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<th>DAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>City Council Workshop</td>
<td>5:30PM</td>
<td>Administrative Conference Room 1827 N. Squirrel Road</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>Council Chamber 1827 N. Squirrel Road</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Planning Commission</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Zoning Board of Appeals</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Downtown Development Authority</td>
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<td>Tax Increment Finance Authority</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Beautification Advisory Commission</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Council Conference Room 1827 N. Squirrel Road</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Brownfield Redevelopment Authority</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Administrative Conference Room 1827 N. Squirrel Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Library Board</td>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>Auburn Hills Public Library 3400 Seyburn Drive</td>
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**NOTE:** Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the City Clerk’s Office at 248.370.9402 or the City Manager’s Office at 248.370.9440 48 hours prior to the meeting. Staff will be please to make the necessary arrangements.
# February, 2020

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<td>Planning Commission</td>
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<td>Tax Increment Finance Authority</td>
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<td>Zoning Board of Appeals</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<td>Brownfield Redevelopment Authority</td>
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<td>Administrative Conference Room 1827 N. Squirrel Road</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Beautification Advisory Commission</td>
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<td>Council Conference Room 1827 N. Squirrel Road</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Library Board</td>
<td>7:00PM</td>
<td>Auburn Hills Public Library 3400 Seyburn Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Public Safety Advisory Commission</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Public Safety Building 1899 N. Squirrel Road</td>
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Workshop Topic:
- Discussion regarding future use of Seyburn Mansion and former OHM Office.

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   4a. City Council Minutes, December 16, 2019
5. APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS
   5a. Motion – To confirm the reappointments to the Public Safety Advisory Committee.
   5b. Recognition of the Fire Department Promotions
6. PUBLIC COMMENT
7. CONSENT AGENDA
   All items listed are considered to be routine by the City council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.
   7a. Board and Commission Minutes
      7a1. Downtown Development Authority Informational Meeting, December 9, 2019
      7a2. Downtown Development Authority Meeting, December 9, 2019
      7a3. Tax Increment Finance Authority Informational Meeting, December 10, 2019
      7a4. Tax Increment Finance Authority Meeting, December 10, 2019
      7a5. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Meeting, December 17, 2019
8. OLD BUSINESS
9. NEW BUSINESS
   9a. Motion - To accept an ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Administration, Section 2-58 of the Auburn Hills City Code on first reading and set for a public hearing, second reading and final adoption on January 20, 2020.
10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL
11. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT
12. CITY MANAGER REPORT
13. ADJOURNMENT

City Council meeting minutes are on file in the City Clerk’s Office. NOTE: Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the City Clerk’s Office at 248.370.9402 or the City Manager’s Office at 248.370.9440 48 hours prior to the meeting. Staff will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.
CALL TO ORDER: Mayor McDaniel at 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: City Council Chamber, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326
Present: Mayor McDaniel, Council Members Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, Moniz and Verbeke
Absent: None
Also Present: Assistant City Manager Grice, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Clerk Pierce, Police Chief Baker, Finance Director/Treasurer Schulz, Deputy Finance Director/Deputy Treasurer Farmer, DPW Director Melchert, Management Intern Hagge
2 Guests

Mayor McDaniel moved Item 7c (2020 Benefits Resolution for Non-Union Personnel) from the Consent Agenda to Item 9c under New Business.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4a. City Council Workshop Minutes, December 2, 2019
Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Knight.
RESOLVED: To approve the City Council Workshop Minutes of December 2, 2019 as presented.
VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None
Resolution No. 19.12.198 Motion Carried (7 - 0)

4b. City Council Minutes, December 2, 2019
Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Moniz.
RESOLVED: To approve the City Council Minutes of December 2, 2019 as presented.
VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None
Resolution No. 19.12.199 Motion Carried (7 - 0)

5. APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS
5a. Motion – To confirm the reappointments to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.
Moved by Knight, Seconded by Verbeke.
RESOLVED: To confirm the reappointment of Craig Capen and Christopher Slocum to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for a term ending December 31, 2022.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None

Motion Carried (7 - 0)

6. PUBLIC COMMENT
7. CONSENT AGENDA
7a. Motion – To approve the revisions to the City Council Rules of Order and Business.

RESOLVED: To approve the revisions to the City Council Rules of Order and Business.

7b. Motion – To receive and file the corrections to the budget amendments approved December 2, 2019.

RESOLVED: To receive and file the corrections to the December 2, 2019 amendments as described in the memo.

Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Knight.

RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None

Motion Carried (7 - 0)

8. OLD BUSINESS
9. NEW BUSINESS
9a. Motion – To authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget of identified accounts according to the details provided in the memo.

Ms. Schulz presented the need to have staff work with budget amendments at the time of need. She stated that this change should help reflect where the budget amounts are at to provide proper account amounts, better accountability and help to minimize the amount of adjustments that need to be made at the end of the year.

Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Moniz.

RESOLVED: To approve the Finance Director/Treasurer or directed staff to amend identified accounts within General Fund individual departments or within other Funds as a reallocation of the current budget as indicated in the memo.

Further, City Council agrees that any language of future agenda items indicating a proposed amendment (which must include the account to be amended, the accounts current budget prior to amendment, and the accounts budget after amendment) will be made as of the date of the approved agenda item without further communication to City Council.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None

Motion Carried (7 - 0)

9b. Motion - To approve the Third Golf Course Maintenance Contract Extension Agreement.

Mr. Grice presented the need to extend the current contract for another year. This decision will allow the new golf course manager the opportunity to focus their efforts to areas that need attention. It was stated that Davey Golf has provided great service to the golf course for the past seventeen years and this extension will help with a smooth transition into the 2020 golf season.
Jerry McVetty, regional golf course manager, mentioned that the former manager of Davey Golf has retired but has been training a new manager that will take over this position to continue the quality of work that has been established in the past making it the premiere golf course in southeast Michigan.

In response to a question by Mr. Knight, Mr. Kittle explained that the main focus for next year is to improve the pace of play, be more of a guest driven organization, and increased customer satisfaction.

Moved by Knight, Seconded by Marzolf.

RESOLVED: To approve the "Third Golf Course Maintenance Contract & Specifications Extension Agreement" with Davey Golf, a Division of Davey Tree, for a total amount not to exceed $503,700 for the 2020 golf season and authorize the City Manager to convey acceptance by purchase order.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None

Resolution No. 19.12.203

Motion Carried (7 - 0)

9c. Motion – To adopt the 2020 Benefits Resolution for Non-Union Personnel.

Mr. Grice presented the non-union personnel 2020 benefit resolution for review and approval. For the 2020 year a modest recommended change in the area of annual tuition reimbursement is being requested. The increase would change from $4,000 to $5,000 per year.

Mr. Marzolf stated he would like further discussion on the changes to the non-union personnel benefits, which have taken place over the years, for employee retention purposes.

Attorney Beckerleg stated that Mr. Burmeister and Mr. Marzolf would need to abstain from this issue because as former non-union employees of the City cannot vote on any non-union benefits resolution. He stated that even though this change would not impact them at all, because they are former non-union employees, theoretically they could be connected and therefore they cannot vote on this item.

Moved by Knight, Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To allow Mr. Marzolf and Mr. Burmeister to abstain from this item.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Kittle, Knight, Marzolf, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None

Resolution No. 19.12.204

Motion Carried (7 - 0)

Moved by Verbeke, Seconded by Moniz.

RESOLVED: To adopt the 2020 Benefits Resolution for Non-Union Personnel as attached. (Attachment A)

VOTE: Yes: Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke
No: None
Absention: Marzolf, Burmeister

Resolution No. 19.12.205

Motion Carried (5 - 0)

10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Marzolf – Commented on the water damage at the Community Center. He shared that they have done a great job at cleaning it up and the daily operations are continuing to run smoothly.

Ms. Verbeke – Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. She shared that she is looking forward to working with everyone in the upcoming year.
Mr. Knight – Stated that it has been a great privilege to work with the Council and that they work together very well.

Mr. Moniz – Thanked DPW for installing a bench at Collier and Hill roads.

Mr. Burmeister – Mentioned that Mr. Tanghe was honored with an award at the Silver and Gold Banquet. He also shared that Mr. Stahly and Officer Miller received honorable mention.

Mayor McDaniel – Shared that the 2019 year has been a great year and that there are many great things coming up in 2020. He thanked Mr. Tanghe and Mr. Grice, as well as staff for the work that has been accomplished on behalf of the residents.

11. **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**
12. **CITY MANAGER REPORT**
13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no objections, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:24PM.

Kevin R. McDaniel, Mayor

Laura M. Pierce, City Clerk
ATTACHMENT A

CITY OF AUBURN HILLS
2020 RESOLUTION
BENEFITS FOR NON UNION PERSONNEL – AS AMENDED
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020

This Resolution, as adopted by City Council on August 28, 1985, and subsequently amended as stated in Section XIII of this resolution, is proposed to be amended as follows:

WHEREAS, certain employees of the City are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement;

and

WHEREAS, the salaries and certain benefits for these employees are covered in other Resolutions and Motions of the City Council, but certain other conditions of employment and benefits have not been specifically stated before; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Resolution to specifically state and provide for certain conditions of employment and benefits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following shall be effective for these employees of the City of Auburn Hills:

I. WORK WEEK
The normal work week consists of five (5) days, Monday through Friday. The normal workday consists of eight (8) hours of work with a one-hour lunch break. Normal work hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. In addition to normal office hours, employees may be required to attend evening meetings and perform other duties outside regular office hours in the best interest of the City.

II. VACATION LEAVE
A. Administrative (Non-Union) employees shall receive leave time as follows:

1. First year to end of year 5: 6.66 hours/month (10 days)
2. Year 6 to end of year 9: 10 hours/month (15 days)
3. Year 10 and over: 13.33 hours/month (20 days)
4. Maximum accrual: 1 times annual accrual, excess forfeited

B. Employees who lost time due to on-the-job disability under Worker's Compensation up to a maximum of one (1) year shall receive their vacation as though the time was worked. In instances where employees lose time other than on-the-job disability, the City Manager shall determine the extent of their benefits earned during their absences, if any.

C. Employees are encouraged to take leave and each employee covered by this resolution shall be required to take one period of leave per year consisting of forty (40) consecutive work hours (5 days). Employees may elect to receive a buyout of up to 40 hours of vacation time at the end of each year, to be paid in January for the preceding year and at the preceding year's regular base pay rate, only if the employee has eighty (80) or more hours accumulated in their bank as of December 31. Vacation time buyout shall not be considered as part of Final Average Compensation Calculations for Defined Benefit Pensions.
D. Upon termination of employment, an employee shall be paid for the unused and earned accumulation of leave hours in their leave bank up to a maximum of two (2) times the amount of leave hours allowed on an annual basis.

III. NON-DUTY CONNECTED DISABILITY
   A. The employer shall pay the premium to provide the STD insurance policy presently in effect. The weekly benefit shall be equal to 66 2/3% of the employee's base weekly salary to a maximum of $1,500.00.

   B. The employer shall pay the premium to provide the LTD insurance policy in effect. The monthly benefit shall be equal to 66 2/3% of the employee's base monthly salary to a maximum of $6,500.00.

IV. Sick Leave
   A. All administrative employees shall accrue sick leave at the rate of eight (8) hours for each month of service, not to exceed ninety-six (96) hours per year.

   B. Sick leave is provided to permit an employee to remain in pay status while absent from work because of:
      1. Personal illness or injury
      2. Pregnancy
      3. Illness or injury in own family (mother, father, wife, husband, children, step-children).

   C. Accumulation of sick leave may not exceed thirty (30) days at the end of any calendar year. Employees will be paid for all accumulated sick days over thirty (30) at the end of any calendar year.

   D. Upon the employee's death, retirement, or resignation, the City will pay one hundred percent (100%) of the accumulated unused sick time.

   E. Employees off sick shall be required to bring in a doctor's slip if the City Manager requests it. The employer may require an examination of the employee, following an illness or injury, by a doctor of the employer's choice on City time and City expense.

V. DUTY-CONNECTED INJURY PAY
   A. Provisions of the Michigan Worker's Compensation Act shall apply to all duty-connected accidents or injuries of the employees in the line of duty.

   B. The employee shall receive eighty percent (80%) of his/her gross pay exclusive of all deductions for duty-connected injuries for up to one (1) year in conjunction with Worker's Compensation.

VI. OTHER LEAVE
   A. Jury Duty: Any employee required to serve on jury duty will suffer no loss of pay, but will be paid the difference between jury pay and his/her regular pay. The employee shall return to work if his/her presence is not required at court.

   B. Funeral Leave: In the case of death occurring in the employee's immediate family requiring his/her absence during a duty period, the employee shall be granted a leave of absence with pay for such period not to exceed five (5) consecutive work days as will be necessary in the particular circumstances, one day of which shall be the day of the funeral. Immediate family is defined as
the employee's wife, husband, children, mother, father, sister or brother. In the event of the death of other family members, the City Manager may grant appropriate leave.

VII. HOLIDAY PROVISIONS
The paid holidays are designated as follows:

1. New Years Day 6. Thanksgiving Day
2. Good Friday 7. Friday after Thanksgiving
4. 4th of July 9. Christmas Day
5. Labor Day 10. New Years Eve

In addition to the above ten (10) holidays, employees will be granted three (3) "Floating Holidays" each calendar year. The "Floating Holidays" shall be granted at any time provided one (1) week notice is given by the employee. "Floating Holidays" can also be used to extend vacations provided notice is given one (1) week prior to the scheduled vacation.

VIII. HEALTH INSURANCE
Section 1. Active Employee Health Benefits
The employee and his/her eligible dependents shall be covered by health insurance, including a prescription drug plan under the terms and conditions of the plan manager, and cost containment provisions for second opinion surgery, and exclusion for pre-existing conditions may exist. Hospital pre-admission certification may be required for the employee and eligible dependents in accordance with the policy currently in effect.

The City's medical insurances include an HMO/EPO and PPO. The HMO/EPO Plan shall include a $250 deductible, $1,000 per member co-insurance maximum, $20 PCP-OV, $40 Specialist OV, $40 urgent care, and $100 emergency room and coverage found in the HMO/EPO Plan document provided. The PPO plan shall continue as follows: $25 PCP-OV, $50 Specialist OV, $50 urgent care, and $100 emergency room; deductibles $500/single, $1,000/family; co-insurance of 90/10% to $10,000; and out-of-network coverage at 50/50%, and coverage found in the existing PPO plan benefits summary.

A. Job-Related Injury
Health insurance premiums shall be paid for a period of up to five (5) years for an employee disabled due to a job-related injury and for a period of up to one (1) year for other disabilities not related to employment.

B. Medical Insurance Buyout Option
Medical Insurance buyout is available at the rate of $130 per pay period or $3,380 per year to employees who elect to no longer take the City's health care insurance. This waiver of insurance shall apply only to the medical and prescription portion of coverage and not to the dental or optical portions. Should the employee lose coverage from another source, the employee may elect to once again take coverage and to relinquish their right to the monthly buyout. The City shall require that the employee provide proof of insurance coverage from another source (including spouse and dependent coverage where applicable) prior to the City granting buyout payment. In any case, the annual buyout payment shall not exceed 1/3 the cost of the annual premium amount of the medical coverage. Payment for the medical insurance buyout shall not be included as part of the final average compensation calculations for the pension.

C. Prescription Drug Coverage
Prescription drug coverage shall be provided to the employee and his/her eligible dependents based on a three-tier co-pay system whereby the employee is responsible for:

- $10 for Generics
- $30 for Brand Name Drugs
- $80 for Non-Preferred Drugs
with two times the applicable co-pay for the 90-day supply mail-in program and generic enforcement. The plan shall include formulary changes from time to time that may cause drugs to be placed into different co-pay categories. Specialty drugs, as determined by the plan manager shall have a 50% employee co-pay. Availability of specialty drugs shall occur only after all other drug therapies have been exhausted.

D. Dental Coverage  
Dental coverage shall be provided to the employee and his/her eligible dependents through the Delta Dental Family Plan, Class I and Class II, or equivalent coverage from another provider with an accrued benefit amount of $1,200 per family member and an 80/20 co-pay. The co-pay for major restorative (caps, crowns, etc.) shall be 50/50. The coverage shall also include orthodontics with a 50/50% benefit level to a maximum of $2,000 per family member with an age limit of 19.

E. Vision Coverage  
Vision coverage shall be provided to the employee and his/her spouse and eligible dependents through Preferred Vision. Coverage includes annual eye exam, lenses, frames and contact lenses; frame allowance of $135 (approximately) retail, contact lenses $100 for cosmetic purposes/covered in full for medical necessity (in lieu of all other benefits); $10 co-pay for examinations.

F. COBRA  
The City shall offer the employee continuation health coverage as required under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-272 Title IX). The premiums for such coverage shall be the responsibility of the employee and/or eligible beneficiary.

G. EMPLOYEE PREMIUM SHARE  
The Employer may opt to implement either PA 152 cap on an annual basis. The Employee contribution shall be collected by way of twenty four or twenty six equivalent payroll deductions and shall begin on January 1, 2015.

Section 2. Retiree Health Benefits

A. Employees Hired before January 1, 2007  
Health insurance, including a prescription drug plan, dental coverage and optical services, shall be provided for the eligible retiree and his/her spouse. An eligible spouse is one who is the spouse of record two years prior to retirement. In the event of the death of the retiree, the City shall pay the total cost of providing medical coverage, subject to contribution requirements below under “Effective January 1, 2011 for Defined Benefit Retirees”, for the surviving spouse until such time the surviving spouse is eligible for Medicare Supplemental Policy, at which time the City shall pay the cost of the Medicare Supplemental Policy.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2010 FOR ALL RETIREES: Health insurance, including a prescription drug plan, dental family coverage and optical services, shall be available for the eligible dependents of the retiree. Such care may be purchased through the City at a cost of 102% of the policy premium in effect at the time. Eligible dependents qualify by being on record with the City for at least two years prior to employee’s retirement and meeting eligibility requirements of the policies.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011 FOR DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREES: Health insurance, including a prescription drug plan, dental and optical coverage, shall require a contribution from all retirees, regardless of retirement date, as follows: For retirees whose monthly pension payment is equal to or greater than $5,000.00, the employee shall contribute the equivalent of 10% of the monthly premiums for each type of coverage listed in this paragraph.
Continuing Coverage for Surviving Spouse and Eligible Dependents of Retiree hired before January 1, 2007

a. City-paid health care coverage shall be limited to a surviving spouse as defined in 2A., above.
b. The City shall continue to make health care coverage available for eligible dependents as defined and at the cost shown in 2A., above.
c. Regular retirement medical will be provided to the surviving spouse if they are not Medicare eligible, until such time they achieve Medicare eligibility. The employee must have met the eligibility requirements for retiree health care.
d. The City shall provide dental and optical coverage for a surviving spouse of a retiree.
e. The City shall continue to make dental and optical coverage available for eligible dependents as defined and at the cost shown in 2A., above.
f. Once a surviving spouse becomes eligible for coverage under another group medical plan, the City-provided coverage shall cease, subject to COBRA extensions paid for by the surviving spouse.
g. Coverage shall not be available to the surviving spouse once it has been terminated.
h. If an employee should die prior to retirement, the surviving spouse shall qualify for coverage, if the employee had been eligible for normal retirement.
i. If an employee should die prior to retirement, the City shall continue to make coverage available for eligible dependents as defined and at the cost shown in 2A., above, if the employee had been eligible for normal retirement.

