

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FORTY-FIRST COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKLEY, MICHIGAN  
WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026 BY MAYOR DEAN**

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Steve Baker  
Councilmember Clarence Black  
Mayor Pro Tem Ross Gavin  
Councilmember Dennis Hennen  
Councilmember Gregory Patterson  
Mayor Bridget Dean

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Gary Elrod

**OTHER STAFF PRESENT:**

City Manager Crystal VanVleck  
City Attorney Lisa Hamameh  
City Clerk Victoria Mitchell  
Community Development Director Kristen Kapelanski  
Human Resources Director Jessica Stover

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Gavin moved to approve the agenda  
Seconded by Councilmember Baker  
Ayes: Black, Gavin, Hennen, Patterson, Baker and Dean  
Nays: None  
Absent: Elrod  
Motion Approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Gavin moved to approve the following Consent Agenda  
Seconded by Councilmember Black

**M-56-26:** Minutes of the 41st Regular City Council meeting on Monday, May 18, 2026.

**M-57-26:** Approval of participation in the 2026 Oakland County Local Road Improvement Program.

**P-08-26:** Approval of the LGBTQIA+ Pride Month proclamation.

**P-09-26:** Approval of the Juneteenth Celebration Day proclamation.

Ayes: Gavin, Hennen, Patterson, Baker, Black and Dean  
Nays: None  
Absent: Elrod  
Motion Approved.

***Regular Agenda***

**RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS:** Matter of receiving any recognitions or presentations from the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Patterson read the LGBTQIA+ Pride Month proclamation in its entirety.  
Councilmember Black read the Juneteenth Celebration Day proclamation in its entirety.

**M-58-26:** Approval of the Joinder Agreement to the Health Services Agreement with Marathon Health, and the Fourth Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement for On-Site Health & Wellness Center and authorize the City Manager to sign both.

Councilmember Patterson moved to approve Motion No. M-58-26

Seconded by Councilmember Black

Ayes: Hennen, Patterson, Baker, Black, Gavin and Dean

Nays: None

Absent: Elrod

Motion Approved.

**Public Hearing for the vacation of an alley covering the northerly 18 feet of lots 39-49 in the Ellwood Heights Subdivision.**

Public Hearing Opened: 7:30 PM

Comments: Community Development Director Kristen Kapelanski spoke and said she did not receive any comments via email or phone.

Public Hearing Closed: 7:31 PM

**R-10-26:** Approval of the resolution vacating an alley covering the northerly 18 feet of lots 39-49 in the Ellwood Heights Subdivision.

Councilmember Hennen moved to approve Resolution No. R-10-26

Seconded by Councilmember Patterson

Ayes: Patterson, Baker, Black, Gavin, Hennen and Dean

Nays: None

Absent: Elrod

Motion Approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**COUNCILMEMBER BAKER**

- The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) meets next on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. They're continuing to focus on the Robina Placemaking Project and the Dorothea Popup Park this summer, and they're in the implementation process of the expanded BOSS Social District as well. For more information on that and upcoming cool events, you can visit [downtownberkeley.com](http://downtownberkeley.com).
- The Berkley Historical Committee will meet on June 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - They have a new program that is off to a great start, the Landmarks and Legends scavenger hunt throughout our downtown. Several folks have already completed the scavenger hunt and received their free prize. The first clue is available at the museum and they're offering expanded hours on Saturdays from 1-5 PM for those who'd like to get their first clue. The clues will also be available at the Historical Committee's booth coming up at Art Bash, the Pride event, and Street Art Fest as well.
  - Last Wednesday, they celebrated the 100-year anniversary of Pattengill Elementary School.
  - The Committee was also a key sponsor and supporter of the late 44<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge Jamie Wittenberg Memorial Wall project.
  - For more information, visit [berkeleyhistory.com](http://berkeleyhistory.com).
- Eleanor Roosevelt said, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."
- Congratulated all the seniors graduating and all of the rising seniors.
- Please be kind to one another and hug somebody you love.

### **MAYOR PRO TEM GAVIN**

- The Berkley Area Chamber of Commerce will next meet on Tuesday, June 16th, at 5:30 PM at the library.
- The Berkley library will be moving to its summer hours after this weekend:
  - Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: 10 AM to 8 PM
  - Thursday and Friday: 10 AM to 6 PM
  - Saturday: Closed
- The next meeting of the Library Board will be June 17th at 7 PM at the library.
- There will be an ice cream social to kick off summer reading on Monday, June 15th from 6 to 8 PM, sponsored by the Friends of Berkley Public Library.

