

**CITY OF FARMINGTON
AND
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
SPECIAL MEETING**

**JOINTLY FUNDED AGENCIES BUDGETS
May 4, 2006**

A special meeting of the Farmington/Farmington Hills City Councils and the Jointly Funded Agencies was held on Thursday, May 4, 2006 at the 47th District Court, Upstairs Jury Room, 31605 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order by Farmington Hills Mayor Barnett at 7:38 p.m.

FARMINGTON COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Buck, Knol, McShane, Wiggins.

FARMINGTON CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Deputy Clerk Halberstadt, City Manager Pastue, Assistant Treasurer Weber.

FARMINGTON HILLS COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bates, Barnett, Brickner, Bruce, Massey.

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

City Manager Brock, City Clerk Dornan.

Farmington Hills Mayor Barnett welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Todd Lipa of the Mayor's Youth Council to give the first presentation.

MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL

Present: Todd Lipa

Todd Lipa advised of the Youth Council's budget request of \$6,450.00, noting the Youth Council continues to grow into its sixth year with continued increase in membership. He stated members of the Council attended the Michigan Symposium and conferences in both Washington, D.C. and North Carolina. He discussed the major impact the Council has had on its members.

Lipa stated they continue to have two meetings per month and the youths are working hard on the Brian Farmer State Park.

Responding to a question from Mayor McShane, Lipa stated they are in their 2nd year of their cable show. He also noted they are working on marketing video for the Youth Council.

Responding to an additional question from Mayor McShane, Lipa stated that the Youth Council has written a couple of articles for the Observer and will investigate the possibility of a regular column.

Councilmember Bruce asked how many youths were expected to attend the conferences this year. Lipa replied 2-3 works well and around 4-6 youths for the Washington, D.C. trip. He stated they may be a little over budget for conferences and workshops, but fundraising dollars will help offset that overage. Lipa advised that the youths must earn the right to attend these conferences.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Knol, Lipa stated the Council has 16-17 members with 150 youths on the roster sheet that receive e-mails.

Councilmember Knol asked if there was good participation as a result of school system involvement. Lipa replied it is a little better this year, but overall it has not been very successful.

Councilmember Bates noted that the Youth Council has a great impact on children's lives.

Councilmember Brickner asked if this year's budget was the same as last years. Lipa responded it is basically the same, but the conference and workshops amount was up \$1,000 since that part of the budget was cut as requested by the Councils last year.

Mayor Barnett stated she enjoyed meeting with the youth and felt four was the optimal number to go to Washington D.C. She stated these kids become stellar kids by virtue of this program. Barnett further stated it was difficult to cut the travel budget because of poor representation at the NLC.

Mayor McShane stated she was impressed with the diversity of the children on the Council.

Mayor Barnett remarked everyone learns a lot from these kids.

Mayor McShane thanked Mr. Lipa for doing a great job.

COMMISSION OF CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Present: Todd Lipa and Meaghan Battle

Mayor McShane noted the budget request was the same as last year.

Meaghan Battle stated they are looking at partnering with city and schools to provide information on early childhood development. She advised that an early childhood committee would provide information in print material to help parents.

Todd Lipa commented they started a television show about 6 months ago on Channel 8, conducting interviews with different agencies and have highlighted "Turn Your Television Off". He stated they continue to get the word out about helping all families.

FARMINGTON AREA COMMISSION ON AGING

Present: Lewis Cantor and Mary DiManno, Sr. Adult Supervisor.

Lewis Cantor announced the commission will celebrate its 30th anniversary. He stated the commission promotes the dignity, well being of older adults through education and advocacy and all funds go towards this effort.

Cantor discussed the Table Top Program which allows seniors to come in and talk confidentially about problems they may not be able to resolve elsewhere.

Cantor stated they conducted letter writing campaigns to Congress for the CDBG Flood Grant. They are instituting an Issues and Advisory Committee to solicit ideas from seniors on how the Commission can improve their services.

Cantor noted that a large part of the budget goes for the senior Farmington Area directory. He further noted that they have Project Healthy Living which is an educational based organization. Cantor stated once a year they team up with Botsford Hospital and United Way to provide free screenings. He noted they served 160 people last year with health screenings and this year they served 10% more without paid advertising.

Mary DiManno stated she was grateful for the support of the Councils, Commission and Senior Activities Program. She noted they are pro-active in educating the community on identity theft and consumer protection.

Mayor Barnett commented that the Commission does a lot of work on Medicare Part D.

Mayor Barnett stated "they are getting a big bang for the buck" since the senior population is growing and the Commission is not asking for more money.

Cantor stated they are planning a "Meals on Wheels" fundraiser walk on May 20th at Heritage Park.

CITIZENS CORPS COUNCIL FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Present: Ken Massey, Chairperson

Ken Massey stated the Citizens Corps Council for Emergency Preparedness is now known as the Emergency Preparedness Commission and is composed of a group of volunteers from Farmington and Farmington Hills. He noted the wide range of experience of the volunteers including city liaisons from the police, fire and Public Safety Department.

Massey stated the budget numbers are the same as last year and the money goes to public awareness sessions. He stated the mission statement of the Commission

includes increasing the awareness of the public in ways that they can prepare themselves to meet challenges should a large or small scale emergency occur.

Massey noted over 700 people have gone through their programs which include: splinting, burns, CPR, the 911 system, and a woman's defense seminar. Massey commented they get information out to the public via cable shows, newspapers, open house, and a handbook/calendar which was funded by the EDC.

Massey stated he felt the Commission was doing a great job in raising the awareness of what people should be doing to prepare themselves. He noted their participation in the City Open House. He further noted the program was showcased in the National league of Cities.

He advised that awareness programs will continue with a shift to awareness implementation. He commented that they are looking for creative programs to move from awareness to implementation and are considering a youth essay contest. He expressed the importance of youth awareness.

Councilmember Wiggins asked when the Commission started and Massey replied it is in its 4th year.

Councilmember Bates asked if the Commission had done any Bird Flu planning and Massey responded they have not, but have discussed options. He stated they met with Terry Blackburn who is an expert on the Bird Flu and the threat is still unknown.

Councilmember Bates asked when it is supposed to hit this country. Massey replied early to mid-summer.

Mayor McShane asked about members on the Commission from Farmington. Massey responded that Ken Murray is co-chair, Cheryl Oliverio is a Council liaison and he started as a charter member. Mayor McShane asked if they would want a Council liaison from Farmington and Mr. Massey responded yes. Mayor McShane stated Council would take that under advisement.

47TH DISTRICT COURT

Present: Dave Walsh, Court Administrator; Stacy Parke, Deputy Court Administrator, and 47th District Court Judges Marla Parker and James Brady.

Judge Parker welcomed everyone and invited the new Council members to tour the court facilities.

Court Administrator Walsh stated this is the least complicated budget presented and there are no special requests, noting the budget is tight.

Walsh reviewed the Caseload Activity in the Annual Report and noted an increase in landlord/tenant cases which is typical for an aging community, multi-family community and the economy.

Walsh noted the Collection's Program has been very successful in terms of collecting on delinquent fines and costs and he credited Stacy Parke, Deputy Court Administrator, for its creation and implementation of the program. Walsh stated since its inception over one million dollars has been collected. He discussed the strategy involved in making collections. He noted the Court's collections program has offset drop-offs in revenues in other areas and has been a great success.

Walsh reviewed the Government Payment Services which included a third-party credit card service through Government Payment Services (GPS) which offers a user-friendly credit card payment option available 24 hours per day, seven days per week via a toll-free number. He stated the Court does not absorb bank fees on GPS transactions. He noted the Court has to provide an in-person credit card payment option which is available during regular Court business hours.

Judge Parker reviewed the Sobriety Court Project and stated they are meeting their expectations. She stated twenty-two people have participated in the program. She discussed the progress and administration of the Sobriety Court Project. Judge Parker stated through treatment, testing and positive support, a successful participant will be better able to assume responsibility for his own sobriety. She noted they are operating within the existing budget.

Walsh stated they assess \$200 for each drunk driving case in order to reimburse the Police Departments for their cost and have collected just under \$35,000 for Farmington Hills and \$12,500 for Farmington.

Councilmember Knol asked for a breakdown on filings of Landlord/Tenant Cases based on city and location.

Councilmember Bruce stated he was interested in data regarding commercial buildings versus single family homes. Walsh replied that data is not in their computer.

Judge Parker noted an increase in evictions and foreclosures.

Councilmember Ellis questioned a line item in the budget regarding interpreter fees being less than last year. Walsh responded they will be using AT & T language lines which have reduced the cost.

Judge Brady stated the judges try to reduce and consolidate the use of interpreters.

Mayor McShane noted the cost of the maintenance of the buildings and grounds increased. Walsh responded that costs are going up including mechanical contracts and they are bidding out regularly to try to contain costs. Mayor McShane asked if they

had anticipated these costs when the building was being built. Walsh replied the rise in utilities was unexpected.

Discussion followed regarding the use of the Court basement.

Mayor McShane stated security is important and asked if weapons are found on a regular basis at the Court. Walsh confirmed weapons are found.

Ellis stated the Court is doing a fabulous job and has received positive feedback from attorneys who are well satisfied with 47th District Court.

Mayor Barnett stated she did not see any money budgeted for conferences or continuing education. Walsh replied it is outlined under the Transportation line.

FARMINGTON AREA YOUTH ASSISTANCE

Present: Ed Cleland, Chairperson; Pamela Lyle, Full-time Caseworker; Jim Mitchell and Ambrish Sundaram

Ed Cleland stated the requested budget amount is the same as last year.

Pamela Lyle gave a summary of what Youth Assistance does. She stated they are a non-profit agency that serves youth and families living within the boundary of the Farmington School District. She stated they are a tri-sponsorship including Farmington, Farmington Hills, the Farmington School District and Oakland County with the County providing the staffing. She commented it is a two-pronged approach which provides casework services and counseling of school age children. She stated the second prong is the programming where the volunteer Board of Directors is involved.

Cleland discussed programs that are offered including their primary program, the summer camp. He noted many of the children that would participate in the camp are financially disadvantaged. He further noted a \$10,000 grant was received from the Free Press that requires a matching grant of \$10,000. He commented on the number of programs offered including tutoring and mentoring.

Jim Mitchell discussed the 5013C Corporation which allows funding from other sources. He stated they can partner with other organizations such as the YMCA. He advised that one of the missions of the Youth Assistance Program is to encourage youth to get involved. He commented on the great volunteers serving on their Board of Directors, however, he stated more are needed.

Lyle commended the dedication of the volunteer board members and their goal to meet the needs of every person in the community.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Massey, Lyle confirmed that services were provided to Clarenceville.

Ellis noted that 136 people were counseled in addition to the camp services. Ellis asked how many kids attended camp and Ms. Lyle responded there were 90 in attendance last year.

FARMINGTON AREA ARTS COMMISSION

Present: Mr. John Young, Haroune Allameddine, Nancy Coumoundouros, and Beverly Ellis.

Mayor Barnett congratulated the Arts Commission on the success of the Art Festival.

John Young reviewed the budget for the Arts Commission explaining the largest expense was for Artist in Residence. He stated the Commission is made up mainly of volunteers.

Haroune Alameddine expressed his appreciation for the support given to the Commission.

Young stated they need to have an in depth study session with Councils regarding a future director.

Bev Ellis stated they have reached a professional level. She further stated she wished there was a way to measure the amount of in-kind services in the community.

Mayor McShane stated the Commission was a great team and noted that they do so much with so little. She expressed her appreciation for their efforts.

The Councils agreed to have a study session with the Arts Commission.

Mayor McShane introduced Sue Halberstadt. Farmington Deputy Clerk and Chris Weber, Farmington Assistant Treasurer.

The Councils concurred to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

CITY OF FARMINGTON

JoAnne M. McShane, Mayor

Patsy K. Cantrell, City Clerk/Treasurer

Susan K. Halberstadt, Recording Secretary

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

Vicki Barnett, Mayor
Kathryn A. Dornan, City Clerk

APPROVED: August 21, 2006