B. Employees Hired on or after January 1, 2007

The City will provide a Retirement Health Savings (RHS) Plan for employees with an employer contribution of 3% of base pay only per pay period and a 3% required match by the employee on base pay, during active employment. Such plan shall be utilized as the sole retirement health coverage provided to retirees by the City. No medical, prescription, dental or optical insurances shall be provided to the retiree, spouse or eligible dependents.

IX. RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Section 1. Defined Benefit Plan

A. Pension Benefits

In accordance with the Plan Document, the Defined Benefit Pension Plan shall provide pension benefits to the participating employee calculated using a benefit factor of two and sixty-five-one-hundredths percent (2.65%) for all eligible years of service, to a maximum of 80% of final average compensation and will continue to be provided for the employees covered under this resolution, and to set the age for full retirement for vested employees at the age of fifty-five (55) with early retirement no sooner than age fifty (50) with at least ten (10) years of service with a reduction of calculated benefit of ½% for each month prior to age 55. The Pension Plan for this group shall provide adjustments as follows: January 1, 1992, and annually thereafter as of January 1, the amount of pension benefit payable to each retiree whose service to the City has terminated and has reached fifty-five (55) years of age, shall be increased by five percent (5%) of the amount of pension benefit which the participant is entitled to receive, when such benefit first becomes payable. Each January 1 thereafter, the pension benefit shall be increased by the same dollar amount for a period of fifteen (15) years. Employees in the Defined Benefit Pension Plan who are eligible and elect to retire on or after January 1, 2010, shall have their Cost-of-Living-Allowance reduced from 5% non-compounding for fifteen years to 2.5% non-compounding for fifteen years as prescribed in this section.

Effective on the February 8, 2007 payroll, the pension plan requires a six percent (6%) employee contribution of base earnings to be paid as a pre-tax employer pickup under Internal Revenue Code 414(h)(2). All eligible employees shall participate in the employer “pick-up” program whereby mandatory employee contributions to the Retirement System shall be paid by the City of Auburn Hills in lieu of contributions by the employees. The terms and conditions of such contributions shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code Section 414(h)(2) and related
Treasury Regulations and applicable law. The provisions of this section are mandatory, and the member shall have no option concerning the pick-up or to receive the contributed amount directly instead of having such amount paid by the City directly to the Retirement System. Member contributions picked-up under the provisions of this section shall be treated as City contributions for purposes of determining income tax obligations under the Internal Revenue Code; however, such contributions picked-up under this section shall continue to be designated member contributions for purposes of the Retirement System and all other federal and state laws. All contributions picked-up under the provisions of this section shall be considered part of the member’s salary for purposes of determining the amount of the member’s contribution. Implementation of the pick-up program occurs upon authorization by the Retirement System. In no event may implementation occur other than at the beginning of a pay period. Pensions are vested at fifty percent (50%) for five (5) years of service and ten percent (10%) for each additional year, with full vesting at ten (10) years of service.

Employees in the Defined Benefit Pension Plan shall qualify for retirement medical coverage per the current resolution (as defined in Section IX (2) above) with ten (10) years of service as defined in the pension plan and with the attainment of 55 years of age, or age 50 if an early retirement provision is elected. Employee must be actively employed by the City at the time of retirement in full pay status and meet the qualifying pension age to obtain medical insurance.

B. **Supplemental 401(K) Plan**

   In addition to the Defined Benefit Pension Plan, the City shall make available a Supplemental 401(K) Plan to which employees may make contributions.

   Further guidelines are set forth in Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code and in the plan documents.

**Section 2. Defined Contribution Plan**

   For employees hired on or after April 1, 1998, the City will provide a Defined Contribution Plan jointly funded by the employer and employee. The City shall contribute 9% of base salary without an employee contribution. However, an employee who elects to contribute 3% of base income shall have that matched with an additional employer match of 3%, bringing the total employer/employee contribution to 15% of base salary. City contributions shall vest at the rate of 20% per year, 100% at five (5) years. The plan documents more fully describe the Defined Contribution Plan.

   Employees in the Defined Contribution Plan shall qualify for retirement medical coverage per the current resolution (as defined in Section IX (2) above) with ten (10) years of service and the attainment of 55 years of age. Employee must be actively employed by the City in full pay status at time of retirement and meet the qualifying retirement age to obtain medical insurance.

**Section 3. Deferred Compensation**

   The City shall make available a 457 Deferred Compensation Plan that is funded solely by employee contributions. Such plan is available to employees who participate in either the Defined Benefit or Defined Contribution plans. Rules of participation are found in the employer plan documents and as set forth in Section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Section 4. Voluntary 457 Plan Participation for Defined Contribution Plan Participants Only**

   Effective February 4, 2019, the Employer will match dollar for dollar with the Employee, on a pre-tax basis, contributions to an employee’s 457 plan on each payroll as follows: $10, $20, or $30. Employee contributions are not mandatory; however, employees will not receive an identical employer match to one
of the amounts listed in this section if they do not contribute. Contributions are not tied to wages and therefore are not subject to overtime, rollup costs on benefits, or any other circumstance that would increase employer costs. Employees will make their annual election no later than December 1st for the following calendar year and may not change their election amount until the following election period ending December 1. Failure to make an election by December 1 shall prohibit the Employee from receiving the Employer contribution until the next year’s election. The election date for the introductory year only is January 1.

X. Tuition Reimbursement
The City shall reimburse the cost of tuition at an accredited education institution in accordance with the following:

A. The course(s) must be related to the job.

B. Tuition reimbursement will not be made in advance. The employee will pay for the course and be reimbursed upon proof of completion of the course with a grade of "C" or better, and the submission of a signed affidavit that the amount requested has not been requested or received from another source.

C. City reimbursement will be for tuition and mandatory fees. Books, supplies, and other expenses will be the employee’s responsibility.

D. Reimbursement will apply to active employees only and will require prior approval by the City Manager. Reimbursement will be limited to five thousand dollars ($5,000) per person per calendar year.

XI. Life Insurance
The City shall pay the premium to maintain life insurance in the amount of one and one-half (1 1/2) times the annual salary for employees with less than five (5) years of service, and two (2) times the annual salary for employees with five (5) or more years of service, and who are enrolled in the Defined Benefit Pension Plan.

In lieu of the above described life insurance benefit, the employer shall pay the premium to maintain a life insurance policy equal to three (3) times the annual salary for employees covered by the defined contribution plan.

Life Insurance Reduction Schedule: Employees who are in full time active status and who have attained the age of 65 shall have their life insurance reduced by 35%. From and after age 65, employees who remain employed in full time active status shall receive another reduction of an additional 15% (for a total of 50%) once they have attained the age of 70.

XII. Vested Rights
The passage of this resolution shall not vest upon any employee the right or expectancy to continue receiving any benefits provided for in this resolution. The City Council expressly reserves the right to amend or repeal this resolution, or any part thereof, at any time.
THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADMINISTRATIVELY EXTENDED BY CITY MANAGER CULPEPPER, AUGUST 25, 2006.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, JANUARY 22, 2007.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADMINISTRATIVELY AMENDED BY CITY MANAGER CULPEPPER, DECEMBER 12, 2007.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 2, 2009.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, AUGUST 24, 2009.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 6, 2010.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 5, 2011.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 17, 2012.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 16, 2013.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, DECEMBER 15, 2014.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL, NOVEMBER 23, 2015.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL DECEMBER 12, 2016.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL DECEMBER 11, 2017.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL DECEMBER 12, 2018.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS AMENDED BY THE AUBURN HILLS CITY COUNCIL DECEMBER 16, 2019.

AYES: 5 (Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Moniz, Verbeke)
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTENTIONS: 2 (Marzolf, Burmeister)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, the undersigned, the duly appointed City Clerk for the City of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of “2019 Resolution - Benefits for Non-Union Personnel” as adopted and made effective January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 by the Auburn Hills City Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature on this 16th day of December, 2019.

___________________________________
Laura M. Pierce, City Clerk
To: City Council  
From: Kevin R. McDaniel, Mayor  
Ellen Taylor, Fire Chief  
Jeff Baker, Police Chief  
Submitted: January 6, 2020  
Subject: Motion – Confirming the Reappointment of Members to the Public Safety Advisory Committee.

INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

The members of the Public Safety Advisory Committee are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Auburn Hills with the consent of the City Council as outlined in the City Charter, section 4.30.

Public Safety Advisory Committee by-laws state one representative will be recommended by the Fire Department, one representative will be recommended by the Police Department and the other two positions will be recommended by the Mayor. Please consider confirming the following reappointments to fulfill two-year terms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Member Name</th>
<th>Recommended By</th>
<th>Term Ending Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jay Boelter</td>
<td>Fire Appointment</td>
<td>November 20, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forrest Taylor</td>
<td>Police Appointment</td>
<td>November 20, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donearl Johnson</td>
<td>Mayoral Appointment</td>
<td>November 20, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene Hawkins</td>
<td>Mayoral Appointment</td>
<td>November 20, 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All four of these recommended appointees have served honorably and professionally as past PSAC committee members.

MOTION

Move to confirm the reappointment of Jay Boelter, Forrest Taylor, Donearl Johnson, and Eugene Hawkins, as Public Safety Advisory Committee members for a two-year term ending November 20, 2021.
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME:  Boelter  Jay  P
(Please Print)  (Last)  (First)  (Middle initial)

HOME ADDRESS:  103 Nichols  Auburn Hills  48326  248-678-7376
(Number/Street)  (City/Zip)  (Phone)

EMAIL ADDRESS:  Jayboelter1961@gmail.com

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN AUBURN HILLS?  51  ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN:  Yes

DO YOU WORK IN AUBURN HILLS?  No  LENGTH OF TIME EMPLOYED IN AUBURN HILLS:  
If you work in Auburn Hills, please list the name and address of the business:

(Business Name)  (Number/Street)  (Phone)

PLEASE LIST WHICH BOARD/COMMISSION YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:  Public Safety

WHAT SPECIALTIES/EXPERIENCE/EDUCATION DO YOU BRING TO THIS BOARD/COMMISSION:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)

Public Safety and Zoning board member

LIST ANY CIVIC/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES THAT ARE YOU INVOLVED IN:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)

Please return this form to the City Clerk's Office at the above address for processing. This information will be provided to the City Council, on a public agenda, for the use in making appointment to the various Boards and Commissions at the City Council Meeting.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature  12. 23. 2019  (Date)
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME: TAYLOR Forrest L.
(Please Print) (Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

HOME ADDRESS: 406 Shocum Auburn Hills 48326 248-887-4352
(Number/Street) (City/Zip) (Phone)

EMAIL ADDRESS: TAYSKIR@SBCglobal.net

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN AUBURN HILLS? 63 Yrs ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN: YES

DO YOU WORK IN AUBURN HILLS? NO LENGTH OF TIME EMPLOYED IN AUBURN HILLS:

If you work in Auburn Hills, please list the name and address of the business:

__________________________________________
(Business Name) (Number/Street) (Phone)

PLEASE LIST WHICH BOARD/COMMISSION YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: PSAC

WHAT SPECIALTIES/EXPERIENCE/EDUCATION DO YOU BRING TO THIS BOARD/COMMISSION:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)
Charter Member, 12 years Fire Dept. Selfridge ANB, 1976-79
13 years fire Chief - Auburn Hills Fire Dept. (Retiring TWP)

LIST ANY CIVIC/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES THAT ARE YOU INVOLVED IN:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)
Volunteer- Child I.O National Night Out - Fall Festable
Summer Fest - Road Pick-up Cross Creek

Please return this form to the City Clerk’s Office at the above address for processing. This information will be provided to the City Council, on a public agenda, for the use in making appointment to the various Boards and Commissions at the City Council Meeting.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

(Signature) 12/14/19
(Date)
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME: Johnson Donearl L
(Please Print) (Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

HOME ADDRESS: 201 N. Squirrel Rd. #911 Auburn Hills/48326 248.935.6306
(Number/Street) (City/Zip) (Phone)

EMAIL ADDRESS: donearl@lifechurchauburnhills.org

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN AUBURN HILLS? 7 Years (June) ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN: Yes

DO YOU WORK IN AUBURN HILLS? Yes LENGTH OF TIME EMPLOYED IN AUBURN HILLS: 11 Months

If you work in Auburn Hills, please list the name and address of the business:
Life Church Auburn Hills PO Box 211018 248-934-0759
(Business Name) (Number/Street) (Phone)

PLEASE LIST WHICH BOARD/COMMISSION YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: AH - Public Safety Advisory Committee

WHAT SPECIALTIES/EXPERIENCE/EDUCATION DO YOU BRING TO THIS BOARD/COMMISSION:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)
I have had the privilege of serving on the Public Safety Advisory Committee since 2015.
I had the distinct privilege of honorably serving in the U.S. Navy for 8 years. I was awarded with 3 Navy Achievement Medals for extraordinary service. This experience provided me with the opportunity to work with a very diverse group of individuals who would not allow personal differences to interfere with obtaining the mission at hand. I have a strong passion and commitment for education and excellence. I am an effective communicator who understands and promotes the value of community.

LIST ANY CIVIC/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES THAT ARE YOU INVOLVED IN:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)
1) I was elected in 2015 and currently serve as a Trustee on Avondale School Board. 2) I have the privilege of leading a fatherhood initiative named: Calling All Dads - encouraging and equipping men to be actively involved at home, in the community and throughout the world. 3) I serve as the lead pastor at Life Church Auburn Hills inspiring individuals to daily live a life of passion and purpose. 4) Also, I serve as a Chaplain for the Auburn Hills Police Dept.

Please return this form to the City Clerk’s Office at the above address for processing. This information will be provided to the City Council, on a public agenda, for the use in making appointment to the various Boards and Commissions at the City Council Meeting.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

(Signature) 12/30/19 (Date)
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME: Hawkins, Ill Eunugene
(Please Print) (Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

HOME ADDRESS: 880 Polo Place Auburn Hills, 48326 (248)939-7349
(Number/Street) (City/Zip) (Phone)

EMAIL ADDRESS: ehawk3@aol.com

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN AUBURN HILLS? 23 ARE YOU A U.S. CITIZEN: YES

DO YOU WORK IN AUBURN HILLS? no LENGTH OF TIME EMPLOYED IN AUBURN HILLS: n/a

If you work in Auburn Hills, please list the name and address of the business:

n/a
(Business Name) (Number/Street) (Phone)

PLEASE LIST WHICH BOARD/COMMISSION YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:

Public Safety Advisory Committee

WHAT SPECIALTIES/EXPERIENCE/EDUCATION DO YOU BRING TO THIS BOARD/COMMISSION:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY - E LANSING, BACHELOR OF ARTS CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY - MT PLEASANT - MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE
IN HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATION
OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE - RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFF
EUGENE HAWKINS STATE FARM AGENCY - AGENT/OWNER

LIST ANY CIVIC/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES THAT ARE YOU INVOLVED IN:
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)

AUBURN HILLS PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 2015 - PRESENT
HUNT CLUB HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION - CURRENT PRESIDENT
PONTIAC YOUTH ASSISTANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please return this form to the City Clerk’s Office at the above address for processing. This information will be provided to the City Council, on a public agenda, for the use in making appointment to the various Boards and Commissions at the City Council Meeting.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

(Signature)  (Date)
Call to Order: Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Roll Call
Present: Young, Jernigan, Rasmussen, Volk, Gliniecki, McDaniel (Arrived at 5:32 p.m.), Wise (Arrived at 5:33 p.m.)
Absent: Spurlin, Travnikar
Also Present: Brandon Skopek, Director of Authorities
Guests: Alec Harris, Detroit Riverside Capital

Persons Wishing to Be Heard
Mr. Alec Harris, Detroit Riverside Capital, introduced himself to the Board.

Mr. Skopek stated that Detroit Riverside Capital has purchased the development at 3250 Auburn Road in downtown Auburn Hills from Foremost Development Company.

Review of Projects Completed Over the Last Year
Mr. Skopek reviewed for the Board that Public Act 57 of 2018 requires tax increment financing authorities to hold two informational meetings per calendar year. Informational meetings are for the purpose of informing the public of the goals and direction of the authority, including projects to be undertaken in the coming year. The informational meetings are not for the purpose of voting on policy, budgets, or other operational matters.

Mr. Skopek stated that the Board has participated in multiple projects and initiatives throughout 2019 including the sponsorship of the Friday Night Summer Concert Series, conducting a resource team visit with Main Street Oakland County to further the Board’s Main Street initiative, hosting the City’s first annual SeptemBEERfest, participating in a development incentive for Robertson Brothers’ Riverside Townes, partnering with the Tax Increment Finance Authority for downtown marketing, hosting a pop-up Halloween movie night in Riverside Park, and funding irrigation along Parkways Boulevard.

Fiscal Year 2020 Plans
Mr. Skopek stated that 2020 will closely mirror 2019 with the addition of creating and establishing DDA committees to assist with promotions and event planning for downtown and additional downtown events. The Board will meet more frequently in 2020, including some joint meetings with the Tax Increment Finance Authority. Another proposed addition for 2020 is applying for Associate Level status with Main Street Oakland County.

Mr. Volk asked if there was any discussion on improvements for next year’s SeptemBEERfest.

Mr. Skopek stated that staff held a wrap-up meeting to discuss the takeaways from the event and some items to look at changing for next year. One of the most notable changes proposed is to expand the alcohol consumption area for the event.
ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Gliniecki adjourn the DDA Informational Meeting
Supported by Ms. Jernigan

The DDA Informational Meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brandon Skopek
Executive Director
CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Young called the meeting to order at 5:41 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Young, Jernigan, Rasmussen, Volk, Gliniecki, McDaniel, Wise
Absent: Travnikar, Spurlin
Also Present: Brandon Skopek, Director of Authorities
Guests: Alec Harris, Detroit Riverside Capital

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Informational Meeting Minutes – August 19, 2019

Moved by Mr. Gliniecki to approve the DDA Informational Meeting Minutes from August 19, 2019 as presented. Supported by Mr. Volk.

Yes: Young, Jernigan, Rasmussen, Volk, Gliniecki, McDaniel, Wise
No: None

Motion carried

B. Regular Meeting Minutes – August 19, 2019

Moved by Mr. Gliniecki to approve the DDA Regular Meeting Minutes from August 19, 2019 as presented. Supported by Mr. Volk.

Yes: Young, Jernigan, Rasmussen, Volk, Gliniecki, McDaniel, Wise
No: None

Motion carried

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. FY 2019 Adopted Budget and YTD Summary – November 30, 2019

Mr. Skopek reviewed the financial report for period ending July 31, 2019. He stated that the DDA has received approximately 96% of budgeted property tax revenue to date for a total of $152,141. He stated that approximately 86% of budgeted expenditures have been utilized to date and that the DDA has been reimbursed in full for expenses relating to SeptemBEERfest. The total net position of the DDA is $302,426.
Moved by Mr. Volk to receive and file the financial report for period ending November 30, 2019. Supported by Ms. Wise.

