

MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING
COMMUNITY ROOM
DECEMBER 13, 2021 – 6:00PM

The study session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Barnett at 6:01pm.

Council Members Present: Barnett, Boleware, Bruce, Knol, Massey, and Newlin

Council Members Absent: Bridges

Others Present: City Manager Mekjian, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Valentine, Directors Mondora, Schnackel and Skrobola and City Attorney Joppich

2022 ROAD CONSTRUCTION & PASER RATING UPDATE

Karen Mondora, Director of Public Services, provided a presentation on the following:

- 2021 accomplishments for major and local road projects
- 2022 local road and major road proposed projects
- County and State future projects
- Paser rating update for city roads that improved from a 4.2 rating in 2014 to 5.2 in 2021

Discussion was held on the timing of projects and coordinating local projects with county and state projects when possible.

City Engineer Cubera indicated while the 14 Mile Road project mentioned is an MDOT project, they have tightened timelines for completion with the contract to ensure projects do not go on longer than they should.

Director Mondora noted that there is federal money tied to some of the projects that requires them to be completed in certain years so there will be some overlap of projects.

Local artwork was suggested for the bridge at Orchard Lake Road/12 Mile and I-696. Director Mondora explained that MDOT allows for gateway signage at one location within the community and they are currently looking at options for artwork at that location and that council will most likely see that included in the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) submission.

As part of the notification process to residents regarding upcoming road projects in their area, it was suggested that Everbridge is used as another tool for notification.

SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FISCAL OVERVIEW

City Manager Mekjian stated that staff wanted to discuss with council the financial realities with maintaining the Costick Center and opening the new Community Center (HAWK) and the financial impact on the city as a whole. He stated that staff is seeking consensus from Council to hire a consultant to conduct a full operational study of both facilities. The contract for the consultant would be back to City Council at a regular meeting for consideration.

Tom Skrobola, Director of Finance, presented a power point outlining the city's operational expenses and revenue pre-covid and the financial forecast as it pertains to maintaining the Costick Center and opening of

the HAWK. He explained that major repairs needed for both facilities over the next 5 years amounted to \$36 million and when staff reviewed the most immediate needs, they identified \$12 million in priority needs for the facilities. He noted that the post-covid deficit to the city is unsustainable.

Director Skrobola explained one option was hiring a consultant to evaluate and make recommendations for a sustainable future as it pertains the maintenance and operations of these facilities.

Mayor Barnett inquired about bonding since interest rates are currently so low. Director Skrobola responded that bonding is another very good option.

The consensus of City Council was to move forward with hiring a consultant as outlined but to also review interest rates for bonding.

Director of Special Services Schnackel concurred with having a consultant conduct a study and the need to also review options for partnerships and consolidation of programs.

ADJOURNMENT

The study session meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk