

Regular Council Meeting
Monday March 3, 2025
Council Chambers
6:30 p.m. Caucus- Meeting will immediately follow the Caucus
Live via Facebook@http//Facebook.com/lackawannany

Meeting called to order/Pledge of Allegiance.

NB: Meeting is being recorded.

Roll Call: Council: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano
Dept. Heads: Law, Development/Marketing, Public Safety, Assistant
Comptroller, Recreation (A), Public Works

Hearings from Citizens:

Approval of Minutes: of the regular meeting of February 18, 2025.

Moved by Marrano seconded by Muflahi to adopt minutes of the regular meeting of February 18, 2025 as written.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Departmental Reports:

1. **Comptroller's Office** – A/P Check Listing #23, dated 2/14/2025.
2. **Comptroller's Office** – A/P Check Listing #24, dated 2/20/2025.
3. **Comptroller's Office** – A/P Check Listing #25, dated 2/21/2025.
4. **Comptroller's Office** – A/P Capital Fund Check Listing #5, dated 2/11/2025.
5. **Comptroller's Office** – A/P Capital Fund Check Listing #6, dated 2/11/2025.

Moved by Marrano seconded by Muflahi to receive and file Departmental Reports one through five.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Communications from the Council:

Requests the City Council and the Law Department Have a Discussion Regarding How to Proceed to Referendum.

6. Honorable Council President
Honorable Council Members
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Esteemed colleagues:

I would like some guidance from the Law Department and have some discussion among the Council members on how to proceed to referendum; if the Council so chooses to take such action in the future.

Respectfully,

KEVIN SURDYKE, FOURTH WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Marrano seconded by Surdyke to receive and file.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Requests the City Council Have a Discussion Regarding the Possible Need for the City Council to Retain its Own Counsel.

7. Honorable Council President
Honorable Council Members
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Esteemed colleagues:

I would like to discuss among the Council members the possibility to retain its own counsel, if such future action is chosen.

Respectfully,

KEVIN SURDYKE, FOURTH WARD COUNCIL MEMBER

Moved by Marrano seconded by Surdyke to receive and file, motion by the City Council to retain outside legal counsel for an opinion on addressing the concerns and conflicts that have arisen over time regarding the City Charter and past local laws of the setting and changing of the Mayor's annual salary.

Yeas: Muflahi, Surdyke, Marrano

No: Anderson, Moretti

Carried 3-2

Communications from Division/Department Heads:

Requests the City Council Approve the Ordinance Transferring Funds for the Veterans Stadium Lighting Project. The Funds Will Be Reimbursed Through the Erie County Urban Initiative Grant. (Invoices Attached).

8. To: Comptroller's Office; City Council
From: Dan Geercken – Senior Foreman
Re: Transfer of Funds: Veterans Stadium Rehabilitation Lighting

I am requesting that the comptroller transfer funds from the unappropriated fund balance in the amount of \$467,567.40 to the Veterans Stadium Rehabilitation Lighting Capital budget line (H.2080.0255.001) The City will receive full reimbursement through the Erie Council Urban Initiative Grant. This grant was awarded to the City by County Executive Mark Poloncarz.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Respectfully,

DANIEL GEERCKEN, SENIOR FOREMAN OF PUBLIC WORKS

Moved by Marrano seconded by Muflahi to receive and file, act on ordinance.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2024-2025 BUDGET ORDINANCES ADOPTED JUNE 27, 2024.

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Lackawanna, New York, as follows:

SECTION 1. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance adopted June 27, 2024, is hereby amended to add the following Budget Code to the Capital Fund: H.2080.0255.001 – “Veteran’s Stadium Rehabilitation-Lighting”.

GENERAL FUND

SECTION 2. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to transfer unappropriated fund balance in the amount of \$467,567.40 to the “Transfer to Other Fund – Capital” Budget Code [A9000.9550].

CAPITAL FUND

SECTION 3. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to increase the “Capital Fund Inter Fund Transfers” Budget Code [H.0000.5031] by \$467,567.40.

SECTION 4. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to allocate budgeted funds in the amount of \$467,567.40 to the H.2080.0255.001. – “Veteran’s Stadium Rehabilitation-Lighting”.

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.

Dated: March 4, 2025
Lackawanna, New York

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to adopt ordinance as written.
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Requests the City Council Approve the Ordinance Transferring Funds for the Balance of the Warsaw Street Bridge Replacement Project.

9. To: Comptroller’s Office; City Council
From: Dan Geercken – Senior Foreman
Re: Transfer of Funds: Warsaw Ave Bridge Replacement

I am requesting that the comptroller transfer funds from the unappropriated fund balance in the amount of \$192,604.00 to the Warsaw Bridge Replacement Capital budget line (H.2080.0235) The City has been awarded \$3,659,474.00 from the New York State 2024 Bridge NY Program. Lackawanna is required to provide a 5% match of the total project cost of \$3,852,078.00.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Respectfully,
DANIEL GEERCKEN, SENIOR FOREMAN OF PUBLIC WORKS

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to receive and file, act on ordinance.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2024-2025 BUDGET ORDINANCES ADOPTED JUNE 27, 2024

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Lackawanna, New York, as follows:

SECTION 1. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance adopted June 27th, 2024, is hereby amended to add the following Budget Code to the Capital Fund: H.2080.0235 – “Warsaw Bridge Repair”.

GENERAL FUND

SECTION 2. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to transfer unappropriated fund balance in the amount of \$192,604.00 to the “Transfer to Other Fund – Capital” Budget Code [A9000.9550].

CAPITAL FUND

SECTION 3. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to increase the “Capital Fund Inter Fund Transfers” Budget Code [H.0000.5031] by \$192,604.00.

SECTION 4. That the 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance is hereby amended to allocate budgeted funds in the amount of \$192,604.00 to the H.2080.0235 – “Warsaw Bridge Repair”.

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.

Dated: March 4, 2025
Lackawanna, New York

Moved by Marrano seconded by Anderson to adopt ordinance as written.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Requests the City Council Approve CPL (Clark Patterson Lee) for the Engineering/Design Firm for the Warsaw Street Bridge Replacement Project. CPL Was the Only Firm That Responded to the RFP.

10. To: City Council

From: Daniel Geercken – Senior Foreman

Re: Warsaw Street Bridge Replacement Engineering / Design Firm.

Honorable Council,

I request that the Council approve CPL for the Engineering / Design Firm for the Warsaw Street Bridge replacement project. An RFP was mailed to all the Engineering firms listed on the LDSA (Region 5) website and published in Buffalo Business First. CPL was the only proposal that the City received.

Mr. Anthony DeSantis
Commissioner of Public Works
City of Lackawanna
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Dear Mr. DeSantis:

The New York State Department of Transportation is pleased to announce that the City of Lackawanna application for the replacement of the Warsaw Avenue bridge over the Smokes Creek has been approved for funding through the 2023 BRIDGE NY Program in the amount of \$3,660,000.

Projects were selected based on a condition and need analysis along with consideration of available funds. A representative from the Department's regional office will contact you to discuss the next steps required to advance your project.

If you have any questions regarding this selection, feel free to contact Donald Mattimore at (518) 485-1382 or Don.Mattimore@dot.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

MARIE THERESE DOMINGUEZ, COMMISSIONER

Thank you,

DANIEL GEERCKEN, SENIOR FOREMAN OF PUBLIC WORKS

Moved by Marrano seconded by Anderson to approve request.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Requests the City Council Approve the Ordinance Regarding the Flow of Traffic on Nason Parkway.

11. Grace Marrano, City Clerk

714 Ridge Road

Lackawanna, New York 14218

Re: Nason Parkway Ordinance

Dear Ms. Marrano:

Please put the attached ordinance on the agenda for council approval.

