

MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING
CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM
JUNE 27, 2016, 2016 – 6:00PM

The Study Session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Massey at 6:00pm.

Council Members Present: Bridges, Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey and Rich

Council Members Absent: Steckloff

Others Present: City Manager Boyer, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Mekjian, and City Attorney Joppich

Mayor Massey suggested moving the Department of Public Services Update to the first item of discussion.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES UPDATE

Karen Mondora, Assistant Director of Public Services, stated that the Department was here to provide Council an update on past activities as well the future projects within the Department.

Assistant Director Mondora reviewed a power point presentation that outlined the following:

- 2016 Road Construction Projects
- 2016 Drain and Culvert Studies
- 2017 Tentative Road Construction Plan

Discussion was held on the current Inkster Road construction project and reasons for delays on that project that were due to the location of a gas line. Engineering was reviewing all options before proceeding with any work to determine how to handle the area where the gas line under the road was not as deep as plans had indicated.

Councilmember Rich inquired if there were plans for construction on 12 Mile Road. Assistant City Manager Mekjian responded that there are plans for construction with the use of Tri party funds for 12 Mile Road.

City Engineer Cubera discussed the proposed 2017 road construction projects pointing out that some subdivisions where road improvements are proposed include gravel roads and Council will need to determine how to address those roads and the issue of secondary benefit to those homeowners.

Councilmember Lerner inquired if the City offered engineering services for major roads in the city to expedite some of the improvements. Mr. Mekjian stated that the City has suggested this to the County.

Asst. Director Mondora mentioned that the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan for road construction projects has been posted to the website.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knol stated that Council has discussed before mailings to the residents to notify them that their subdivision is being considered for future road. She wants to make sure that the City is mailing

out notifications in addition to posting information to the website so that residents can take that into consideration in the event they are planning on any major home improvements, etc.

Councilmember Bridges agreed that more communication was needed for the residents other than the website.

City Manager Boyer stated that the City will take advantage of any direct mailings that are going out to all residents such as the Focus Newsletter and Special Services mailings.

Assistant City Manager Mekjian added that a video was also prepared by staff and is being aired over the cable station.

City Engineer Cubera stated that staff is also trying to consolidate SAD districts into one project where it makes sense to be more cost effective.

Councilmember Bridges stated that this information should also be shared with residents that the City is making an effort to combine projects to be more efficient and reduce costs when possible.

In answer to Councilmember Rich, Mr. Cubera stated that the City has created a list serve for all ongoing projects to keep residents up to date and flyers and letters have been distributed as a project proceeds to notify residents of the next steps.

Asst. Director Mondora went on to discuss the following;

- Department self-assessment and accreditation through the APWA
- Drainage Asset Management Plan
- Adopted Water and Sewer Rates
- DPW Equipment Purchases
- Future facility projects
- Goat Program

Kevin McCarthy, DPW Director, discussed some of the DPW equipment purchases and mentioned the equipment the Department has to make its own salt brine to use on the roads in the winter and how that has been a significant cost savings for the city.

Councilmember Bridges commented that the median at I-696 and Orchard Lake Road needs attention as that is a gateway to the community.

Mr. Boyer responded that while it is not the city's property, they have taken over mowing it as it was not being properly maintained.

Council thanked the Department of Public Services staff for their update.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REVIEW

Mayor Massey stated that there were similar comments with each Board and Commission as they have reviewed these at the last two meetings and he feels that City Attorney Joppich has a good idea of the information they are wanting from him, such as updated ordinances or resolutions and some standardizations. He stated that if Council agrees, he would suggest that they discuss the Children, Youth and Families Commission and the new Community Health Commission at a future meeting when Councilmember Steckloff can be present and rather than go through the remaining boards and

commissions one-by-one, that they allow the City Attorney to bring back some information to Council based on their recommendations from past study sessions.

Attorney Joppich confirmed that he would review any state statutes that apply and bring back information and recommendations for standardization for Council to consider.

Council concurred and Mayor Massey suggested that this information is brought back to Council sometime in September.

City Manager Boyer suggested moving forward with filling any key positions on the boards and commissions while this is still under review. Council agreed.

ADJOURNMENT:

The study session meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk