

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
January 7, 2008

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, January 7, 2008, 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 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Knol.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: John T. Buck, Valerie S. Knol, JoAnne M. McShane, Michael J. Wiggins, David J. Wright.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: Director Gushman (arrived at 7:20 p.m.), City Clerk Halberstadt, City Manager Pastue, Treasurer Weber.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

01-08-001 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Wiggins, to approve the agenda as presented.

INTERVIEW PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY – SARA BOWMAN

Council interviewed Sara Bowman for a position on the Planning Commission.

POWER ROAD PROJECT PRESENTATION – ORCHARD, HILTZ & MCCLIMENT

Present: Jonathan Kramer, Director of Municipal Resources
Roberto Scappaticci, PE

Mr. Kramer reviewed plans for the Power Road Project scheduled to begin in late April 2008 with a projected completion date of August 22, 2008.

Mayor Knol requested traffic enforcement on residential streets where traffic may increase as a result of the posted detour routes. She further requested notification of this project accompany the next water billing.

City Manager Pastue stated that information would be provided with the water bill and in addition, an informational meeting will be scheduled to provide details of the project to residents.

Councilmember McShane noted that during the Shiawassee Road Project residents had to put up with an inordinate amount of mud and sinkholes. She requested that measures be taken to avoid this same problem.

SPECIAL MEETING -2-
January 7, 2008

Mayor Knol requested that the South Farmington Baseball Organization be notified of this project.

2008/09 BUDGET FORECAST

City Manager Pastue provided an overview of the 2008-09 budget outlook and a schedule for budget completion. He reviewed budget objectives and forecast for FY 2008-09 and subsequent years. He discussed recommended changes to solid waste/recycling funding, identified recommended General Fund increases, and proposed changes to the Water and Sewer Fund.

Pastue discussed the budget objectives which include maintaining the current overall millage rate while continuing to provide existing services. He recommended continued investment in the City's infrastructure while maintaining the City's strong financial position. He cautioned the City's budget will be tight and reductions to future budgets will be necessary if taxable value continues downward.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Wiggins, Pastue stated the proposed additional TIF capture for the DDA is valued at \$80K. He further responded the additional capture would cost the Library approximately \$15K.

Pastue stated the City will continue to look for savings opportunities in all areas of the budget. He noted the economic downward trend resulting in lower housing values has occurred at a much faster rate than originally anticipated. He advised the economic challenges ahead provide the City an opportunity to restructure and focus on its main priorities.

Councilmember McShane requested the City quantify the cost of services to non-paying entities, such as providing police services for events sponsored by volunteer organizations.

Responding to a question from McShane, Pastue stated the majority of unexpected budget costs are primarily weather-related. He noted the precision of the budget process and the City's ability to accurately forecast revenues and expenditures. He concurred with the need to closely monitor staffing requirements, especially on key projects where volunteers and part-time staff could be used.

Discussion followed regarding the need for Council's increased involvement in the budget process.

OTHER BUSINESS

Responding to a question from Mayor Knol, Pastue stated a response has not been received from DTE regarding a power outage experienced by residents over the holidays. He stated he would follow up with DTE and communicate action to be taken with residents.

SPECIAL MEETING -3-
January 7, 2008

Mayor Knol asked for Council feedback on the SWOCC taping of a recent Council meeting. Councilmember Buck responded that overall he thought the taping was good and captured the content of the meeting. He suggested only one camera might be necessary rather than three that were used.

Mayor Knol requested the City obtain a quote from SWOCC for taping Council meetings with one camera.

Responding to a question from Councilmember McShane, Pastue advised goal-setting would take place concurrently with the budget process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Hank Borgman, 34011 Grand River, questioned the cost of the proposed Grand River Streetscape and Grove Street projects and how they would be budgeted.

Pastue advised the project cost will be part of the operating millage. He emphasized the importance of continuing to invest in the City's infrastructure.

Annabelle Gabel, 23089 Violet Street, asked if plans were moving forward for a Walgreens Pharmacy in Farmington. Mayor Knol confirmed that they were.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember McShane reminded Council of the Arts Council Mix and Mingle Event scheduled for January 29, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. She noted an article in the Detroit Business Magazine regarding the Harvest Moon Event that took place at Riley Park in October. She further noted an article concerning state-run investment pools in Florida that have been frozen.

Mayor Knol reminded Council of the Community Foundation Event scheduled for February 9, 2007 at Western Golf Club.

ADJOURNMENT

01-08-002 MOTION by Buck, seconded by Wiggins, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Valerie S. Knol, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

APPROVED: February 18, 2008