Very truly yours,

JOHN P. GAUGHAN, CITY ATTORNEY

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to receive and file, act on ordinance.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

ORDINANCE

**AN ODINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 215 TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, OF THE CITY OF LACKAWANNA
MUNICIPAL CODE**

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Lackawanna, New York as follows:

Chapter 215.7 One-way roadways shall be amended to add the following:

8. Nason Parkway from Electric Avenue to South Park Avenue is hereby designated for one-way traffic in a westerly direction.

THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.

Dated: March 4, 2025
Lackawanna, New York

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to adopt ordinance as written.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Communications from Citizens:

Requests the City Council Approve the Closure of O'Dell St. Between Ingham Ave. and Wilmuth Street for the 18th Annual Taste of Lackawanna on Saturday, June 7, 2025. Set-up Begins at 9:00 A.M. The Event Takes Place From 12:00 P.M. Until 8:00 P.M.

12. Lackawanna City Council
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, New York 14218

Dear City of Lackawanna,

The Lackawanna Youth Empowerment Program Inc. will be hosting our 18th annual Taste of Lackawanna. This event is scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025. Set up begins at 9 a.m., by the actual event is held from 12-8 p.m.

We are requesting permission to block off O'dell St. between Ingham Ave. and Wilmuth St.

We thank you in advance for your support.

Please feel free to contact our President at the phone number listed below if any further information is needed.

WADE TURNER, PRESIDENT

Moved by Marrano seconded by Muflahi to approve request, refer to Public Safety and Public Works.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Requests the City Council Approve the Use of the Lackawanna Senior Center and the Bocce Court for the School Board and Budget Election on May 20, 2025 From 11:00 A.M. Until 9:00 P.M.

13. Grace Marrano
714 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, New York 14218

Dear Ms. Marrano:

On behalf of the Lackawanna Board of Education, I am asking if space could be made available for our upcoming May 20, 2025 School Board & Budget Election in your hall/building (Senior Center & Bocce Court).

The election will be held on May 20, 2025, between the hours of 12 noon, and 9:00 P.M. Inspectors working would need to access to said building/hall at 11:00 A.M.

I will confirm a date and time of delivery and pickup of voting machines as the date approaches and the School District will pay \$100.00 for the space being used.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

RYANN RIZZO, BOARD CLERK

Moved by Marrano seconded by Anderson to approve request.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Business Registration:

Community Services for Every1, Lindsay Goodenough, 1377 Abbott Road, (day habilitation program for people with intellectual disabilities).

Moved by Marrano seconded by Moretti to approve Business Registration.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

Tabled Items:

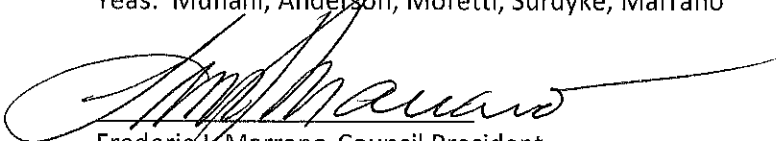
Old Business:

Adjournment:


Moved by Marrano seconded by Muflahi to adjourn meeting.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0



Frederic J. Marrano-Council President



Grace Marrano - City Clerk

Persons wishing to speak before the City Council shall provide their name, address and limit their comments to three (3) minutes on agenda items only. Please direct any comments to the Council President. To place an item on the agenda, persons shall submit their correspondence to the City Clerk's Office in a signed letter or via email (cityclerk@lackny.com) with full address and phone number contained therein, and must be received PRIOR to 12:00 noon on the Wednesday preceding the meeting. The City Council has the final approval of all agenda items. If attending the meeting in person, please silence your cell phones and gentlemen remove your hats. Commentary and actions shall always be respectful of the City Council, Department Heads and fellow citizens or you will be escorted from Chambers.