



## The Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley

### Special Council Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2026, 1:30 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 5 Main Street North, Grand Valley

Council Present: Mayor Steve Soloman  
Deputy Mayor Philip Rentsch  
Councillor Lorne Dart  
Councillor James Jonker  
Councillor Paul Latam

Staff Present: Meghan Townsend, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk  
Matthew Bos, Director Public Works  
Steven Freitas, Director of Finance/Treasurer  
James Allen, Recreation Facilities Manager  
Donna Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Communications Coordinator

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#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Soloman called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

#### 2. Adoption of Agenda

**Resolution: 2026-02-36**

**Moved by:** P. Rentsch

**Seconded by:** L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council adopts the Special Council Meeting-2026 Budget agenda dated February 24, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED

#### 3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

No pecuniary interest was declared.

#### 4. Staff Reports

4.1 Second DRAFT 2026 Operating and Capital Budget, 2026-043

Steven Freitas, Director of Finance provided opening remarks.

Council discussed the second draft 2026 Operating and Capital Budget and requested the following:

**REDUCTIONS:**

- OPER 29 ADMIN Consulting Fees - reduce \$20,000
- OPER 30 ADMIN Advertising - reduce \$1,000
- OPER 205 ADMIN-FAC WBACK - reduce \$2,000
- OPER 290-296 - PARKSREC-SPLASH PAD - 2026 budgeted amount to total \$13,000
- OPER 300 TRAILS - Contracts - reduce \$6,900
- OPER 388-393 PUBWKS-B4 STOMR SEWERS/SWM POND - reduce line items to match 2025 Actuals
- CAP 1 COUNCIL Capital Expenditures - reduce to \$10,000
- CAP 107 PUBWKS-A BRIDGES & CULVERTS - Bridge 7 - reduce \$50,000, include \$50,000 2027 budget discussions - see resolution 2025-02-39

**REMOVAL:**

- OPER 132 EDC-TX to reserve - remove \$4000 and add 400 to match EDC 2026 Budget of \$6,300
- OPER 555 ROAD PATROL - GPS & Mobile Systems \$11,000
- CAP 1 COUNCIL Capital Expenditure - Gateway signage \$29,000/ Chamber renos to include additional monitor, reallocation of speakers, with microphones to be considered at future meeting
- CAP 9 Annual Capital Reserve funding - \$75,000
- CAP 10 Capital Reserves - \$12,345
- CAP 32 Union Cemetery Signage - \$5,000
- CAP 66 ADMIN FAC WBACK - \$5,000
- CAP 137 PUBWKS ROADS DEPT O/H - gravel retriever attachment \$23,800
- CAP 145 PUBWKS-ROAD PATROL - Citywide software - \$51,400 - see resolution 2026-02-38
- CAP 171 SWATER - Storm Pond cleanout - \$25,000
- CAP 174 WATER DELIVERY - Growth Studies - \$125,000
- CAP 176 and 182 WATER DELIVERY - South WTR - \$100,000

**ADDITIONS:**

- OPER 223 BLEO Dog Licences - increase \$3,000
- CAP 86 PARKREC-RECTRUCK 2 - CAPITAL EXPENDITURE - increase \$5,000 for purchase of vehicle

**REVIEW AND REPORT BACK:**

- OPER 14 ADMIN Benefits - staff to confirm budgeted amounts
- OPER 69 ASE Ticket Revenue - staff to confirm revenue amounts
- OPER 52 TREAS-A/R Tx to Taxes Fee - Treasurer to review and confirm amounts
- OPER 85 CC Transfer Com Centre ((Levy Payment) - Council to consider budgeted amount if no agreements with partner municipalities reached
- OPER 99 ADMIN-BRD CEM -OPERATING Revenue Total - staff to report back on revenue to be used for grass cutting
- OPER 204 ADMIN-FAC STLIGHT-OPERATING REVENUE total - staff to consider increasing fee to full offset budgeted amount of \$7,600
- OPER 240-243 BY-LAW - staff to review and advise increase revenue amount
- OPER 265 REC-Sports Revenue - staff to review and advise on increase revenue amount - Council suggested range \$15,000 to \$20,000
- OPER 278 PARKREC-B1 GRASS MOWING- staff to review cemetery revenues (OPER 99) to offset cost for grass mowing
- OPER 286/287 PARKREC-RECTRUCK2 - Repair Parts/Misc - staff to review based on Council direction to purchase vehicle
- OPER 290 PARKREC SPLASH PAD - staff to review staffing for Saturday inspections
- OPER 297 PARKREC-TRAILS - staff to review for cost savings
- OPER 308 PLN-Engineering Fees - staff to review and advise on reduction
- OPER 320 PLN -Engineering Recovery Planning - staff to review and advise
- OPER 326 PLN - App Fees (zoning, consent, etc) - staff to review and advise

