

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, June 4, 2007, in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Knol.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Buck, Knol, Wiggins, Wright.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: McShane.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: City Clerk Halberstadt, City Manager Pastue, Treasurer Weber.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

06-07-106 MOTION by Wiggins, seconded by Buck, to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

FISCAL YEAR 2007/08 BUDGET AND MILLAGE LEVY

Public Hearing

City Manager Pastue reviewed a five-year projection for the general fund including major line items: retiree health insurance, pension system contributions, employee health care premiums, salary increases and additional shared services. He noted a change in year 2011 when a sewer bond representing 1.5 mil drops off. He discussed expected tax revenue over the next five years.

Pastue recommended that in the future the City consider increasing DDA captured value to 100%. He stated this increase would be a tremendous asset to the Downtown in providing more resources and at some point may offset the Principal Shopping District (PSD) assessment.

Discussion followed concerning financial options when the sewer bond expires in 2011. Discussion continued regarding how Farmington's tax levy compares with other communities.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Wright, Pastue stated the DDA Development Plan would need to be updated in order to make a change to the captured value.

In continuing a review of the proposed budget, Pastue discussed some of the major projects under consideration and one-time items in the General Fund.

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Mayor Pro-Tem Knol opened the public hearing and invited comment regarding the proposed FY 2007/08 budget and millage.

There being no public comment, Mayor Pro-Tem Knol asked for a motion to close the hearing.

06-07-107 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Wiggins, to close the public hearing.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilmember Buck noted the importance of DDA sponsored activities to businesses in the Downtown and questioned whether increased DDA dollars would translate into increased activities.

Discussion followed regarding the number of opportunities that would be available in the Downtown with an increase in captured value.

Knol, referring to a suggestion from administration that Council may want to consider a public referendum to fund the Grand River Streetscape and Grove Street Project, stated such a referendum would require a strong communication plan to the public. She further stated it would be important to inform the public that the referendum would not mean an additional cost to them.

Pastue stated an approved referendum provides the benefits of a better rate of return and public support for the project. Discussion followed regarding the risk involved in a public referendum.

Buck advised the City should ensure minimal business disruption during the Grand River and Grove Street projects.

Consideration to Adopt Fiscal Year 2007/08 Budget and Establish Millage

RESOLUTION 06-07-108 Motion by Wiggins, seconded by Buck, to to adopt the 2007-2008 fiscal year budget and establish the local property millage rate for 2007. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Knol, Wiggins, Wright, Buck.

Nays: None.

Absent: McShane.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT FISCAL YEAR 2007/08 JOINT AGENCY AND AUTHORITY BUDGETS

RESOLUTION 06-07-109 Motion by Wright, seconded by Wiggins, to adopt the 2007-08 fiscal year budgets for the Farmington Downtown Development Authority, Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, 47th District Court and Joint Agencies. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

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ROLL CALL

Ayes: Wiggins, Wright, Buck, Knol.
Nays: None.
Absent: McShane.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO AMEND CITY FEE SCHEDULE

RESOLUTION 06-07-110 Motion by Wiggins, seconded by Wright, to adopt a resolution to amend fees associated with water and sewer rates, residential recycling rates and Civic Theatre admissions, effective July 1, 2007. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Wright, Buck, Knol, Wiggins.
Nays: None.
Absent: McShane.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO AMEND FISCAL YEAR 2006/07 BUDGET

Pastue reviewed recommendations reflected in the proposed amendment to the budget including: reduction in transfer amount to the retirement fund, pay classification study for non-union positions, Multi Cultural Multi Racial (MCMR) master plan implementation and transfer Public Safety outlay for in-car cameras to next year's budget.

Responding to a question from Knol, Pastue stated MCMR will likely reduce the scope of their master plan in the future due to financial constraints.

RESOLUTION 06-07-111 Motion by Wright, seconded by Wiggins, to adopt a resolution approving Budget Amendment No. 9 for the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 budget as presented. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Buck, Knol, Wiggins, Wright.
Nays: None.
Absent: McShane.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED WITH IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Mayor Pro Tem Knol expressed her support for the project and thanked Councilmember Buck for his efforts and patience in its development and approval.

06-07-112 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Wiggins, to authorize issuance of Request for Proposals for an Identity Development Plan in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority. [SEE ATTACHED PROPOSAL]. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Pastue presented a proposed site plan for a Walgreens Store to be located in the Drakehire Plaza. He indicated this project is on a tight due diligence schedule. He advised that at the June 18 meeting, Council would be asked to approve requests for a sign variance and lot split.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Annabelle Gabel, 23089 Violet, stated she enjoyed a recent movie at the Civic Theatre and asked when the increase in ticket prices would take effect. She commented on the overgrown grass in the lot next to Flagstar Bank.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember Wiggins questioned the status of funding for the Headstart Program and the Community Musical Performance, as proposed by Farmington Hills at the May 3, 2007 joint meeting. He noted those two items were not included in the resolution adopted by Council to approve the FY 2007/08 budget.

Wiggins stated he is comfortable not including those two items in the budget.

Councilmember Buck congratulated Treasurer Weber and his staff for a great job on the budget.

Wiggins noted that July 20th is recognized as National Small Cities and Towns Day and is also Friday of the Founders Festival. He suggested incorporating this annual recognition into the festival.

ADJOURNMENT

06-07-113 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Wiggins, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

JoAnne M. McShane, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

APPROVED: June 18, 2007