### **COUNCILMEMBER PATTERSON**

- The Zoning Board of Appeals meets next on Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup> in Council Chambers.
- The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will meet next on Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Community Center.
- Thanked the American Legion and city staff for a great memorial celebration at the gazebo and Legion Post 374.
- June is cancer survivor month. While many cancer awareness months are observed throughout the year, June is a time to focus on and celebrate those who have lived through a cancer diagnosis. Cancer has touched many in our community, our friends, our neighbors, and our families. It's a journey no one chooses, yet so many face it with remarkable courage. Tonight, I want to especially honor our survivors. Their strength, resilience, and determination inspire all of us and remind us what it means to persevere. To those still fighting, please know you're not alone. Your community stands with you. And to those who have lost someone they love, we remember them and hold them in our thoughts. This month also reminds us of the importance of early detection and regular screening efforts that save lives and create more survivors. So let us continue to support one another, uplift those impacted and carry forward hope for a healthier future.

### **COUNCILMEMBER BLACK**

- No updates.

### **COUNCILMEMBER HENNER**

- The Tree Board is working to make sure that our trees are being protected at construction sites. Many trees planted this winter didn't survive because of the harsh winter that we had; those are being inventoried and will be replaced, under warranty. They are also working on determining their upcoming public outreach events. They are now off for their summer hiatus.
- The Planning Commission meets next on Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in Council chambers.

### **CITY MANAGER VANVLECK**

- The long-awaited Bacon watermain replacement project is about to kick off. They are starting at 12 Mile and then going south from there. For anyone who wants updates, visit [Berkleymt.gov/construction](http://Berkleymt.gov/construction).

### **CITY ATTORNEY HAMAMEH**

- No updates.

### **MAYOR DEAN**

- Memorial Day was observed last Monday, the 25<sup>th</sup>; said that she attended the Memorial Day observance at Rogers Elementary.

- Stated that she finds the ceremony to be so uplifting and moving. Commended the students, the teachers, the staff, and Principal Lewis for all the work that went into bringing this ceremony to life every year.
- On Monday, they gathered at the gazebo and then at the Legion almost back-to-back to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice so that we may enjoy the freedoms that we do today. She said that she has three brothers who served, two in Vietnam, one in Iraq, and fortunately, they all made it home. Some of their friends were less fortunate.
- On Wednesday, May 27th, the 44th District Court, along with the cities of Berkley and Royal Oak and their respective historical societies, held a dedication ceremony of the Honorable Jamie L. Wittenberg Memorial Wall. Councilmembers Baker, Hennen and Elrod attended as well. Judge Wittenberg truly exemplified restorative justice. He was fair, he was considerate, he was kind. Judge Wittenberg, in his time on the bench, expanded the sobriety court program, which is integral. He also created the teen court program designed to reach at-risk youth. Let's be courageous as we move forward in our lives.
- Congratulated Public Safety Officers Matt Peasley and Parker Ladach, who graduated from the Oakland Police Academy. PSO Peasley was the class XO, which is equivalent to the class president; he delivered the XO address during the graduation ceremony and was chosen by his classmates to receive the class XO award. PSO Peasley was also honored with the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) Outstanding Performance Award. PSO Ladach and PSO Peasley graduated from the fire academy this past December. They'll now begin a week of in-house training before attending a three-week medical first responder course. After that, they begin a four-month field training officer program. Thanked them both for their dedication.
- Said that her sewer line collapsed, and she just wants everyone to know you need to get that sewer line insurance if you don't have it. Whether it's a rider on your homeowners' or there are companies that provide this, do it for the 10 bucks a month. It saved her thousands and thousands of dollars.
- Her next stop on The Mayor's Road Show is Ullman's Health and Beauty located at 2816 Coolidge Highway on Saturday from 12 to 2 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Patterson moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:46 PM

Seconded by Councilmember Baker

Ayes: Baker, Black, Gavin, Hennen, Patterson and Dean

Nays: None

Absent: Elrod

Motion Approved.

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Bridget Dean, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Victoria Mitchell, City Clerk