



City Manager
Elaine Leven
City Clerk
August Gitschlag

City of Fraser Centennial Community

Fraser City Council Minutes
City Council Chambers
33000 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026
Thursday, April 9, 2026 - 6:30 PM
Draft

Mayor
Michael Lesich
Mayor Pro-Tem
Patrick O'Dell
Council
Amy Baranski
Crystal Fletcher
George-Michael Higgins
Kenny Perry Jr.
Patrice Schornak

A regular meeting of the Fraser City Council was held on Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM in City Council Chambers, 33000 Garfield, Graser, MI 48026.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Lesich called the meeting to order at 6:49pm
Delayed due to technical difficulty with live cable broadcast.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lesich led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call of Council Members

The following members were present:

Present: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak,
George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher
Absent:

Others Present: City Manager Leven, City Attorney Don DeNault, City Clerk Gitschlag, DPS
Captain Matthews, Public Services Superintendent Barrett, Deputy Public Services
Superintendent Gregory, Fraser Library Director McDowell.

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Patrice Schornak to approve the agenda as presented

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

5. Citizen Participation on Agenda Items

None

6. Consent Agenda

Motion by George-Michael Higgins, supported by Amy Baranski to approve the consent agenda as presented

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

- a. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes March 12, 2026
- b. Receive Board/Commission Meeting Minutes
- c. Receive Check Disbursements
- d. Receive Revenue and Expenditure Report

7. Closed Session

- a. Strategy discussion with legal counsel regarding negotiations related to a collective bargaining agreement

Motion by Michael Lesich, supported by Amy Baranski, to enter into Closed Session with legal Counsel regarding negotiations related to a collective bargaining agreement.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

Council entered into closed session at 6:51pm

Council exited closed session at 7:21pm

Mayor Lesich gaveled the meeting back to order at 7:24pm

8. New Business

- a. Presentation of FY 2026-2027 Budget and Millage Rates

City Manager Elaine Leven presented a draft budget to Council

b. Public Hearing on FY 2026-2027 Budget and Millage Rates

Mayor Lesich opened the Public Hearing on FY 2026-2027 Budget and Millage Rates at **7:44pm**

Mayor Lesich closed the hearing at **7:45pm**

c. Purchase of 2026 Ford Police Interceptor AWD Utility Explorer Patrol Vehicle

Captain Scott Matthew presented to Council

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Patrick O'Dell to purchase a 2026 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor at the MiDeal price from Lunghammer Ford, at a cost not to exceed \$75,000, including outfitting and graphics, from the Capital Outlay account #101-301-972.000. to purchase a 2026 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor at the MiDeal price from Lunghammer Ford, at a cost not to exceed \$75,000, including outfitting and graphics, from the Capital Outlay account #101-301-972.000..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

d. Purchase of Scott Air Packs and Cylinders

Captain Scott Matthew presented to Council

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Patrice Schornak to waive competitive bidding for sole source purchase.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Patrice Schornak to purchase 2 Scott Packs and 7 cylinders from MES, out of public safety account 101-301-742.000, operating supplies, in the amount of \$28,152.63, reduced to \$23,152.63 after applying \$5,000 from the sale of the old equipment..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

- e. Purchase Playground Engineered Wood Fiber

DPW Superintendent Barrett and Deputy Superintendent Gregory presented

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Crystal Fletcher to Motion to award the proposal for resurfacing and leveling the City's park playgrounds with engineered wood fiber in an amount of \$19,215.50, and to authorize the City Manager to approve additional costs up to \$4,000.00 to cover any necessary quantity overages.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

- f. Steffens Park Fence Improvements Bid Award

DPW Superintendent Barrett and Deputy Superintendent Gregory presented.

Superintendent Barrett told Council he feels that the fence repairs can be done by Fraser DPW staff at a considerable cost savings compared to an outside contractor.