Yes: Young, Jernigan, Rasmussen, Volk, Gliniecki, McDaniel, Wise
No: None
Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

A. SeptemBEERfest Recap

Mr. Skopek presented a recap of activities for the SeptemBEERfest event held on September 13, 2019. He stated that the biggest takeaway from staff’s perspective is the attendance of the event. The total attendance goal was exceeded and a majority of the attendees were traveling from outside of Auburn Hills. Auburn Hills attendees represented 6% of the total attendees. Staff held a wrap of meeting to discuss the takeaways from the event and to discuss some proposed changes for next year, most notably expanding the alcohol consumption area to include the entire amphitheater in Riverside Park.

Mr. Volk agreed that expanding the alcohol consumption area would add a lot to the event and allow attendees to view the performers on the amphitheater stage.

Mr. Gliniecki noted that the beer distributor ran out of beer toward the end of the event.

Mr. Skopek stated that staff requested product for up to 500 people, but the distributor fell short on the delivery of the product. He added that the product was not paid for in advance and staff was invoiced for the amount that was delivered.

Mr. Volk stated that there may have been drinks that were over poured or additional drink tickets may have been sold, which may have led to the shortage.

Mr. Skopek stated there were very few additional drink tickets sold. He noted that the drink punch cards did not work as well as staff had hoped and there were likely attendees that had more than their allotted amount that came with their ticket purchase.

Ms. Jernigan stated she heard nothing but good things from event attendees.

Mr. Volk asked if there was any feedback from the car dealership that had the vehicles on display. He added that they seemed disappointed with the lack of participation in their contest.

Mr. Skopek stated that the dealership was happy to be part of the event. He added that he believes that they would be interested in participating again next year. He would like to request some additional “sporty” vehicles for next year.

Mr. Gliniecki asked if FCA received a final report on what their contribution and sponsorship went toward for the event.

Mr. Skopek stated that City Manager Tanghe was to send out a letter to FCA thanking them for their contribution and sponsorship of the event. Mr. Skopek will follow-up with Mr. Tanghe.
Mr. Harris asked how merchants were involved in the event.

Mr. Skopek stated that staff reached out to merchants about co-advertising their specials for the day of the event in conjunction with advertising for SeptemBEERfest. He added that some merchants participated in dinner and drink specials, and discounts on items during the day of the event.

Ms. Jernigan suggested providing merchants with a physical fact sheet for future events. She noted that many of the merchants may not regularly check email or be able to attend merchant meetings.

Mr. Volk offered his assistance in communicating and meeting with downtown merchants on behalf of the DDA.

Mr. Harris asked what the demographic make-up was for SeptemBEERfest.

Mr. Volk noted that a majority of ticket holders were from outside Auburn Hills. The event marketing drew attendees from throughout the region.

Mr. Skopek stated that a majority of those that attended the event fell within the 35 and under age bracket.

There was no further discussion on the SeptemBEERfest recap.

B. Main Street Oakland County Resource Team Report

Mr. Skopek reviewed that staff held a Resource Team visit with Main Street Oakland County and a number of other regional experts specializing in the Main Street Four Point Approach. Main Street Oakland County generated a Resource Team Report with findings and recommendations from City staff and the regional experts. Staff and the Resource Team toured downtown and spoke with downtown merchants to gather insight on downtown Auburn Hills. He concluded by stating staff met internally to discuss the final Resource Team Report and identified that a majority of the recommendations outlined in the report are items that have either been completed, or are in the process of being completed by the DDA and the Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA), with the exception of creating DDA committees and task forces and more frequent joint meetings with the DDA and TIFA Board.

Mr. Volk noted that the report discussed the need for downtown storefronts to be more attractive and have less tinted windows. He asked if the TIFA Board was exploring options to improve the storefronts downtown.

Mr. Skopek stated that window tint and window coverage is a zoning issue. If the window tint or coverage meets the zoning ordinance, there is not much staff can do to enforce different regulations. He added that the TIFA Board has a site improvement grant that may assist with façade and signage enhancements if requested by merchants.

The Board discussed communicating the recommendations for attractive storefronts to the merchants.

Mayor McDaniel asked Mr. Harris if he had any input on the storefront conversation.

Mr. Harris stated that their development will not have tinted windows. He stated that the development will have attractive storefronts and transparent windows to let passersby see the activity taking place in the tenant spaces. He added that transparent windows are far more attractive.

Mr. Volk asked Mr. Harris how he would feel if select DDA Board members or staff reached out to him with suggestions on how to improve storefronts.

Mr. Harris stated he would welcome the recommendations and suggestions and any supporting data.

Mr. Skopek stated that there are consultants that provide workshops for merchants on how to improve their storefronts. He added that there are funds in the DDA budget for merchant training and he can explore the opportunity to contract with a consultant to host a workshop for downtown merchants.
Mr. Volk recommended seeking buy-in from the merchants before putting on a workshop to ensure they would be in attendance.

Chairman Young recommended the Board form a committee to conduct the groundwork on communicating all the suggestions and recommendations discussed.

Ms. Jernigan asked if there was anything that could be done to encourage the business owners along Squirrel Court to improve their rear storefront facades.

Mr. Skopek stated that he had had informal conversations with the building owner about improving the facades and that the TIFA Board has allocated funding in their 2020 budget for façade enhancements along the rear entrances. He added that staff has been collecting RFP examples from other communities that have hired an artist to design murals for building facades.

Mr. Volk stated the intersection at Auburn Road and Adams Road could be improved as well. He noted that this is an entrance to the downtown and should be welcoming and inviting, but is instead occupied by a deteriorating building.

Mayor McDaniel stated that there is little staff and the City can do to improve this area without the buy-in and cooperation from the property owner. There has not been interest from the property owner to improve that corner.

Mr. Volk asked if there were any other takeaways from the Resource Team Report.

Mr. Skopek stated that some of the recommendations he would like to address are the forming of committees and the robust marketing and promotion of downtown. He believes that the DDA is now at the implementation phase as far as marketing and promotions is concerned and would like to engage in more of this with the Board in 2020.

Chairman Young requested that staff send out information to the Board on the Main Street Four Point Approach for the purpose of forming committees.

Mr. Harris asked if there was any particular tenant that was being sought for downtown.

Mr. Volk stated that staff has market data that shows where there are opportunities for select businesses.

Mr. Skopek stated that he will send the marketplace retail report to Mr. Harris. He added that staff has been seeking destination restaurants and breweries for downtown.

There was no further discussion on the Main Street Oakland County Resource Team Report.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Gliniecki asked if there was any movement on the You, Me, and Bubble Tea location in downtown Auburn Hills.

Mr. Skopek stated that staff had recently been in contact with Jay Zheng, owner of Quickly Boba Café in Troy, Michigan. Mr. Zheng has applied for building permits for a tenant buildout at the location and has signed a lease with the property owner. Quickly Boba Café specializes in milk tea, fruit tea, slushies and smoothies. They also serve Taiwanese popcorn chicken, rice bowls, egg puffs, and mochi waffles. They anticipate opening within the first couple weeks of February.

**DIRECTOR UPDATES**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors will be Monday, January 13, 2020, at 5:30 PM at City Hall in the Administrative Conference Room.
ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mayor McDaniel to adjourn the DDA Board meeting.
Supported by Ms. Jernigan

Yes: Young, Jernigan, Rasmussen, Volk, Gliniecki, McDaniel, Wise
No: None

The DDA Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,
Brandon Skopek
Executive Director
CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Hassett called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
Absent: Waltenspiel, Dolly, Price
Also Present: Brandon Skopek, Director of Authorities
Guests: Tom Hoyt, Artist

LOCATION: Auburn Hills City Hall, Administrative Conference Room, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

None.

REVIEW OF PROJECTS COMPLETED OVER THE LAST YEAR

Mr. Skopek reviewed for the Board Public Act 57 of 2018. Public Act 57 of 2018 requires tax increment financing authorities to hold two informational meetings per calendar year. Informational meetings are for the purpose of informing the public of the goals and direction of the authority, including projects to be undertaken in the coming year. The informational meetings are not for the purpose of voting on policy, budgets, or other operational matters. The Act also includes additional reporting requirements, as well as, additional website requirements.

Mr. Skopek stated that the Board has participated in multiple projects and initiatives throughout 2019. He broke down the projects by each TIF District.

TIF-A
- Completion of the Knight Amphitheater and Splash Pad
- Acquisition of 3346 Auburn Road
- Installation of new “Public Parking” sign for downtown parking structure
- Purchase of speed radar signs for downtown
- Downtown events and marketing
- Maintenance and landscaping services
- Irrigation for planted areas

TIF-B
- Opdyke Road water and sewer upgrades
- Maintenance and landscaping services
- Irrigation for planted areas

TIF-D
- Purchase of fitness equipment for Public Safety Building
- Oakland University/City of Auburn Hills streetscape banners
- Maintenance and landscaping services
Irrigation for planted areas

Dr. Klemanski asked who was in charge of maintaining the website to ensure compliance with the new Act.

Mr. Skopek stated that he will work in conjunction with the City’s Media Communications Specialist to ensure compliance with the new Act.

**FISCAL YEAR 2020 PLANS**

Mr. Skopek reviewed the projects for fiscal year 2020. He broke down the projects by each TIF District.

**TIF-A**
- Riverside Park play structure installation
- Riverside Park bank stabilization project
- Riverside Park light pole painting
- Installation of seating at the splash pad
- Squirrel Court building façade enhancements
- Downtown events
- Pathway maintenance and landscaping services
- Provide irrigation for planted areas

**TIF-B**
- Strategic property purchases
- Pathway maintenance and landscaping services
- Provide irrigation for planted areas

**TIF-D**
- Community Center kitchen renovation project
- Pathway maintenance and landscaping services
- Provide irrigation for planted areas

Chairman Hassett asked if the Board would have an opportunity to be involved in the façade enhancements proposed for the buildings along Squirrel Court.

