

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2004, 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 6:42 p.m. by Mayor Campbell.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Bush, Campbell, Knol, McShane, Mitchell.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, Director Gushman, City Manager Pastue, Assistant City Manager Richards, Attorney Schultz.

CLOSED SESSION RE: PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY

Mayor Campbell opened the meeting with a request for a motion to enter into closed session.

09-04-185 MOTION by Bush, seconded by Knol, to enter into closed session to consider purchase of real property.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Campbell, Knol, McShane, Mitchell, Bush.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council entered into closed session at 6:45 p.m. and returned to open session at 7:03 p.m.

DISCUSSION OF PENDING ISSUES

CHESLEY STREET FENCE

City Manager Pastue projected that the fence would be installed on Chesley Street sometime in the Spring of 2005. He noted that he would review with the City Attorney the option of a special assessment for this project. Council concurred that a vinyl fence would be the best option.

Discussion followed regarding the proposed amount of the special assessment.

FARMINGTON HILLS STREET VACATION

Pastue advised that he and Director Gushman would review options regarding the vacation of Salvador Street.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Pastue discussed the proposed changes in the Downtown Center, noting that net parking cannot be lost as a result of the addition of the park. Discussion followed regarding the provisions of the agreement with Kimco.

Pastue stated he would offer Kimco the opportunity to meet with the businesses in the Downtown Center to discuss the proposed changes.

Pastue indicated that he would like the opportunity to negotiate with Kimco regarding signage in the Downtown Center. He suggested that in order to promote Kimco's participation, the City could provide a monument sign that would allow them to advertise their businesses.

Responding to a question, Pastue stated that as part of the redevelopment, the City would need to address the Center Holding Property sign at Grand River and Grove Street. Discussion continued regarding signage in the Downtown Center.

Responding to an additional question, Pastue stated the Pavilion design would be presented to Council at the next meeting on September 20, 2004.

SEWER EASEMENT – OLD 47TH DISTRICT COURT

Pastue stated he would continue to keep Council updated on this issue.

FARMINGTON ROAD BRIDGE

Pastue advised that no action needed to be taken, but requested that Council keep it under advisement.

STREET VACATIONS

Pastue indicated that he and Director Gushman would meet to develop a recommendation regarding street vacations in a couple of apartment complexes.

FARMINGTON FUNNY FILM FESTIVAL (F4)

Bob Brown and Tom Buck were present to provide an update on the Farmington Funny Film Festival.

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Mr. Buck stated that the number of venues have been reduced to two locations: the Civic Theatre and the Farmington Training Center. He discussed the films that have been selected. He stated that they have spoken with both the Public Works and Public Safety Departments concerning these locations. He further discussed the recruitment of volunteers and publicity for the event.

Mr. Brown stated that approximately 180 films were submitted---a good response for a first time event. He discussed the variety of submissions that included documentaries and international films. Responding to a question, he confirmed that film ratings would be provided in the programs.

Mr. Buck addressed funding and noted that over \$25K has been raised, as well as over \$50K in in-kind contributions. He expected that all tickets would be sold bringing in approximately \$30K.

Responding to a question, Mr. Brown stated that complimentary tickets would be given to the filmmakers as a courtesy. Assistant City Manager Richards further responded that it was the F4 Committee's decision to only provide complimentary tickets when necessary.

Mr. Buck stated that the Committee has only used \$500 of the funds committed by the City to the festival. He talked about the national and international exposure of the festival, noting that there will be a national radio broadcast on the Saturday afternoon of the festival. He suggested ways in which Council could help with the festival, including: helping to sell tickets and solicit sponsors.

McShane asked about the Committee's expectations from Council during the festival. Mr. Brown responded that they should just attend the festival and enjoy it. He stated that he is encouraged with the response the Committee received from the film industry. He stated that a brochure will be available shortly showing what films will be shown and where.

Discussion continued regarding ticket sales and marketing of the event. Responding to a question, Richards advised that the F4 Committee has encouraged Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Director Morgan to meet with the business community to encourage them to extend their hours during the festival. Knol advised that a letter regarding the festival went out to all of the DDA members.

Councilmember Bush asked if a representative of the F4 Committee would be available to speak to service clubs. Mr. Brown responded that they were scheduled to speak to the Optimist Club the next day and would be willing to speak to others. Responding to an additional question, Mr. Brown stated that the films have been reviewed by a committee.

Responding to a question, Mr. Brown stated that the Committee has not made a real effort to involve the City of Farmington Hills. Richards confirmed that the postcard

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mailing went to Farmington residents only. Discussion followed regarding the feasibility of additional mailings to Farmington Hills.

Responding to an additional question, Mr. Buck stated that there would be no street vendors because they would be competing with local businesses.

Knol suggested distributing flyers to public schools publicizing the opening night outdoor movie. Responding to a question, Mr. Brown stated that the outdoor movie would be shown in the Downtown Center if the lights can be turned off, otherwise Shiawassee Park might be an option. He confirmed that the outdoor movie shown on Thursday would be free. He further confirmed that a back-up location in case of inclement weather would be the gym at the Farmington Training Center.

Bush concurred that complimentary tickets should be limited and recommended that, other than for the Mayor and his wife, Council should be paying for any events they attend during the festival.

Mr. Brown noted that volunteers who sell ten premium tickets would receive a free pass to the awards night event. Responding to a question, Mr. Brown stated that the films that have made the cut are worthy of being seen.

At Council's request, Richards will provide Council with festival brochures.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

ARNOLD T. CAMPBELL, Mayor

PATSY K. CANTRELL, City Clerk/Treasurer