

City of Southgate

Regular City Council Meeting

May 21, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Southgate was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 in the Southgate City Hall Council Chambers and was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President Zoey Kuspa.

This meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Victoria Araj, Priscilla Ayres-Reiss, Edward Gawlik, Jr., Karen George, Christian Graziani, Zoey Kuspa, Phil Rauch

Also Present: Mayor Joseph G. Kuspa, City Attorney Edward Zelenak, City Administrator Dan Marsh, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Doug Drysdale, City Clerk Janice Ferencz, City Treasurer Chris Rollet, City Engineer John Hennessey, Police Chief Mark Mydlarz, Fire Chief Justin Graves, DPS Director Kevin Anderson, Recreation Director Julie Goddard, Building Director Tim Leach

Minutes:

Moved by Rauch, supported George, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the City Council Work Study Session dated May 7, 2025 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Araj, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting dated May 7, 2025 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Public Hearing Rate Increase Meeting dated May 7, 2025 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Public Hearing Millage Rates Meeting dated May 7, 2025 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Araj, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Public Hearing SWDD Meeting dated May 7, 2025 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Communications "A":

1. Memo from ACA/Finance Dir.; Re: Approval 2025/2026 Budget & Millage Rates moved by Rauch, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council adopt the Fiscal Year 2025/26 proposed operating budget and proposed millage rates as presented, and authorize the 1% administration fee for all taxes to be levied and collected during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Memo from ACA/Finance Dir.; Re: 2025 Poverty Exemption Guidelines and Application moved by George, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the Revised 2025 Poverty Exemption Guidelines and Application, based on guidance from the Michigan State Tax Commission. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Memo from ACA/Finance Dir.; Re: 2025-2026 SWDD User Charges moved by George, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the 2025/26 fiscal year apportionment of costs related to the operations, maintenance, and replacement of facilities constructed by the Southgate-Wyandotte Relief Drain Drainage District, in the amount of \$1,575,810.00. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Memo from ACA/Finance Dir.; Re: 2025/2026 Water & Sewer Rates moved by Rauch, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the 2025/26 proposed Water Rate at \$39.27, the proposed Sewer Rate at \$50.60, the proposed Capital Rate at \$9.45, and the Non-

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Residential User Rate at \$1.53 per 1,000 cubic feet, with the rates effective July 1, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Letter from Mayor; Re: Appointments to Library Commission moved by Gawlik, supported by Araj, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the appointment of Elizabeth Altizer and Haley Zayac to the Library Commission for a term expiring April 2028. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Letter from Mayor; Re: Appointments to EDC and Brownfield Redevelopment Corp. moved by George, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the appointment of Tony DiCarlo to the Economic Development Corp. and the Brownfield Redevelopment Corp. for a term expiring June 2031. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Memo from Administrator; Re: Amendment to MI MABAS Inter-local Agreement moved by Araj, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the 2016 amended Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MI-MABAS). Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances:

1. Memo from Administrator; Re: Second Reading of Amendment to City Code Chapter 620 Drugs Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council hereby approves to amend City Code 620 Drugs. Motion carried unanimously.

Unscheduled Persons In Audience

1. Jim Austin, Commander of the American Legion, gave details on the upcoming Memorial Ceremony.

Claims and Accounts:

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED, that Claims and Accounts be paid as outlined on Warrant #1521 for \$2,264,076.01. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of the Southgate City Council be adjourned at 7:13 P.M. Carried unanimously.

Zoey Kuspa
Council President

Janice M. Ferencz
City Clerk