

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL BUDGET STUDY SESSION MEETING  
**VIA TELECONFERENCE**  
MAY 4, 2020 – 6:00PM

The special budget study session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Barnett at 6:00pm.

Council Members Present: Barnett, Bridges, Boleware, Knol, Massey, Newlin and Steckloff

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Boyer, Assistant City Manager Mekjian City Clerk Smith, Directors Barr and Schnackel, Fire Chief Unruh and Police Chief King

Steve Barr, Finance Director, provided an overview of the budget and the impact of COVID-19 on the budget, including state revenue sharing. He noted that this budget is still fluid and there will likely be changes made prior to coming before City Council for approval on June 8, 2020. Currently, there is no stimulus money to aid state and local governments and it is possible that the city will need to reduce the proposed state shared revenue within the budget after the State Conference on May 15, 2020. He discussed the city's major revenue sources and noted that staff has proposed a 30% reduction in revenue and Act 51 funding based on the information available to date.

In response to Council, Director Barr noted that the budget did not factor in vacancies with regard to commercial property taxes but did factor in the potential for more tax appeals. He added that there is adequate funding to complete all projects approved by Council this year.

City Manager Boyer commented that staff has accounted for anticipated personal protective equipment that would be needed and the city has a re-opening plan in place. The City has earmarked \$1 million for COVID related expenses.

The City Attorney and Department Directors provided an overview of their budgets and they were then reviewed with each department by City Council:

City Attorney's Budget  
Special Services Department  
Fire Department  
Police Department  
City Clerk's Office

Points of discussion were as follows:

Special Services Department

- Construction of the new community center, The Hawk, has been delayed due to COVID-19 and a soft opening is expected in December of this year or January, 2021 with a full opening anticipated for March, 2021
- Suggested pool and locker room improvements at the Costick Center and possibly moving some capital improvement money to accommodate those repairs.
- Request from residents for an agility area in the dog park.

- Credit card fees were questioned and it was noted that those fees were built into the programming fees.
- The golf course is now open and the budget includes replacement of the golf cart fleet
- Meals on Wheels program numbers were discussed and the fact that reimbursement from the Coronavirus Response Act is expected
- Proper PPE has been provided to all full and part-time personnel as required

Fire Department points of discussion:

- The Paid-On-Call (POC) program including retention of staff and wages. It was noted the cost of the program was included with the annual wage amount for the employee
- Opening of the EOC for the pandemic and reimbursement of costs through FEMA
- The public safety millage fund

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- The public safety millage fund
- Forfeiture funds and how that money could be utilized
- Replacement of ballistic vests that have a duty life of 5 years

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**

- Unknown costs at this time related to the conduct of the August and November, 2020 Elections
- Election supply costs are anticipated to be lower in the upcoming budget due to the fact that supplies were already purchased from the current budget as they would be needed prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

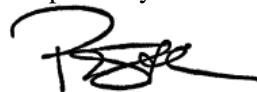
MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, to adjourn the special budget study session meeting at 8:46pm

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk