

**CITY OF SWARTZ CREEK
SWARTZ CREEK, MICHIGAN
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DATE September 8, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Henry in the Swartz Creek City Council Chambers, 8083 Civic Drive.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmembers Present: Spillane, Gilbert, Hicks, Krueger, Knickerbocker, Henry.

Councilmembers Absent: Melen.

Staff Present: City Manager Adam Zettel, Clerk Renee Kraft.

Others Present: Metro PD Chief Bade, Dennis Cramer, Sandra Dively, Kathy Habermen, Diane Campbell, Wanda Tyler, Boots Abrams, Ken Brill, Tammy Parenteau, Jeff Kelley.

Others Virtually Attended: Lania Rocha.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution No . 250908-01

(Carried)

Motion by Councilmember Spillane
Second by Councilmember Gilbert

I Move the Swartz Creek City Council approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held Monday August 25, 2025 to be circulated and placed on file.

YES: Spillane, Gilbert, Hicks, Krueger, Knickerbocker, Henry.
NO: None. Motion Declared Carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 250908-02

(Carried)

Motion by Councilmember Krueger
Second by Councilmember Gilbert

I Move the Swartz Creek City Council approve the Agenda as printed for the Regular Council Meeting of September 8, 2025, to be circulated and placed on file.

YES: Gilbert, Hicks, Krueger, Knickerbocker, Henry, Spillane.
NO: None. Motion Declared Carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Resolution No. 250908-03

(Carried)

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hicks
Second by Councilmember Gilbert

I Move the Swartz Creek City Council accept the City Manager's Report of September 8, 2025, including reports and communications to be circulated and placed on file.

Discussion Ensued.

YES: Hicks, Krueger, Knickerbocker, Henry, Spillane, Gilbert.
NO: None. Motion Declared Carried.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:

None.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

PROCLAMATION :

Mayor Henry proclaimed Saturday, September 27, 2025 as GFWC International Day of Service. He read and presented the proclamation to the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

City of Swartz Creek, Michigan
Office of the Mayor

Proclamation to Acknowledge the General Federation of Women's Clubs International Day of Service

WHEREAS, the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), one of the world's oldest and largest women's volunteer service organizations, has for more than 130 years united members in volunteer community improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, the GFWC International Day of Service unites clubs across the nation and around the globe to focus their time, talents, and resources on projects that strengthen communities and enhance quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the GFWC Swartz Creek Women's Club has long been a proud part of this tradition, making significant contributions to the City of Swartz Creek through civic engagement, service projects, and volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 GFWC International Day of Service is themed “**Help End Domestic and Sexual Violence,**” calling on clubs to stand united against domestic and sexual violence and raise public awareness of its impact; and

WHEREAS, volunteer service in this vital area exemplifies the values of compassion, solidarity, and active community leadership.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nate Henry, Mayor of the City of Swartz Creek, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 27, 2025 as

“GFWC International Day of Service”

in the City of Swartz Creek, and urge all residents to support the GFWC’s mission and join in the spirit of service that strengthens our community and protects its most vulnerable members.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of September 2025.

Nate Henry, Mayor
City of Swartz Creek, Michigan

PROCLAMATION :

Mayor Henry proclaimed September 15 to 21, 2025 as National See Tracks? Think Train week.

WHEREAS See Tracks? Think Train® Week is to be held across the U.S. from September 15 to 21, 2025;

WHEREAS, 2,252 rail grade crossing collisions resulted in 749 personal injuries and were responsible for 268 fatalities in the United States during 2024; and

WHEREAS, 1,465 pedestrian trespassing casualties have occurred in the United States resulting in 821 pedestrians being killed and another 644 injured while trespassing on railroad property rights of way during 2024; and

WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety (reminding the public that railroad right of ways are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws) will reduce the number of avoidable fatalities and injuries caused by incidents involving trains and citizens; and

WHEREAS, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Operation Lifesaver Inc., United States Department of Transportation, and all local, state, county, and railroad law enforcement officers, first responders, and railroad corporations commit to partnering together in an effort to educate at a national level all aspects of railroad safety, to enforce applicable laws in support of National See Tracks? Think Train® Week;

THEREFORE, I, Mayor Nate Henry, do hereby attest my full support proclaiming September 15 to 21, 2025, National See Tracks? Think Train® Week in the city of Swartz Creek and I encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of rail safety education.

