

**STANDISH CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
October 6, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor King called the regular meeting of the Standish City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor King led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: King, Link, Lincoln, Fleszar, Myers

Absent: Spencer, Niernberg

Moved by Fleszar and supported by Lincoln to accept roll call with Spencer and Niernberg absent.

All approved. Motion carried.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Fleszar and supported by Lincoln to approve the agenda as presented.

All approved. Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- **TSC Manager Dave Lefeaver** – Requested Council allow a variance to the ordinance prohibiting food trucks within the City Limits for a nonprofit event TSC is hosting on November 1, 2025.

Moved by Myers and supported by Fleszar to allow TSC to have a food truck on November 1, 2025, for a nonprofit organization.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Myers, Lincoln, Link, Fleszar

Nays: King

Absent: Niernberg, Spencer

Motion carried.

- **Magline Representative Nathan Simon** – Requested to allow a food truck to park in their lot near M-61 for employees and the public.
 - Council declined the request.
- **Cedar Street Laundry, Nate Bladecki** – Announced plans to start an additional business within Cedar Street Laundry: Wedding Clothing Rentals.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Myers and supported by Fleszar to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2025, regular meeting.

All approved. Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Fleszar and supported by Lincoln to approve payment of the invoices for the month of October.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Fleszar, Myers, Lincoln, Link, King

Nays: None

Absent: Niernberg, Spencer

Motion carried.

8. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Audit Presentation – Yeo & Yeo

- City received an unmodified opinion for the 2024–2025 fiscal year – the highest opinion possible.
- **General Fund:** \$1.348 million - Revenue
 - \$56,000 increase over the last fiscal year
 - 58% of funds generated by property taxes, 25% by grants.
- **Expenditures:** \$855,823 for the fiscal year – lower than FY 2023–2024
- **Overall:** Revenue increased while expenditures decreased
 - Principal debt payments dropped
 - Fewer capital expenditures purchased
 - Fund balance increased by \$490,000
- **Sewer:** Operations steady – no change in revenues or expenditures
- **Net Assets:** Purchase of Bar Screen increased city’s capital assets
- **Water:** Revenues decreased, expenses increased
 - Overall, water and sewer showed a positive net increase
- **Pension:**
 - Dropped to \$567,536 this year
 - 78% funded – dependent on stock market performance
- **Material Weaknesses:**
 - Fire truck was entered into the general ledger incorrectly
 - Time study needed to determine amounts billed to other funds for admin fees

B. Ordinance 285 – Sewer Improvement Revenue Bonds

An ordinance to provide for the issuance and sale of revenue bonds for the sewer improvement grant project.

Moved by Fleszar and supported by Myers to approve Ordinance 285 providing for the issuance and sale of revenue bonds for the sewer improvement grant.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Myers, Lincoln, Fleszar, Link, King

Nays: None

Absent: Spencer, Niernberg

Motion carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. DDA Board Member Appointment

- Shana Castle resigned from the DDA Board due to scheduling conflicts.
- The DDA Board recommended appointing Sheena Carter to the vacant seat.

Moved by Fleszar and supported by Lincoln to appoint Sheena Carter to the DDA Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Lincoln, Link, Fleszar, Myers, King

Nays: None

Absent: Spencer, Niernberg

Motion carried.

B. Siding Quote – Sewer Lagoon Building

- Received four estimates from local businesses to reside the sewer lagoon building.
- Lowest bid: AM Construction – \$25,390.

Moved by Myers and supported by Fleszar to accept AM Construction’s estimate to side the sewer lagoon building.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Lincoln, Fleszar, Link, Myers, King

Nays: None

Absent: Spencer, Niernberg

Motion carried.

C. Sewer Rate Study

- Sewer rate study completed with several options presented.
- City Manager recommends increasing the ready-to-serve rates:
 - ¾” → from \$5 to \$15.16 (inside city) / \$10 to \$30.31 (outside)
 - 1” → from \$5.50 to \$26.98 (inside) / \$11 to \$53.96 (outside)
 - 1½” → from \$9 to \$60.63 (inside) / \$18 to \$121.26 (outside)
 - 2” → from \$14.50 to \$107.77 (inside) / \$29 to \$215.54 (outside)
 - 3” → from \$55 to \$242.52 (inside) / \$110 to \$485.03 (outside)
 - 4” → from \$70 to \$431.07 (inside) / \$140 to \$862.14 (outside)
 - 6” → from \$105 to \$970.06 (inside) / \$210 to \$1,940.12 (outside)

- Recommendation to combine the sewer debt fee into the ready-to-serve fee to ensure debt payments remain stable.
- Rate study should be updated every 2–3 years to avoid large increases.
- A public hearing will be required prior to adoption of rate increases.
- Baker Tilly and OHM recommend establishing a reserve for future projects.

D. BS&A Payments

- BS&A offering a \$1,500 discount to switch to BS&A Pay with transition to BS&A Cloud.
- City must purchase a new credit card machine – \$350.
- Online and credit card payments will post directly into the system.
- City will pay the 3% fee for utility bill credit card payments; customers will continue paying the 3% fee for property tax payments.

Moved by Link and supported by Myers to move forward with BS&A Pay.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Lincoln, Myers, Fleszar, Link, King

Nays: None

Absent: Spencer, Niernberg

Motion carried.

E. Christmas Parade

- Christmas Parade scheduled for November 21, 2025.
- Requested street closures: begin at Lovett Lane, proceed west on Cedar to Forest Street, right on Forest. Cedar (from Mill to the red light) to remain closed during tree lighting, with parade participants parking there during the event. The Sheriff's Department or Fire Department will block streets.

Moved by Link and supported by Myers to approve the 2025 Christmas Parade and associated street closures.

All approved. Motion carried.

10. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Mason reported:

- Sewer project – out for bidding on the second part of the project.
- SSC water project – awaiting progress on the building at the corner site.
- Spark Grant – public notice posted; permit expected soon to begin bidding process.
- Standish Strong event may return next year.
- Tribal 2% Fund grant announcements expected in November

11. MAYOR & FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT

Mayor King reported:

- Municipalities will be meeting soon to discuss combining the Sterling Fire Authority and the Standish Fire Authority.
- A car has been parked for an extended period in the city parking area by Lions Park.

12. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- **Link:** Elm Street improvements look much nicer; Vantage has had recent employee layoffs.
- **Lincoln:** Resident asked if Forest Street will be repaired soon—it is in poor condition.
- **Myers:** Depot Days went very well this year with good weather; 128 S. Court Street needs a grass letter; Dobson Drain needs cleanup; sidewalks on Church St. and Front St. need repairs; underage kids have been driving golf carts; motorcycle frequently speeding on Front St.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor King adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Champagne Southworth, City Clerk

Kevin King, Mayor