

## **CITY COUNCIL**

CITY OF ROCHESTER  
400 SIXTH STREET, ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN

---

REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 13, 2026  
7:00 P.M.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mayor Debbie Jones, Councilmembers Stuart Bikson, Jessica Clauser, Christian Hauser, Sara King, Nancy Salvia and Marilyn Trent.

ABSENT: None.

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT SCHEDULED/NON-SCHEDULED/PRESENTATIONS**

#### **4A. Swearing-In of Interim City Clerk**

Deputy City Clerk Megan Frazho was sworn in as Interim City Clerk effective April 13, 2026.

#### **4B. Bird City Certification Presentation**

Linda Smith, Director of Partnerships for Michigan Audubon and Bird City Michigan Coordinator, presented the City of Rochester with its Bird City certification.

She noted that Rochester was recognized for its commitment to environmental sustainability, protection of bird and wildlife habitat, and public engagement in bird-friendly initiatives. She further stated that Rochester is now one of approximately 300 Bird City communities across the Western Hemisphere and one of eight in Michigan since the program began in January 2025.

Council acknowledged the contributions of the City Beautiful Commission and staff in achieving the certification.

#### **4C. Rochester High School Student Presentation – “Hope for Hearts”**

Students from Rochester High School presented their “Hope for Hearts” campaign as part of a Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) community awareness project.

Students described their efforts to promote heart health awareness, including CPR and AED training for over 400 students, partnerships with Corewell Health, classroom presentations, and school-wide awareness campaigns.

They shared personal stories connecting them to heart health issues and emphasized the importance of recognizing symptoms early and maintaining healthy lifestyles.

The presentation included statistics on heart disease as a leading cause of death nationally and locally, as well as discussion of risk factors such as high blood pressure, cholesterol, smoking, and inactivity. Students concluded with recommendations for healthier habits and encouraged proactive health monitoring.

Council commended the students for their initiative and dedication.

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **5A. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

February 23, February 28 (Special), March 7 (Special), March 9 and March 23, 2026.

### **5B. Resolution – West Nile Virus Prevention Reimbursement**

Request to submit reimbursement to Oakland County in the amount of \$1,621.15 for treatment of storm drains.

### **5C. Check Register Report**

MOTION: Trent moved, Hauser seconded,  
To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

VOTE: YES: Jones, Bikson, Clauser, Hauser, King, Salvia and Trent.

NO: None.

ABSENT: None.

Motion Carried.

## **6. OLD BUSINESS / TABLED ITEMS**

NONE.

## **7. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

NONE.

## **8. LEGISLATIVE DELIBERATIONS**

NONE.

## **9. REPORTS AND REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **9A. Public Comment**

John Brabs, Elizabeth Street, addressed Council regarding the closure of the public restrooms at the police station.

He stated that the restrooms have been a valuable community resource for over 15 years, particularly for individuals using the park and Paint Creek Trail. He noted their accessibility during early morning hours and winter months when other facilities are closed.

Mr. Brabs expressed concern that the restrooms may not reopen and asked Council to reconsider their availability or explore alternative solutions, emphasizing their importance to residents, runners, cyclists, and visitors to the downtown area.

### **9B. Appointment of Poet Laureate**

Interim City Clerk Megan Frazho presented the recommendation to appoint Nancy Stevens as the next City Poet Laureate, noting the support of the Rochester Poet Society and endorsement of outgoing Poet Laureate Bob Lytle.

Council discussed the role of the Poet Laureate in community events and cultural engagement, including participation in ceremonies such as Memorial Day.

MOTION: Trent moved, Clauser seconded,  
To appoint Nancy Stevens as the City of Rochester Poet Laureate.

VOTE: YES: Jones, Bikson, Clauser, Hauser, King, Salvia and Trent.  
NO: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
Motion Carried.

### **9C. Telecommunications Permit – Metro FiberNet**

The City Attorney provided an overview of the Metro Act permit request from Metro FiberNet, explaining that the permit is standardized by the Michigan Public Service Commission and allows telecommunications providers access to public right-of-way under state law.

He noted the permit is for a 15-year term and includes requirements for insurance, restoration, and coordination with the City. He further explained that the City must act within a defined timeframe and has limited grounds for denial.

A representative from Metro FiberNet confirmed that the company will coordinate closely with DPW and participate in the MISS DIG program to ensure safe installation of infrastructure.

Council discussed compensation to the City, coordination of construction, and experiences with similar providers.

MOTION: Hauser moved, Salvia seconded,  
To approve the telecommunications permit and authorize the City Clerk and City Manager to execute the permit.

VOTE: YES: Jones, Bikson, Clauser, Hauser, King, Salvia and Trent.  
NO: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
Motion Carried.

### **9D. MDOT Main Street Project – Authorized Signatories**

DPW Director Schaefer presented a request to authorize the City Manager and DPW Director to sign easement documents related to the MDOT Main Street project.

Council discussed the project timeline, noting construction is anticipated in 2027 for Rochester Hills and 2028 for Rochester. Additional discussion included current road conditions and interim maintenance efforts.

MOTION: Salvia moved, Hauser seconded,  
To authorize the City Manager and DPW Director to sign MDOT easement documents.

VOTE: YES: Jones, Bikson, Clauser, Hauser, King, Salvia and Trent.  
NO: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
Motion Carried.

## **10. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS**

### **10A. Planning Commission**

Councilmember Hauser reported on the April 6 meeting. He stated that a South Street site plan was approved, while a project at 134 S. Main required further review due to design changes made prior to approval.

He noted approval of the Lucido Jewelers project at 235 S. Main, including payment in lieu of parking, based on data showing sufficient parking capacity.

He also reported that Consumers Energy will return with revised plans for improvements to a facility on Miller Road.

Councilmember Hauser recognized the retirement of longtime City Planner Vidya Krishnan and introduction of her successor.

### **10B. City Beautiful Commission**

Councilmember Clauser reported on Arbor Day activities scheduled for April 22, including tree planting at City Hall.

She also noted the recent Bird City certification, a planned migratory bird walk in May, and ongoing park improvements including sensory gardens, rain gardens, and environmental initiatives.

### **10C. Cat Committee**

Councilmember King provided an update on the Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR) program, noting recent efforts to reduce feral cat populations and collaboration with nonprofit organizations.

She reported successful trapping and adoption of kittens and ongoing efforts to manage colonies in various locations.

Council discussed potential funding for the program, staffing needs, and long-term sustainability. Concerns were raised regarding program scope, funding sources, and alignment with existing ordinances.

No formal action was taken. The item will return for further discussion.

## **11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

NONE.

## **12. GENERAL MISCELLANEOUS**

The City Manager announced the passing of longtime firefighter Bob Tyrell and noted that service details would be shared.

Councilmembers provided updates and comments, including:

- Recognition of community programs and student presentations
- Legislative updates from the Michigan Municipal League
- Environmental initiatives related to invasive species
- Updates on park, trail, and infrastructure projects
- Announcement of upcoming Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration

## **13. ADJOURN**

MOTION: Salvia moved, Hauser seconded,  
To adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried.

Mayor Jones adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:32 p.m.

---

Megan Frazho, Interim City Clerk

---

Debbie Jones, Mayor