

CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750
Special Meeting – 11:00 A.M.
September 16, 2025 as corrected

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Pro-Tem Duweck on Tuesday September 16, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Council members in attendance; Mayor Pro-Tem Duweck, Chin, Fullerton, Rodriguez and Christensen. A quorum was met.

City staff in attendance; City Clerk LaRocque, and Manager Hillard

In the audience were staff members Finance Director Horton, Director of Public Works Whitney; WWTP Supervisor Griffith, Police Chief Brentar, Fire Chief Christiansen, Police Captain Brooks.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Duweck

ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Scott is out of town and Mayor Lewis is attending to an urgent personal matter.

Motion by Chin supported by Christensen to excuse Mayor Lewis and Council member Scott. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 0; Absent 2

Christensen left the meeting early at 12:36 p.m. due to a prior commitment. A quorum was retained with 4 members present and therefore the meeting continued. The motions will reflect absent 3 where applicable.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Chin supported by Christensen to approve the agenda as presented. Carried. Yea 5; Nay 2; Absent 0

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Sensus AMI Meter System

The Council received a presentation on the proposed Sensus AMI FlexNet water meter system, which would replace aging meters, improve billing accuracy, enable near real-time monitoring, and reduce water loss. The system offers high-accuracy smart meters with two-way communication, long-range interference-free connections, a 20-year warranty, and compatibility with approximately 60% of existing meters. Council discussed costs, system upgradability, battery life, data security, revenue impacts from unread meters, and implementation challenges. Staff noted that exact revenue loss is unknown, the remaining 40% of meters would need replacement over time, and the system would free up staff currently performing manual meter readings.

b. Special Assessment District Review

The Council reviewed a memo on the Special Assessment District (SAD), summarizing options and potential reductions. Discussion highlighted that fully eliminating the \$1,140,000 assessment was not feasible in the near term, though department heads identified \$117,260 in possible cuts. Alternative proposals included creating a targeted assessment for emergency services vehicles and equipment, which could reduce the assessment to approximately \$700,000–\$800,000 while maintaining transparency. City Manager ~~Miller~~ Hillard noted the importance of timely direction for budgeting and operational decisions. Following discussion, the Council **unanimously voted to table further consideration of the SAD until a future study session with full attendance.**

c. City Council Prioritization List

This agenda item was **tabled by unanimous vote** along with the previous item on the Special Assessment District Review.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Comments

STAFF COMMENTS:

No Comments

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Chin thanked the fire department for their golf dinner event, which he had been attending for three years. He noted Councilmember Fullerton had won a "longest drive" award.

Rodriguez expressed appreciation for the work session format and suggested returning to regular monthly work sessions. He noted how intertwined the topics were and emphasized the need for another session soon.

Duweck thanked the staff for their participation and wished Mayor Lewis's wife a speedy recovery.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Chin supported by Fullerton to adjourn at 1:46 p.m.
Carried. Yea 4; Nay 0; Absent 3

Respectfully submitted,
Mary LaRocque, City Clerk