- OPER 355 PUBWKS #49- 2021 KUBOTA - staff to review and advise on use of vehicle to substantiate 2026 \$14,000 budgeted amount
- OPER 394 PUBWKS-B5-DEBRIS LITTER PICK UP - staff to contact Dufferin County - additional pick-up for storm damaged trees
- OPER 443 PUBWKS -D1 PATCHING/WASHOUTS (RURAL) - staff to review amounts and advise - 2025 amount allocated to incorrect budget line - OPER 407 (PUBWORKS C1 PATCHING (URBAN))

Council recessed at 4:25 pm and resumed at 4:30pm

- OPER 452 and 454 D3 DUST CONTROL Materials/Supplies and D3 Dust Control Calcium Contract - staff to review and consolidate to one budgeted line item
- OPER 469 PUBWORKS WINTER PLOWING - staff to audit level of service, removal of OT assumption, review wages and report back
- OPER 476 PUBWKS-E1 WINTER PLOWING - staff to review with a reduction of budgeted amount to \$425,000
- OPER 563,564, 566 and 572 PUBWKS SEWERS/PUBWKS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION - staff to review and advise
- CAP 40 ADMIN HILL TOWN Subdivision - staff to review and include Town payments for local improvements
- CAP 41 ADMIN - staff to provide a list of internal borrowing and amounts
- CAP 47 ADMIN - INFILT SEWERS - Capital Expenditure - staff to review use of reserves and report back
- CAP 79 and 81 Tree Donations - staff to proceed only if developer tree donation received
- CAP 118 PUBWKS CONST - staff to provide media release - 2026 Construction projects
- CAP 131 PUBWKS-F SAFETY DEVICS/SIGNAGE - staff to advise on use of funding

**Resolution: 2026-02-37**

**Moved by:** P. Rentsch

**Seconded by:** L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** OPER 190 ADMIN-FAC MILL ST be reduced by \$5,000 to cover annual testing costs.

DEFEATED

**Resolution: 2025-02-38**

**Moved by:** P. Rentsch

**Seconded by:** L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Cityview Software CAP 145 - Road Patrol Capital Expenditure and Licensing OPER 555 be deferred until budget 2027.

CARRIED

**Resolution: 2025-02-39**

**Moved by:** P. Latam

**Seconded by:** L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** CAP 107 - PUBWKS-1 BRIDGES AND CULVERTS be reduced to \$50,000 and include \$50,000 in the 2027 Budget discussion.

CARRIED

**Resolution: 2026-02-40**

**Moved by:** J. Jonker

**Seconded by:** P. Latam

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council receive the Report – Second DRAFT 2026 Operating and Capital Budget;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the changes discussed in the meeting be made for the next budget presentation on March 10, 2026 and that staff work towards a 5% or less increase.

CARRIED

**5. Confirm Proceedings**

**Resolution: 2026-02-41**

**Moved by:** P. Rentsch

**Seconded by:** L. Dart

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** leave be given to introduce a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Special Council Meeting held on February 24, 2026 and that it be given the necessary readings and be passed and numbered as By-Law 2026-15.

CARRIED

5.1 2026-XXX A By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grand Valley at the Special Meeting - 2026 Budget held on February 24, 2026.

**6. Adjournment**

Mayor Soloman thanked Staff for their work and Council for input and discussions.

**Resolution: 2026-02-42**

**Moved by:** L. Dart

**Seconded by:** J. Jonker

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now adjourn this Special Council Meeting at 6:25 p.m.

CARRIED

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Steve Soloman, Mayor

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Meghan Townsend, Clerk