Motion by Patrick O'Dell, supported by Crystal Fletcher to direct the City's DPW team to replace all the baseball diamond backstop, dugout, and outfield fencing, as well as the fence between the parking lot and the ball diamond, and to salvage the posts at both fields at a cost not to exceed \$48,500.00

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

- g. Library Bond Proposal Presentation

Fraser Library Board President Jim Sutherland, Fraser Library Director Lorena McDowell and architect Griffin Angelou presented to Council their plans for the renovation of the Fraser Library. They provided their preliminary designs for a 13,000+ square foot facility and an estimated budget of just over \$7.5 million. The discussion revolved around the feasibility and timeline for this plan. Council asked the Library officials to come back in May after they have met with Bond Council to

report on how much money they can borrow.

9. Report of City Administration

City Manager Leven met with VC3 on open ticket issues, and was otherwise occupied with preparing the budget.

10. Report of Mayor and City Council

Michael Lesich - there is also a community shred ed day on Saturday during trample the trail and scrap metal recycling.

Amy Baranski - Nothing

Patrick O'Dell - Marshmallo drop was a huge success. April 18th is Trample the Trail, and scrap metal recycling.

Kenny Perry - Nothing

Patrice Schornak - challenged the community to do spring cleanup on their property

George-Michael Higgins - Historical Commission has an open house on the 12th 1-4pm. Volunteers are needed for Historical Commission's garden cleanup in May 2nd and May 9th. Thanked the DPW for their help with a recent draining issue.

Crystal Fletcher - Nothing

11. Citizen Participation

Lauran Lesich - Trample the Trail on the 18th is \$10 a person or \$25 for 5 people. The Detroit Zoon recycling events are still on for April 19th for tube TVs and other big recycle items.

Beautification meets at Rams Horn to talk toodle tour.

Jim Sutherland - Friends of Fraser Library is having an event at the Fraser Rams Horn on April 16th

12. Adjournment

Motion by George-Michael Higgins, supported by Patrice Schornak to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None
Absent:

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Michael T. Lesich, Mayor
City of Fraser

August R. Gitschlag, City Clerk
City of Fraser



City Manager
Elaine Leven
City Clerk
August Gitschlag

City of Fraser Centennial Community

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Patrick O'Dell
Council
Amy Baranski
Crystal Fletcher
George-Michael Higgins
Kenny Perry Jr.
Patrice Schornak

A regular meeting of the Fraser City Council was held on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 6:30 PM in City Council Chambers, 33000 Garfield, Graser, MI 48026.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Lesich called the meeting to order at 6:31pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lesich led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call of Council Members

The following members were present:

Present: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Absent: None

Others Present; City Manager Leven, City Attorney DeNault, City Clerk Gitschlag, DPW Superintendent Barrett, Deputy DPW Superintendent Gregory, AEW Engineer Ashley Carpenter, DPS Director Kretzschmar

4. Approval of Agenda

Due to a change in the Labor Attorney's availability, Administration requests Closed Session be moved to the end of the meeting agenda.

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by George-Michael Higgins to amend the agenda to move item 7 to the end of the agenda (item 12).

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by George-Michael Higgins to Approve the agenda as amended.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

5. Citizen Participation on Agenda Items

None at this time

6. Consent Agenda

Motion by Patrick O'Dell, supported by Amy Baranski to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

- a. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes February 12, 2026
- b. Approve City Council Special Meeting Minutes February 24, 2026
- c. Receive Board/Commission Meeting Minutes
- d. Receive Historical Commission Newsletter
- e. Receive Check Disbursements
- f. Receive Revenue and Expenditure Report
- g. Proclaim Arbor Day April 24, 2026

7. New Business

- a. Reappointment of Frank Farina to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Patrice Schornak, supported by George-Michael Higgins to Approve the reappointment of Frank Farina to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2028.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