Mr. Skopek stated he will be drafting an RFP for the Board for review and approval and the Board will also award the RFP.

Chairman Hassett asked what enhancements were envisioned.

Mr. Skopek stated that the enhancements would be a mural designed by artists to incorporate more artwork into downtown. He provided some examples from other communities such as downtown Utica, downtown Berkley, and downtown Holly.

Chairman Hassett asked for clarification if this would be artwork as opposed to permanent façade enhancements.

Mr. Skopek confirmed that staff would be seeking artists for artwork. He added that the Board approved $8,000 for the façade enhancements and this would not cover any permanent treatments.

Chairman Hassett noted irrigation costs were high in the TIF districts. He asked if there was any type of sensor that could be utilized to turn off the irrigation when it is raining in order to save money.
Mr. Skopek stated he is unsure of the mechanics behind the irrigation. He added that he can reach out to the Department of Public Works to see what the process is.

Mr. Goodhall asked if there would be set meeting dates for informational meetings in the future.

Mr. Skopek stated that there are not currently set meeting dates for the informational meetings, but he would like to hold them in the first and fourth quarters of the year. He asked if there was a direction from the Board on when to hold the informational meetings.

Dr. Klemanski stated that the first quarter and fourth quarter makes sense.

Chairman Hassett concurred.

Ms. Roberts asked if the MiL building downtown will have a mural or artwork added to its side elevation.

Mr. Skopek stated that Designhaus depicted a mural on their site plan, but he is unsure of what the mural is. He will seek additional information from Community Development and report back to the Board.

Vice-Chairman Kneffel observed that he recently visited downtown Jackson and they had painted murals on their buildings. He suggested that it may have been too progressive for the city.

Chairman Hassett noted he is opposed to painting murals on buildings due to maintenance and the potential for vandalism.

Ms. Thornton asked if the property owner of the buildings along Squirrel Court was allowing the City to paint their facades.

Mr. Skopek stated that he has had informal conversations with the building owner and the building owner was open to the idea if the TIFA was willing to fund the project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Goodhall to adjourn the TIFA Informational Meeting.

Supported by Ms. Roberts

Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Dolly, Roberts

No: none

Motion carried

The TIFA Board of Directors Informational Meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Goodhall
Secretary of the Board

Brandon Skopek
Executive Director
CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Hassett called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM.

ROLL CALL: Present: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
Absent: Waltenspiel, Dolly, Price
Also Present: Brandon Skopek, Director of Authorities
Guests: Tom Hoyt, Artist

LOCATION: Auburn Hills City Hall, Administrative Conference Room, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

None.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. TIFA Regular Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2019

Moved by Mr. Goodhall to approve the TIFA Informational Meeting minutes from November 12, 2019 as presented.
Supported by Ms. Thornton

   Yes:   Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
   No:    none

Motion carried

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. FY 2019 Adopted Budget and YTD Summary – November 30, 2019

Chairman Hassett noted that the water usage in the TIF districts are triple what was originally budgeted. He asked that options be explored to reduce expenses for irrigation.

Mr. Skopek noted that the water consumption line items reflected in the budget are in reference to water and sewer fees and not irrigation. He referenced specific line items where water consumption and irrigation costs are broken down.

Vice-Chairman Kneffel noted there are companies that create apps to control every aspect of your home, which may be explored for controlling irrigation for the City.
Chairman Hassett reiterated that different options should be explored. He recommended approaching the Department of Public Works with the idea about smart devices that can assist in reducing expenses. There was no further discussion on the financial report.

Moved by Ms. Roberts to receive and file the financial report for period ending November 30, 2019.
Supported by Ms. Thornton

| Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski |
| No: none |

Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

A. Downtown Pedestrian Alleyway Archway Design

Mr. Skopek presented a memo dated December 4, 2019. Included in the packet is an updated design for the downtown pedestrian alleyway archway which has been reviewed by the archway design subcommittee. The updated design contains tumbled brick on the archway columns as opposed to stonework as originally proposed. Further, the archway is proposed to be mounted to the top of the columns as opposed to affixed to the sides of the columns as originally proposed. Total cost for the two arches have been quoted at $27,000, which includes the design, fabrication, galvanizing, painting, and installation of the archways.

Chairman Hassett introduced artist, Tom Hoyt, to the Board.

Ms. Roberts asked the Board for their thoughts.

The Board was in favor of the new design presented.

Mr. Goodhall asked why the archway is now mounted on the top of the columns.

Chairman Hassett stated the City Engineer originally wanted the archway affixed to the side of the column citing drainage concerns. Mr. Hoyt created a set of steel plates at the top of the column to correct this issue. He added that affixing the arches to the side of the column made it appear as an addition to the columns rather than one cohesive art piece.

Mr. Goodhall asked if there was consideration given to people climbing the archway.

Chairman Hassett stated this concern has been noted by all the stakeholders. He noted the column will be taller to deter people from climbing.

Ms. Roberts asked if the City Engineer confirmed that the arches could be mounted to the column.

Mr. Skopek stated that he has received confirmation from the City Engineer that the arches may be mounted to the top of the column. He added that staff is still waiting to hear back from the contractor on switching from stonework to tumbled brick for the columns.

Ms. Roberts asked if there were still issues with the height.

Mr. Skopek stated that Mr. Hoyt does not believe that the awnings on the Astoria Park building are an issue and can be worked around; however, staff has still reached out to the management company and association president of Astoria Park seeking approval to remove the awnings from the alleyway. The two parties have requested to meet staff on site before a decision is made.

Mr. Hoyt noted that the arches would look better without the awnings in the alleyway, but he can work around them.

There was no further discussion on the pedestrian alleyway archway design.
Moved by Ms. Roberts to commission art pieces as proposed by Tom Hoyt for the downtown pedestrian alleyway archway in the not-to-exceed amount of $27,000. Such pieces will be made of materials as presented by the artist. Additionally, waive the purchasing ordinance competitive bid requirement and award the commission to a single source vendor due to the unique nature of the project.
Supported by Ms. Thornton

Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
No: none

Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2019 Year End Budget Amendments

Mr. Skopek presented a memo dated December 2, 2019. He noted the total amendment is in the amount of $178,621 and has broken each amendment has been broken down by each TIF district and fund.

Chairman Hassett noted the higher and anticipated costs for irrigation in TIF District B and requested closer monitoring of the irrigation.

Vice-Chairman Kneffel reiterated that there are companies that specialize in creating applications for energy efficiency and it should be explored. He referenced a company that received an award at the Chamber of Commerce’s Silver and Gold awards that specializes in creating these types of applications for property managers.

Mr. Skopek stated that the exploration of new technology should be handled by the Department of Public Works following a policy direction from the City Council. He added that he can, however, invite the Department of Public Works to the next TIFA Board meeting to provide an overview of the irrigation process.

The consensus of the Board was for the Department of Public Works to provide an overview of the irrigation process at the next TIFA Board meeting.

Mr. Skopek will reach out to the Department of Public Works.

There was no further discussion on the 2019 year end budget amendments.

Moved by Ms. Thornton to approve the final 2019 budget amendments for the Auburn Hills Tax Increment Finance Authority as of November 30, 2019.
Supported by Dr. Klemanski

Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
No: none

Motion carried

B. Election of Officers

Mr. Skopek called for nominations for 2020 Chairperson for the TIFA Board of Directors. Mr. Hassett was nominated by Dr. Klemanski. Nomination supported by Mr. Kneffel. Mr. Skopek called roll, there were no objections or further nominations.

Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
No: none

Motion carried

Mr. Skopek called for nominations for the 2020 Vice Chairperson for the TIFA Board of Directors. Mr. Kneffel was nominated by Mr. Hassett. Nomination supported by Mr. Goodhall. Mr. Skopek called roll, there were no objections or further nominations.

Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
Mr. Skopek called for nominations for the 2020 Secretary of the TIFA Board of Directors. Mr. Goodhall was nominated by Mr. Hassett. Nomination supported by Mr. Kneffel. Mr. Skopek called roll, there were no objections or further nominations.

Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski

No: none

Motion carried

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Chairman Hassett noted that the University Center and the DEN seem to be a financial drain on the TIFA budget. He observed that both spaces have been underutilized and the Board should come up for uses for the buildings.

Secretary Goodhall asked if there was data on the utilization of the buildings.

Mr. Skopek stated that the DEN staff has been sending him utilization reports at the end of each month. He is working on compiling the information into a report for the Board. The University Center is currently being utilized by Avondale Schools and Oakland University. He added that Marty Alwardt from Avondale Schools had reached out to him the regarding the district’s need for the second floor of the University Center stating that they may not need it for the professional development as they had originally indicated; however, staff does not yet have a definitive answer from the school district. He reminded the Board that staff was given the direction to market the University Center to users that would serve as a destination for downtown. He added that office users had expressed interest, but staff has communicated that the space is to be utilized for destination retail or restaurants.

Ms. Roberts asked if the DEN could be moved in order to make more room for the proposed Public Square.

Mr. Skopek stated that staff’s recommendation is to retain the DEN for public use and to utilize it in conjunction with the Public Square. He added that staff is still planning on bringing a design for the Public Square forward for construction in 2020. The Public Square would be utilized for pop-up events such as movie nights, biergartens, and yoga.

Ms. Thornton asked if there was any feedback on the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Mr. Skopek stated that staff has received positive feedback on the event and it was well attended.

The Board discussed the different aspects of the event and event attendance.

Chairman Hassett asked if staff could place planning for the Tree Lighting Ceremony on the September TIFA meeting agenda.

Mr. Skopek stated that the TIFA funds the event, but the event is planned by the Management Assistant as one of their assignments for their internship with the City. The Director of Authorities and other staff provide support, but the Management Assistant handles a majority of the planning.

