

CITY OF CASEVILLE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

March 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER:

The March 23, 2026 Special Meeting of the Caseville City Council was called to order by Mayor Kenneth Rathje at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Caseville City Hall, 6767 Main St., Caseville Michigan. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Krueger, Jeff Hervert, John Tait, Jacob Kretzschmer and Kenneth Rathje Mayor. Absent: Darin Sprague & Dawn Talaski. Others Present: Jamie Learman, City Manager and Troy Hartz, DPW Supervisor.

SET AGENDA:

MOTION Carried, by Talaski second by Kretzschmer to set the agenda as presented. **4-0 Approved.**

PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation of proposed water system improvements plan and preliminary engineering report. Presenters were Todd Elliot of Jacobs Group and Mike Vander Ploeg of Fleis & Vandenbrink.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

During the presentation officials from Port Austin's Huron Regional Water Authority asked that we consider running a line to Kinde to connect to their system, instead of the >60 million Alt 0 line along M-25. There were no financial details available such as cost of pipe, equipment needed, buy-in, capacity, cost of water, etc. This is later referred to by the attendees as "option #4."

A letter from Tom Paul was read with questions he had. Paul stated his questions were all answered during the presentation.

Karen & Bruce Bendes said they would like to look Port Austin.

Mark Wajer thought Alt # 1-3 were "band aids" and he'd like to see Port Austin.

Tom Rutkowski asked if there was any discoloration in Port Austin's water.

Jenny Pionk wanted to know the cost of option #4.

Joe Bulatow said his water was like chocolate coming out of his water heater and he liked option #4.

Vincente Deene wanted to know the costs of option #4.

Time and Jan Quinn liked option #4 and said we need safe water.

Gretchen McBride would like to entertain #4.

Amy Redwantz wants to make sure we try treating this summer, alt 2 was positive and questioned the life expectancy of option #4's plant.

Carol Weber liked option #4.

Michael Barron wanted to know option #4 costs and was hoping we will pretreat this summer.

Jesse Klaska added that Bad Axe owns the lines and operates lifts from Port Austin.

Doug Diehl liked option #4.

Bob Siver liked option #4.

Dean Wilson said we needed to run the line out as far as possible or go with option #4.

Mark Green from Huron Regional Water Authority talked about the water from Port Austin.

Wendy Waldrep said option #4 sounds wonderful, but need costs.

Karen Ramsey liked option #4.

Deedee Lovelace talked about her water heater issues and like option #4.

Ray Quiel studied the document and alt 2 was positive from the data. Option #4 need more data and safe water.

Jamie Learman said we also have to consider labor costs in addition to the cost/gallon from Port Austin.

NEW BUSINESS:

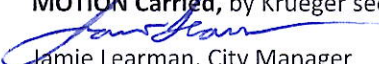
RESOLUTION #2026-18, by Krueger second by Hervert to pick alternative # 2 for the proposed water system improvements submission to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). **Roll Call Vote Approved 4-0.**

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION Carried, by Krueger second by Hervert to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. **4-0 Approved.**


Jamie Learman, City Manager


Kenneth Rathje, Mayor

Persons in need of accommodation for effective participation in the meeting should call (989) 856-2102 to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. Copies of the minutes may be purchased or viewed in the Office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mon - Fri (except holidays)