense counsel's recommendations with the City Commission and then discussed.

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Mayor Yockey returned the meeting to Open Session at 8:11 PM

MOTION by Stempien seconded by Davis to accept Defense Counsel's recommendation
ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Stempien, Davis, Yockey
Nays: DeLuca, Tanis, Ramirez, Blount
Absent: None

MOTION FAILED

13. COMMISSIONER TIME

Commissioner Ramirez asked that the public time be reviewed.

Commissioner Davis spoke regarding taxes.

Commissioner DeLuca requested the public time be discussed at a future meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Tanis seconded by Stempien to adjourn at 8:15 PM

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Regular City Commission Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by:

Dawn Sawicki-Franz, City Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED: February 03, 2026