

City of Southgate

Regular City Council Meeting

October 1, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Southgate was held on Wednesday, October 1, 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

Absent:

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

Moved by George, Supported by Rauch, RESOLVED, to amend the agenda to add under Communications "A": Rescind Resolution 97-25 Street Improvement Millage Renewal. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes:

Moved by George, supported Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the City Council Work Study Session dated September 17, 2025 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting dated September 17, 2025 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting dated September 17, 2025 be approved as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session:

Closed Session re: Contract Extension with Southgate Command Officers Association.

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby enters into a closed session at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Araj	Yes	
Ayres-Reiss	Yes	
Gawlik	Yes	
George	Yes	
Graziani	Yes	
Kuspa	Yes	
Rauch	Yes	
Motion Passes		7-0

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby closes the closed session at 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Araj	Yes
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Ayres-Reiss	Yes	
Gawlik	Yes	
George	Yes	
Graziani	Yes	
Kuspa	Yes	
Rauch	Yes	
Motion Passes		7-0

Scheduled Hearings:

1. Public Hearing – Demolition of 15361 Flanders moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby enters into a public hearing at 7:11 p.m. in order to entertain views and comments from interested individuals regarding the Dangerous Buildings Board's Recommendation to Demolish the Property located at 15361 Flanders. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator Marsh stated that the property was recently sold and the new homeowner will have the same 90 days from the ruling deadline.

No further questions or comments from Council or audience.

Moved by Rauch, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council adjourn the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Public Hearing – Tax Increment Finance Authority Document #10 moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby enters into a public hearing at 7:16 p.m. in order to consider revisions to the Tax Increment Finance Authority Development Plan in accordance with Public Act 57 of 2018, as amended and to hear comments from citizens, taxpayers and property owners, and officials from any affected taxing jurisdiction. Motion carried unanimously.

David Scurto, from Carlisle Wortman & Associates, summarized the details of the TIFA Document #10.

No further questions or comments from Council or audience.

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by George, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council adjourn the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Communications “A”:

1. Memo from Administrator; Re: Contract Extension with Southgate Command Officers Association moved by Araj, supported by George, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the proposed two-year Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Southgate Command Officers Association and to authorize the Mayor, City Clerk and City Administrator to sign on behalf of the City. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Memo from Administrator; Re: Demolition of 15361 Flanders moved by Araj, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council to affirm the recommendation of the Dangerous Buildings

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Board and to authorize the Administration to demolish the house located at 15361 Flanders, at the owner's expense, if it is not demolished within 90 days from August 6, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Letter from Mayor; Re: Appointment to BZA moved by George, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council appoint Alan Victory to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term expiring December 2027. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Letter from Mayor; Re: Authorize payment for Police Academy Tuition moved by Gawlik, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council authorize payment to Schoolcraft College for police academy tuition, for police applicants Austin Mexico and Jacob Chapman, in the total amount of \$13,776.93, in accordance with the 2022 Michigan Public Safety Academy Assistance Grant Program. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Memo from Administrator; Re: Municipal Complex Electrical Hub Upgrades-Waiver of Bid moved by Araj, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council waive the city bid process and approve the proposal from Riney Electric (Wyandotte, MI) for the electrical hub upgrades at the municipal complex in the amount of \$276,000.00, plus a 15% contingency in the amount of \$41,400.00, for a total of \$317,400.00 utilizing General Fund fund balance reserves. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Letter from Mayor; Re: Approve purchase of Grappler Police Bumper Kits-Waiver of Bid moved by George, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council waive the city bid process and approve the purchase of two (2) Grappler Police Bumper Kits from Stock Enterprises LLC in the amount of \$16,673.05 utilizing federal forfeiture funds. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Agenda Amendment; Re: Rescind Resolution 97-25 Street Improvement Millage Renewal moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council rescind resolution 97-25 Street Improvement Millage Renewal. Motion carried unanimously.

Unscheduled Persons In Audience

1. Adriene Price, City Council Candidate, introduced himself to the residents and city council.

Claims and Accounts:

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED, that Claims and Accounts be paid as outlined on Warrant #1530 for \$17,483,263.91. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

Moved by George, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of the Southgate City Council be adjourned at 7:30 P.M. Carried unanimously.

Zoey Kuspa
Council President

Janice M. Ferencz
City Clerk