DIRECTOR UPDATES

Mr. Skopek stated that staff had recently been in contact with Jay Zheng, owner of Quickly Boba Café in Troy, Michigan. Mr. Zheng has applied for building permits for a tenant buildout at the location and has signed a lease with the property owner. Quickly Boba Café specializes in milk tea, fruit tea, slushies and smoothies. They also serve Taiwanese popcorn chicken, rice bowls, egg puffs, and mochi waffles. They anticipate opening within the first couple weeks of February.

Vice-Chairman Kneffel asked if the business owner has requested grant funding from the TIFA Board.

Mr. Skopek stated that the owners have inquired about funding; however, staff informed them that the TIFA Board has participated in multiple grants at this location and it would be unlikely that the TIFA Board would participate in another grant for the same type of
user that recently vacated the space. He noted to the business owner that it is the Board’s decision to award a grant, but staff reiterated for them that it was unlikely.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled TIFA Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 4:00 PM at Auburn Hills City Hall Administrative Conference Room, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Goodhall to adjourn the TIFA Board meeting.
Supported by Ms. Roberts

Yes: Hassett, Kneffel, Goodhall, Thornton, Roberts, Klemanski
No: none

Motion carried

The TIFA Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Goodhall                   Brandon Skopek
Secretary of the Board            Executive Director
CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Slocum called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Douglas, Knight, Slocum, Capen (Via Communications Equipment)
Absent: None
Also Present: Brandon Skopek, Director of Authorities; Shawn Keenan, City Planner; Kirstie Hardy, AKT Peerless
Guests: Elias Xenos, Foremost Development Company; Alec Harris, Detroit Riverside Capital

LOCATION: Auburn Hills City Hall, Administrative Conference Room, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

Mr. Skopek reported to the Board that Ms. Hawley resigned from the Board effective immediately citing a heavy schedule and personal commitments. Ms. Hawley stated she will miss the involvement with the community.

Chairman Capen requested Mr. Slocum serve as Chair for the meeting.

Mr. Skopek introduced Elias Xenos, Foremost Development Company, and Alec Harris, Detroit Riverside Capital.

Mr. Xenos stated Foremost Development Company is the original developers of the development located at 3250 Auburn Road, but the development rights and property has been sold to Detroit Riverside Capital. He noted that Detroit Riverside Capital is picking up right where Foremost Development Company has left off and is creating an even more attractive development than Foremost Development Company had envision. He is here to support the assignment of the brownfield loans from Foremost Development Company to Detroit Riverside Capital.

Mr. Douglas asked Mr. Harris how financial advisors and banks felt about downtown and Auburn Hills in general.

Mr. Harris stated that financial advisors and banks are very favorable of the downtown market based on the new residential developments coming to downtown.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Item 3a. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Regular Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2019

Moved by Mr. Knight to approve the November 19, 2019 minutes as presented.
Supported by Mr. Douglas.
FINANCIAL REPORT

Item 4a. FY 2019 Adopted Budget and YTD Summary – November 30, 2019

Mr. Skopek presented the financial report and YTD summary for the period ending November 30, 2019. He noted there are no significant changes from last reporting period with the exception of consultant expenses related to current brownfield project.

Moved by Mr. Douglas to receive and file the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority financial report for period ending November 30, 2019.
Supported by Mr. Knight

Yes: Douglas, Knight, Slocum
No: None
Abstain: Capen

Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

Item 6a. Galloway Creek Projects

Mr. Skopek stated that Mr. Keenan is in attendance this evening to provide an update on the Galloway Wetland Mitigation project.

Mr. Keenan provided a brief update on the project. He stated that TSP Environmental is currently on site and excavating the wetland. The excavation will take place throughout December and January, with project completion by May of 2020. AKT Peerless will be on the site to identify the contaminated areas for TSP Environmental and to ensure the impacted soils are removed properly.

Mr. Skopek reported to the Board that staff has executed a work order with AKT Peerless for oversight of the impacted soil removal in the amount of $4,850. AKT Peerless is coordinating with the TSP Environmental.

Mr. Knight asked if AKT Peerless is responsible for the removal of the contaminated soils.

Mr. Skopek stated that TSP Environmental is responsible for the removal of the soils with AKT Peerless providing the oversight.

Mr. Knight asked if there are other areas of contamination.

Mr. Skopek stated that AKT Peerless has identified the areas containing the contaminated soils and there is no reason to believe there are other impacts based upon AKT Peerless’ sampling.

Mr. Douglas asked how the landfill is charging for the transportation of soils.

Mr. Keenan stated that the landfill is charging based per ton of soil delivered.

Mr. Douglas asked who is paying for the project and who is paying for the consulting fees.

Mr. Skopek stated that this project has been funded by multiple parties including the City, the AHBRA, and a grant awarded by the EPA. He concluded by stating the project is expected to be completed by May of 2020.
Mr. Skopek briefly introduced the Galloway Creek Evaluation Project. He noted that the Board had discussed additional testing along the Galloway Creek; however, staff is still recommending that the Board not proceed with additional testing and focus on current projects.

Chairman Capen stated that the Board allocated $30,000 in 2018 during the 2019 budget presentation for additional testing at six points along the Galloway Creek. The initial testing was only completed at locations where the creek entered and exited the City, but the Board was seeking data on the status of the Galloway Creek based upon brownfield sites that were along the creek.

Mr. Knight stated that he brought the subject up with the City Council as he believes that the City should be conducting periodic analysis of what is flowing into Galloway Lake.

Mr. Keenan stated that the upper section of the Galloway Creek is under the jurisdiction of the Oakland County Drain Commissioner.

Chairman Capen asked for clarification on what is meant when that section is under the jurisdiction of the County.

Mr. Keenan clarified that the Oakland County Drain Commissioner is responsible for the maintenance of the drain. Their storm water permit requires sampling every five years to ensure there are not outfalls or contaminants that are coming from storm water runoff from businesses that would flow into the creek.

Chairman Capen asked if they were only testing for the runoff or if they were testing for metals.

Mr. Keenan stated that they test for heavy industrial chemicals that would come from an industrial user.

Mr. Knight stated he would like to see annual testing. He recommended approaching the County about additional testing.

Mr. Keenan stated that the five year testing is a state and federal requirement.

Mr. Slocum asked if there were six locations tested or if only the two initial locations were tested.

Chairman Capen stated that the six locations were in addition to the two initial testing sites.

Mr. Slocum observed a consensus emerging that the Board would like to test the six additional locations.

Mr. Douglas asked what the goal was for the additional testing.

Mr. Slocum stated that the creek runs through brownfield sites and the Board would like to know whether the brownfields are affecting the status of the creek.

Chairman Capen stated the creek would not necessarily need to be tested at the brownfield sites, but rather downstream to see if contaminants are flowing downstream from the sites.

Mr. Douglas asked if the funds were still available.

Mr. Skopek stated that the funds have not been expended.

Mr. Skopek asked Ms. Hardy if ongoing testing was an eligible activity under the Brownfield Act.

Ms. Hardy confirmed that administrative funds could be expended for testing under the Act.

Mr. Skopek stated his concern with liability and responsibility if the Board were to proceed with additional testing and found an issue.

Mr. Knight stated he would like to proceed with testing to know if there was an issue or not.

Mr. Slocum asked whose responsibility it is if there were contamination found during testing.
Mr. Skopek stated that he does not know who would be required to take action. He would like to speak with the City Attorney for guidance.

Mr. Douglas stated he would like to proceed with testing.

The consensus of the Board is to conduct additional testing along the Galloway Creek.

Mr. Skopek will conduct research into responsible parties and consult with AKT Peerless about potential testing locations.

Chairman Capen requested additional data from the testing conducted by the County.

Mr. Keenan will supply the additional data from the County.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Item 7a. Assignment of Loans for the Brownfield Project Located at 3250 Auburn Road*

Mr. Skopek presented a memo dated December 3, 2019. He stated that Foremost Development Company has submitted a request to assign the current brownfield redevelopment loans from Foremost AH Project Entity, LLC, an affiliate of Foremost Development Company, to Riverside 1, LLC, an affiliate of Detroit Riverside Capital. He noted that there are two loans on the property, one from the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (formerly Michigan Department of Environmental Quality), and the AHBRA. The loan agreements and reimbursement agreement stipulate that the agreements may not be assigned to another party without the approval of the AHBRA. Staff recommended approval of the assignment of the agreements.

Moved by Mr. Knight to approve the assignment of the City of Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Local Site Remediation Revolving Fund Loan Agreement, including the Promissory Note, between the City of Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and Foremost AH Project Entity, LLC, from Foremost AH Project Entity, LLC to Riverside 1, LLC, upon the Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority’s Attorney's final review and approval of the Assignment documents, which documents upon said Attorney’s approval, Executive Director Skopek is authorized to sign on behalf of the Authority.

Supported by Mr. Douglas

Yes: Douglas, Knight, Slocum

No: None

Abstain: Capen

Motion carried by roll call vote

Moved by Mr. Douglas to approve the assignment of the City of Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Brownfield Redevelopment Loan Agreement, including the Promissory Note, between the City of Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and Foremost AH Project Entity, LLC, from Foremost AH Project Entity, LLC to Riverside 1, LLC, upon the Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority’s Attorney's final review and approval of the Assignment documents, which documents upon said Attorney’s approval, Executive Director Skopek is authorized to sign on behalf of the Authority.

