

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, March 1, 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 8:00 p.m. by Mayor Campbell.

PRESENT: Bush, Campbell, Knol, McShane.

ABSENT: Mitchell.

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, Director Goss, Director Gushman, City Manager Pastue, Assistant City Manager Richards.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

03-04-044 Motion by McShane, seconded by Bush, to approve the agenda as submitted. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

03-04-045 Motion by Bush, seconded Knol, to approve the study session and regular meeting minutes of February 16, 2004. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

SIGN VARIANCE REQUEST – JO-ANN FABRICS, 33045 GRAND RIVER

Administration advised that Jo-Ann Fabrics has requested a sign variance in order to display a 36" x 30' temporary sign, publicizing the store closing, until April 17, 2004. Administration further advised that two City Code provisions relating to the variance request provide that temporary signs are limited in the commercial district to 30 days (Section 25-4(5)(b) and banners are prohibited in the Central Business District (Section 25-13(20)).

Responding to a question, City Manager Pastue stated the sign has already been displayed for about a week. Mayor Campbell expressed concern regarding the sign's appearance.

Responding to a question, Director Gushman stated that he could not recall a similar sign having been displayed in the past.

Council member Bush stated her reluctance to approve a sign variance request that was made after the fact.

Mr. Larry Kennaley, representing Jo-Ann Fabrics and responding to Council's concerns, offered to remove the sign the next day.

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RESOLUTION 03-04-046 Motion by McShane, seconded by Bush, to deny the sign variance request from Jo-Ann's Fabrics, 33045 Grand River, and to instruct the proponent to remove the sign by the end of the following day, March 2, 2004. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

RECOMMENDATION OF ANNUAL CITY CONTRIBUTION TO THE FARMINGTON EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Administration advised that the Retirement System Board of Trustees received an actuarial valuation report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2003; and certified the contribution to the Retirement System for the 2004-05 fiscal year to be \$206,638.

Discussion followed regarding the costs related to managing the pension system.

03-04-047 Motion by Knol, seconded by Bush, to receive and file the Farmington Employee's Retirement System Board of Trustee's certification of the required annual contribution to the Farmington Employees' Retirement System for the 2004-05 fiscal year. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REIMBURSEMENT TO FARMINGTON HILLS FOR COURTHOUSE CONSTRUCTION SHORTFALL

Administration advised that the City received an invoice from the City of Farmington Hills for the shortfall associated with the courthouse construction project. Administration further advised that the shortfall includes additional project expenses, interest earnings on bond proceeds being less than anticipated and investment earnings lost on the part of Farmington Hills due to providing advances to cover the shortfall.

Administration advised that the total shortfall is \$1,166,584 of which Farmington's share is 13.51% or \$158,270.65. Administration noted that had the old court building been sold to Oakland Schools for \$825,000, as originally planned, that amount would have been applied to the construction project.

Council member McShane expressed concern regarding the shortage in light of the fact that both the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission building and the Farmington Library renovations also experienced shortfalls.

RESOLUTION 03-04-048 Motion by Bush, seconded by Knol, to authorize reimbursement to the City of Farmington Hills in an amount not-to-exceed \$158,270.65 for the City of Farmington's share of the 47th District Courthouse construction shortfall.

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ROLL CALL

Ayes: Campbell, Knol, McShane, Bush.

Nays: None.

Absent: Mitchell.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION – ESTABLISH HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE

Administration advised that the Oakland County Main Street Program recommended that the City of Farmington consider establishing a historic district that would allow eligible renovation or rehabilitation projects to receive either state or federal tax credits. Administration further advised that the Historical Commission has expressed interest in moving forward with a study committee to initiate this process.

Administration recommended that Council adopt a resolution to allow up to nine committee members and that the entire City be considered rather than limiting the program to a specific geographic area or site(s).

RESOLUTION 03-04-049 Motion by McShane, seconded by Knol, to adopt a resolution to establish a Historic District Study Committee pursuant to Public Act 169 of 1970, as amended. **[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION]**. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

City Manager Pastue stated that the next step in the process would be to solicit individuals to serve on the committee and then return to Council for appointments.

Council member Knol expressed the need to publicize the recruitment for this committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maxwell Stephens, a sixth grader at East Middle School, was present to seek contributions towards his participation in a program of hands-on study this summer through the Earth Explore Learning Adventures Program.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Council member Bush asked about applying for a grant from the Emerald Ash Borer Tree Planting Grant Program. Director Gushman responded that he is currently working on such an application.

Council member Bush informed Council of an open house reception planned for former School Board member, Cathy Webb, to be held at the Farmington Training Center on

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March 8th, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. She also reminded Council of the Reverse Raffle Dinner Dance sponsored by the Farmington Exchange Club to be held on April 2nd.

Mayor Campbell reminded Council of the Bowl-A-Thon sponsored by Special Olympics scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2004.

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2003

Public Safety Director Goss presented the Public Safety Department Annual Report for 2003. He reported that there were 14 Part I crimes (felonies), a 5.58 percent increase over last year and Part II crimes (all other offenses) increased by only one percent. He discussed the types of crimes that occurred in both categories and ten-year trends.

Discussion followed regarding crime trends at Farmington High School. Responding to a question, Director Goss stated that the Public Safety Department no longer has a cadet program due to a lack of need and funding. Responding to an additional question, Director Goss stated that preference is given to protected groups in the department's hiring practices. He noted the competitiveness in recruiting from protected groups.

03-04-050 Motion by Bush, seconded by Knol, to receive and file the 2003 Public Safety Annual Report. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVE MONTHLY PAYMENTS REPORT

03-04-051 Motion by McShane, seconded by Bush, to approve the monthly payments report for February 2004. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

03-04-052 Motion by McShane, seconded by Knol, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

ARNOLD T. CAMPBELL, Mayor

PATSY K. CANTRELL, City Clerk/Treasurer