



The details of MOVE-IN NY and supporting business case for the City's application via the LHDC will be presented by the Department of Development and related partners at the public work session also scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

I thank you and the City Council in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

**CHARLES D. CLARK – DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, MARKETING & PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Moved by Anderson second by Moretti to receive and file, act on resolution.

Yeas: Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Moretti

No: Muflahi

Carried 4-1

**RESOLUTION, NO. 22, 2025**

**WHEREAS,** the *City of Lackawanna*, through the *Lackawanna Housing Development Corporation (LHDC)*, in its application to New York State Homes and Community Renewal, desires to apply for financial assistance through the MOVE-IN NY Program; and,

**WHEREAS,** the application proposes funding to support the purchase and installation of manufactured, "CrossMod" homes in various sites throughout *the City of Lackawanna*; and,

**WHEREAS,** the proposed funding will contribute to ongoing affordable housing development efforts; and,

**WHEREAS,** the program application requires that the applicant obtain the approval and endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the proposed project will be located; and,

**WHEREAS,** the City of Lackawanna, in which the proposed project will be located, affirms both it's a) understanding of the CrossMod manufactured housing typology and b) ability to approve siting and installation of HUD Code manufactured housing within the community without special use permits or other administrative approval processes that present an obstacle to permitting; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** that the *Lackawanna City Council* approves and endorses the *City of Lackawanna's* application to New York Homes and Community Renewal for financial assistance through the MOVE-IN NY Program, prepared and to be submitted by the Lackawanna Housing Development Corporation, and affirms its commitment to approving and expediting the siting and installation of manufactured "CrossMod" homes in the community.

**THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.**

Dated: December 1, 2025  
Lackawanna, New York

Moved by Anderson second by Moretti to adopt resolution as written.

Yeas: Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Moretti

No: Muflahi

Carried 4-1

**Requests the City Council approve the use of Franklin playground field from March 9, 2026 through June 20, 2026 for Youth Flag Football. Insurance is attached.**

3. Honorable City Council President  
Honorable City Council Members  
714 Ridge Rd.  
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Honorable Members of the City Council:

The LA Sports Club is requesting permission to use Franklin Playground field on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. between March 9, 2026 and June 20, 2026 for Youth Flag Football. Details are in the attached letter from LASC.

Proof of valid insurance is attached.

**KATHLEEN MORAN – DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

*L.A. Sports Club 716 Inc.  
1312 Electric Ave.  
Lackawanna, NY 14218*

*Dear Honorable Council Members:*

*First, we would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to present our request. We at LA Sports Club 716 Inc. seek access to Franklin Playground for our spring practices, camp and games.*

*We would like to reserve Franklin Playground for practices every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. We will have our camp on Saturday mornings from 9 am to 11:30 am, and our games will take place from 12 pm to 6:30 pm. We would like to utilize the field for our local spring sports travel team, the LASC Titans Flag Football team's practices, camps and games. We will provide the necessary equipment and insurance to facilitate these events. We aim to begin practicing on March 9<sup>th</sup> and conclude on June 20<sup>th</sup>.*

*I have attached a copy of our current insurance policy that covers the city of Lackawanna. This initiative would greatly benefit the community, and we would be thrilled to have the fields available. We look forward to collaborating to improve and help cover the community extensively.*

**DARRELL GLOVER, JR. – PRESIDENT OF LA SPORTS CLUB 716 INC.**

Moved by Anderson second by Marrano to approve request.

**Requests the City Council approve to authorizing Mayor lafallo to sign the enclosed Agreement with Excellus Health Plan, Inc. d/b/a Univera Health Care.**

4. Fred Marrano  
City Council President  
714 Ridge Road  
Lackawanna, New York 14218

**Re:** Change in Health Insurance and Related Agreement

Dear Council President Marrano:

I am writing to provide an update to the City Council regarding a change to the health insurance offered to City employees effective January 1, 2026. I am also requesting that the attached Stop Loss Agreement between the City of Lackawanna and Univera Healthcare d/b/a Excellus Health Plan, Inc. be placed on the December 1, 2025 Meeting Agenda for Council approval authorizing Mayor lafallo to sign same.

As the City Council members may be aware, from 2017 through 2024 the cost of the City's health insurance through BlueCross/Highmark was somewhat predictable with an average annual rate increase from 5-7%. Unfortunately, last year the City felt the impact of a **rate increase of 46%** with an overall premium increase from approximately \$4.1 million to \$5.9 million.

Several local news outlets have reported that the New York State Department of Financial Services approved rate increase from 7-13% for 2026. The City's renewal with Highmark effective January 1, 2026 was quoted at **an additional 25% increase.**

Consistent rate increases in excess of 10% are neither sustainable nor acceptable. The City has a fiduciary duty to ensure that the City and its employees have the most cost-effective and comprehensive health insurance available. To ensure that the administration is doing everything in its power to satisfy that duty, over the past 6 months the City has spent hours exploring other options through all carriers that offer insurance in Western New York and three separate brokers. As a result of that search, the City has been offered a plan with equal benefits through Univera Healthcare with a **5% rate increase** from last year's rate. The administration believes this is the best option for both the City and its employees, and intends to change carriers to Univera effective January 1, 2026. To summarize:

- This is high deductible health plan ("HDHP") with the deductible being fully funded by the City through and HRA card effective January 1, 2026.
- The applicable deductibles are set at \$3,000 per individual and \$6,000 per family.
- The anticipated biweekly additional employee cost is \$4.36 per individual plan and \$11.55 per family plan.
- There will be no change to the current dental insurance carrier/coverage.

In order to effectuate the change, the City is required to enter into the enclosed Agreement with Excellus Health Plan, Inc. (which is the d/b/a for Univera Healthcare). This Agreement sets forth standard terms in connection with the City's payment and reporting obligations.

We have requested that a representative from our insurance broker, Lawley, be present during the work session prior to the meeting on December 1 to answer any questions the Council may have, John Berger, a partner at Lawley who has been working with the City for 6 years, will be present for the session.

Thank you for the City Council's consideration for this request.

**ARIANNA KWIATKOWSKI – CITY ATTORNEY**

**A copy of this agreement may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office.**

Moved by Marrano second by Moretti to approve the Mayor to sign agreement.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

**Business Registration:**

Ice House Revival, 715 Ridge Road, Bar (Food and Drinks), Melinda Martin (New Owner).

Moved by Marrano second by Anderson to approve Business Registration.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

AUTO360, 3261 South Park Ave., Anwar Al-Kalai, Auto Repair Shop. Requests the City Council reverse the denial of his Business Application.

Moved by Muflahi second by Surdyke to approve Business Registration.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0

**Tabled Items:**

**Old Business:**

**Adjournment:**

Moved by Marrano second by Moretti to adjourn meeting.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Moretti, Surdyke, Marrano

Carried 5-0