- b. Reappointment of Mark Burley to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Patrice Schornak to Approve the reappointment of Mark Burley to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2028.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

c. Reappointment of Scott Wahl to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Patrice Schornak, supported by Crystal Fletcher to Approve the reappointment of Scott Wahl to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2028..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

d. Reappointment of Kathy Czarnecki to the Fraser Planning Commission

Motion by Michael Lesich, supported by George-Michael Higgins to Approve the reappointment of Kathy Czarnecki to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/2028.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

e. Reappointment of Trevor Tuller to the Fraser Planning Commission

Motion by Patrick O'Dell, supported by Patrice Schornak to Approve the reappointment of Trevor Tuller to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/2028..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

f. Appointment of Kathy Czarnecki to the Fraser Construction Board of Appeals

Motion by Crystal Fletcher, supported by Patrick O'Dell to Approve appointment of Kathy Czarnecki to the Fraser Construction Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2026.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

g. Appointment of Rosanne Menendez to the Fraser Construction Board of Appeals

Motion by Patrice Schornak, supported by Amy Baranski to Approve appointment of Roseanne Menendez to the Fraser Construction Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/21/2027

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

h. Appointment of Randy Warunek to the Fraser Construction Board of Appeals

Motion by George-Michael Higgins, supported by Kenny Perry to Approve appointment of Randy Warunek to the Construction Board of Appeals for a term ending 12/31/2028.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

i. 2026 Sewer Lining Recommendation of Award

City Engineer Ashley Carpenter from AEW presented

Motion by Crystal Fletcher, supported by Michael Lesich to award a contract for the 2026 Sewer Lining Project to DVM Utilities Inc. in the amount of \$296,720.00, authorize AEW to provide construction phase contract administration services in accordance with our standing agreement for the estimated amount of \$44,500, and authorize the DPW Superintendent and City Manager discretion to approve additional contract costs from a construction contingency of \$29,000, with a total authorization not to exceed \$370,220.00.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

j. Pavement Marking Program (FY26-28) Contract Award

Ashley Carpenter from AEW presented, the pavement marking will be on Masonic.

Motion by Michael Lesich, supported by Amy Baranski to award a contract for the Pavement Marking Program (FY26-28) contract to PK Contracting, Inc. and authorize Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. to provide construction engineering services.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

k. Steffens Park Plan Status Report

Ashley Carpenter from AEW presented Council with the Steffens Park Master Plan Schedule:

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Steffens Park Master Plan

March 13 Virtual Meeting w/ City to review Visioning Survey

March 23 Launch Visioning Survey to the Public

March 28 Pop Up at Marshmallow Drop

Tent to Push Survey

Interactive activity for kids

April 18 Pop Up at Walkathon

Tent to push Survey - QR Code, Paper Copies, iPads?

Table w/ goodies/giveaways

Map w/ push pins & stickers

April 30 Close Visioning Survey

Develop 2 Concept Plans

May 20 Meet w/ City to Review Concept Plans

Make revisions & finalize before public comment period

June 1 Launch Concept Plan Feedback Survey

4th Grader Focus Group??

-FFBC Meeting

-ARC of Macomb Meeting

-Lions Club

-Council

June 13 Vendor Market (10:00 am – 2:00 pm)

July 1 Boost Survey for Holiday Weekend

July 23-26 Fraser Lions Club Carnival Pop Up

July 31 Close Concept Plan Feedback Survey

Final Revisions to Plan

August 13 Present Plan to Council

Or

September 10 Present Plan to Council

l. Purchase Diamond Dust for the Baseball Fields at Steffens Park

DPW Superintendent Rob Barrett and Deputy Superintendent Joe Gregory presented.

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Patrick O'Dell to Motion to approve the purchase of Diamond Dust material from Phoenix Stone Company to grade and dress the baseball fields at Steffens Park at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

m. Purchase of New Park Trash Cans

DPW Superintendent Rob Barrett and Deputy Superintendent Joe Gregory presented.

Motion by Baranski, supported by O'Dell to Motion to approve the purchase of fifty-five (55) Barco SuperSaver™ Receptacles with lids in the estimated amount of \$26,782.00

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

n. Replace Gazebo Roof at Steffens Park

DPW Superintendent Rob Barrett and Deputy Superintendent Joe Gregory presented.

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by George-Michael Higgins to approve the bid from ACS Roofing Inc to replace the shaker shingles on the gazebo at Steffens Park for the amount of \$10,000.00..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: Kenny Perry

Absent:

Motion Passed

o. Epoxy the Garage Floors at the Public Works Garage

DPW Superintendent Rob Barrett and Deputy Superintendent Joe Gregory presented.

Motion by George-Michael Higgins, supported by Patrice Schornak to approve the purchase of materials and the rental of equipment to epoxy the Public Works Garage floors in the amount of \$18,694.00, and to authorize the City Manager to approve additional costs up to \$1,870.00.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

p. Fence Ordinance Amendment

Motion by Crystal Fletcher, supported by Michael Lesich to approve the amendments to Chapter 9 of the City Code as submitted..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

q. Resolution Supporting Macomb County Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment

Motion by Michael Lesich, supported by Patrick O'Dell to Approve Resolution 2026-003 in support of the Macomb County Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: Amy Baranski, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins

Absent:

Motion Passed

r. Set Public Hearing Date for Utility Rates

Motion by Amy Baranski, supported by Crystal Fletcher to set public hearing for utility rates at the City Council meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 6:30pm..

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

8. Returning Business

a. Library Subcommittee Report

The Library Board will present their plan for the library building at the April City Council meeting

9. Report of City Administration

City Manager Leven informed Council of the following:

Attended the Michigan Municipal League Capitol Conference

Spoke to the City's bond council about the library's intentions to bond

Wide Open West (WoW) will discontinue cable TV service in Fraser and only offer high speed internet

DPW did a round of pothole filling in the city's industrial district

10. Report of Mayor and City Council

The Mayor and Council send thoughts and prayers to the members of Temple Israel synagogue in West Bloomfield, Twp

Baranski - thanks Administration and Council for an efficient informative meeting

Fletcher - Happy Easter

Higgins - Spoke more about the Temple Israel attack. Historical Commission has an April 12 Open House and Barn Sale.

Lesich - Expressed appreciation for all the reappointed Board and Commission members. Marshmallow Drop is March 28th. Attended MML Capitol Conference. Spoke against the proposed new zoning legislation.

O'Dell - Fraser 1st has a fundraiser dinner on Thursday March 19th at Rams Horn

Perry - Nothing at this time

Schornak - Happy Easter. Congrats to her daughter on her induction to the Fraser Sports Hall of Fame for swimming. The Detroit Zoo is doing an electronics recycling days on April 18 and 19th.

11. Citizen Participation

Laura Lesich - Next Fraser 1st meeting is Wednesday at 630 at Hanover Grove

There is a bake sale in conjunction with the Rams Horn fundraising dinner on March 19th

Trample the Trail walkathon is April 19th at Steffens Park

12. Closed Session

Motion by Michael Lesich, supported by Amy Baranski to enter into closed session for a strategy session with legal council regarding negotiations related to a collective bargaining agreement.

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

Council enters closed session at 7:55pm

Council exits closed session at 8:28pm

a. Strategy discussion with legal counsel regarding negotiations related to a collective bargaining agreement

Motion by Michael Lesich, supported by Patrice Schornak to direct the City Labor Attorney to proceed as discussed in Closed Session

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins, Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

13. Adjournment

Motion by Patrice Schornak, supported by Crystal Fletcher to adjourn the meeting at **8:29pm**

Ayes: Michael Lesich, Amy Baranski, Patrick O'Dell, Kenny Perry, Patrice Schornak, George-Michael Higgins,
Crystal Fletcher

Nays: None

Absent:

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 8:29pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Michael T. Lesich, Mayor
City of Fraser

August R. Gitschlag, City Clerk
City of Fraser