Nate Henry, Mayor
City of Swartz Creek, Michigan

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LOW BID FOR THE PROVISION AND INSTALLATION OF TREES AT ABRAMS PARK

Resolution No. 250908-06

(Carried)

Motion by Councilmember Gilbert
Second by Mayor Pro Tem Hicks

WHEREAS, the City of Swartz Creek owns, operates, and maintains a system of parks, and

WHEREAS, the City maintains an active five-year parks and recreation plan that calls for the investment of native forestry in Abrams Park, and

WHEREAS, the City is the recipient of a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Urban Forestry Grant, and

WHEREAS, the City, in consultation with the DNR, crafted a bid specification for the provision, planting, and one year of maintenance for forty-two trees in Abrams Park, and including 42 gator bags, and

WHEREAS, Nash Nurseries is the low qualified bidder to provide such services at \$18,840.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City of Swartz Creek City Council approves the bid as submitted in the September 8, 2025 city council packet, specifically to include the 42 trees and 42 gator bags, without taxes, and without watering/fertilizer services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes and directs the City Manager to administer the Urban Forestry Grant and engage the contractor on behalf of the city.

Discussion Ensued.

YES: Krueger, Knickerbocker, Henry, Spillane, Gilbert, Hicks.

NO: None. Motion Declared Carried.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR A TEAM STRENGTHENING PROCESS FOR CITY STAFF

Resolution No. 250908-07

(Carried)

Motion by Councilmember Knickerbocker

Second by Mayor Pro Tem Hicks

WHEREAS, the City aspires to uphold high standards in the execution of administrative duties and finds that a strong, unified, well-defined organizational culture are essential to doing so; and

WHEREAS, the consultation of staff with a proven professional in the field of team building will greatly assist in pursuing such a culture; and

WHEREAS, the City's Purchasing Ordinance, Chapter 2, Article VI, Section 2-406 provides for terms and conditions of purchases; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is authorized by ordinance to approve professional services; and

WHEREAS, the City finds the proposal by Lewis Bender, Ph.D. to be in the best interests of the city.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Swartz Creek approves the Proposal from Lewis Bender, Ph.D, as included in the September 8, 2025 city council packet.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Swartz Creek authorize and direct the City Treasurer to apportion the expense among city funds using the standard fund dispersal method.

Discussion Ensued.

YES: Knickerbocker, Henry, Spillane, Gilbert, Hicks, Krueger.

NO: None. Motion Declared Carried.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:

Boots Abrams: Thanked Council for approving the forestry bid for Abrams Park.

REMARKS BY COUNCILMEMBERS:

Councilmember Knickerbocker: Nash Nurseries is well known and respected in the industry.

Councilmember Gilbert: Thanked Adam Zettel for taking care of his question from last week.

Mayor Pro Tem Hicks: September 27 is International Day of Service; they will collect items for the pantry at the Swartz Creek Community Church. She thanked the women's club for their service.

Councilmember Krueger: Discussed survey medallions. One might be under a trail.

Councilmember Spillane: Ron Vincent, a lifelong member of the community, will discuss growing up in Swartz Creek at the Historical Presentation Meeting.

Mayor Henry: There was not a lot of attendance at the Annual Fireman's Memorial Service. Next September we hope more people will attend.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 250908-08

(Carried)

Motion by Councilmember Gilbert
Second by Councilmember Krueger

I Move the Swartz Creek City Council adjourn the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Unanimous Voice Vote.

Nate Henry, Mayor

Renee Kraft

Renee Kraft, CMC, MiPMC2, City Clerk