Supported by Mr. Knight

Yes: Douglas, Knight, Slocum

No: None

Abstain: Capen

Motion carried by roll call vote

Moved by Mr. Slocum to approve the assignment of the City of Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and Foremost AH Project Entity, LLC, from Foremost AH Project Entity, LLC to Riverside 1, LLC, upon the Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority’s Attorney’s final review and approval of the Assignment documents, which documents upon said Attorney’s approval, Executive Director Skopek is authorized to sign on behalf of the Authority.
Supported by Mr. Knight

Yes: Douglas, Knight, Slocum
No: None
Abstain: Capen

Motion carried by roll call vote

Item 7b. 2019 Year End Budget Amendments

Mr. Skopek presented a memo dated December 4, 2019. He stated that there is an amendment required for $377,463 in expenditures for work completed in 2019 relating to the brownfield project located at 2041 Auburn Road. This project was added to the AHBRA’s project list after the 2020 budget presentation and adoption. Included in the amendment are all proposals that have been approved by the Board.

Moved by Mr. Knight to approve the final 2019 budget amendments for the Auburn Hills Brownfield Redevelopment Authority as of November 30, 2019.
Supported by Mr. Douglas

Yes: Douglas, Knight, Slocum
No: None
Abstain: Capen

Motion carried

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Knight thanked the Board for their service and noted that the City Council is appreciative of the work conducted by the Board.

DIRECTOR UPDATES

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Slocum to adjourn the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board of Directors meeting.
Supported by Mr. Knight.

Yes: Douglas, Knight, Slocum
No: None
Abstain: Capen

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted:
Brandon Skopek
Executive Director
INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

The ordinance amendment below was drafted to allow the City Manager an exception when giving consideration to hiring an individual that is a member of another employee’s immediate family within the same department OR in a supervisory/subordinate role. The new language to be added to the existing text is in bold.

After consultation with City Staff, the amendment to Section 2-58 was drafted by City Attorney Derk Beckerleg for City Council review and consideration.

Sec. 2-58. – City Manager Exception:

The appointment or employment of members of an immediate family shall not be allowed within the same department or in a supervisor/subordinate relationship where the chain of command crosses departmental lines. If employees become members of an immediate family by the process of adoption or marriage, or creation of espoused relationship, reasonable efforts shall be made to place one of the employees in another department or outside the chain of command, provided that a position is available wherein the duties and rate of pay are reasonably similar to the position from which the employee is being transferred. Subject to the terms of Collective Bargaining Agreements which shall control, the City Manager shall have the authority to waive the limitations of this Section and may allow members of an immediate family to be employed and working in the same department but not in a supervisor/subordinate relationship, in those circumstances where the City Manager determines there will be no detrimental impact on the City and/or the department involved.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The City does not have an ordinance that would allow the City Manager an exception when deciding whether or not to hire an individual that is a member of another employee’s immediate family within the same department OR in a supervisory/subordinate role. Staff recommends adoption of the proposed ordinance amendment.

MOTION

Move to accept an ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Administration, of the Auburn Hills City Code on first reading and set for a public hearing, second reading and final adoption on January 20, 2020.

I CONCUR: 

THOMAS A. TANGHE, CITY MANAGER
CITY OF AUBURN HILLS

ORDINANCE NO._______

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-58, APPOINTMENT OR EMPLOYMENT—WITHIN SAME DEPARTMENT OR SUPERVISOR/SUBORDINATE RELATIONSHIP, OF CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, AS AMENDED TO ADD NEW LANGUAGE ADDING A CITY MANAGER EXCEPTION

THE CITY OF AUBURN HILLS ORDAINS:

Section 1.

Section 2-58. Appointment or Employment—Within Same Department or Supervisor/Subordinate Relationship, of Chapter 2. Administration, of the Auburn Hills City Code, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-58. The appointment or employment of members of an immediate family shall not be allowed within the same department or in a supervisor/subordinate relationship where the chain of command crosses departmental lines. If employees become members of an immediate family by the process of adoption or marriage, or creation of espoused relationship, reasonable effort shall be made to place one of the employees in another department or outside the chain of command, provided that a position is available wherein the duties and rate of pay are reasonably similar to the position from which the employee is being transferred. Subject to the terms of Collective Bargaining Agreements which shall control, the City Manager shall have the authority to waive the limitations of this Section and may allow members of an immediate family to be employed and working in the same department but not in a supervisor/subordinate relationship, in those circumstances where the City Manager determines there will be no detrimental impact on the City and/or the department involved.

Section 2. Repealer.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 3. Severability.

If any section, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared to be unconstitutional, void, illegal or ineffective by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such section, clause or provision declared to be unconstitutional, void or illegal shall thereby cease to be a part of this Ordinance, but the remainder of this Ordinance shall stand and be in full force and effect.

Section 4. Savings.
All proceedings pending and all rights and liabilities existing, acquired or incurred at the time this Ordinance takes effect are saved and may be consummated according to the law when they were commenced.

Section 5. Effective Date.

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect upon publication in the manner prescribed by the Charter of the City of Auburn Hills.

Section 6. Adoption.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the City Council of the City of Auburn Hills at a meeting thereof duly called and held on the _____ day of ____________, 2019, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by the Charter of the City of Auburn Hills.

AYES:

NAYES:

ABSTENTIONS:

STATE OF MICHIGAN )

) ss.

COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Clerk of the City of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of Ordinance No. _____ adopted by the Auburn Hills City Council on the _____ day of ____________, 2019, the original of which is in my office.

_________________________________

LAURA M. PIERCE, City Clerk
Auburn Hills chamber announces winners of Silver & Gold Awards

By Kathy Blake kblake@medianewsgroup.com; @kathyblake1 on Twitter  Dec 13, 2019

The Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce announced its Silver & Gold Award winners, Dec. 9 at the Silver & Gold Awards Holiday Brunch, held at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. The chamber honored business leaders in the areas of innovation, leadership, and community involvement, as well as volunteers and supporters of the chamber.

Special recognition awards were awarded to the following:

• Ambassador of the Year: Brittney Rimmer, Reliance One

• Board Member of the Year: Thomas A. Tanghe, City of Auburn Hills

• Outgoing Committee Chair: Margie Lavelanet, Costco Wholesale

• Outstanding Committee: Men’s Health & Fitness Committee

• Best Taste Vendor: Family Table Café and Nothing Bundt Cakes

• Mayor’s Award: Continental Corporation

A total of 16 named awards were announced, recognizing individuals and companies that represent excellence and leadership. The following is a list of the awards and recipients:
• Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC Woman’s Leadership Award: Jenny Brown, Dutton Farm

• Atlas Copco Excellence Award: Genisys Credit Union

• Auxiom Golden SMB Award, (recognizes a small or medium size business that exemplifies “The Golden Rule”): Crossroads Care Center

• Baker College of Auburn Hills Education Advocate Award: Oakland University Credit Union

• Beaumont Health Excellence in Healthcare Award: Christopher Dolecki D.C., Dolecki Chiropractic

• City of Auburn Hills Business Success Story Award: K. Carroll Accessories

• Consumers Energy Cares Award, (recognizes commitment to helping others): Bonner Upshaw III, Trion Solutions

• dbusiness Magazine Emerging Leader Award: Etrit Demaj, KODE LABS

• Detroit Pistons Game Changer Award: Jennifer Bleau, Cornerstone Community Financial Credit Union

• Faurecia North America Diversity & Inclusion Pacesetter Award: Culture Links, LLC

• Gardner-White Michigan Economy and Community Contributions Award: Ursula Scroggs, CPA, DKSS CPA’s + Advisors

• Mahindra Automotive North America “RISE” Award (for commitment to beautifying the local community): Dr. Fay Hansen, Oakland University

• Oakland University Innovator of the Year Award: Elite Detection K9

• Pomeroy Living Outstanding Community Wellness Award: Plante Moran

• Stella Wealth Management of Raymond James Higher Standard Award: Davin Salvagno, PurposePoint

• Trion Solutions, Inc. Vision Made Clear Award, (awarded to a small to mid-size emerging company on a fast track to success): Auxiom

For more information about the Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce, visit www.auburnhillschamber.com or call 248-853-7862.
Auburn Hills photographer radiates chilling tranquility in DIA exhibit

By Tanya Silverman For MediaNews Group
Dec 30, 2019

On Anchor Bay: New Baltimore, Michigan, Lake Saint Clair, 2015 (printed 2019), Jeff Gaydash, American; carbon pigment print on exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Arts. (Jeff Gaydash/DIA)

Jeff Gaydash

A series of 17 photographs at the Detroit Institute of Arts depict locally typical natural features in an atypical way.

Dubbed as the “Great Lakes State” and named after the term for “Big Water” in the Ojibwe language, Michigan is surrounded by massive bodies of freshwater that tie deeply into its essence.

The exhibition “Michigan’s Great Lakes” features large-scale, black-and-white carbon pigment prints of the shorelines crafted by Jeff Gaydash, 47, an Auburn Hills artist who specializes in fine-art printmaking. His sober landscapes offer an alternative perspective to notions of the Great Lakes as family-friendly, adventure-awaiting beach settings as illustrated by campaigns such as Pure Michigan.

Gaydash was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but grew up in Rochester. As a child, he owned a Michigan picture book whose visuals prompted him to ask his parents to visit the presented sites and take his own photographs. Today, as a professional with honed stylistic preferences, he researches the region’s beaches on satellite imagery to zero in on spaces that speak to his artistic visions: solitude, softness and the juxtaposition of nature and human creation.

“I’ve got an amazing resource of all this shoreline to explore in my home state — a stage to create this conceptual, Zen-like simplistic imagery,” Gaydash notes.
Gaydash uses Piezography, a system that replaces standard inks in an Epson printer with up to seven shades of monochromatic ink and special software for smoother tonal range, greater detail and superior print longevity, according to his website, jeffgaydashstudios.com.

Lakes Michigan, Huron, Erie and Superior make their way into the exhibition, not to mention Lake St. Clair and the Detroit and St. Clair rivers. The long-exposure technique Gaydash employs pervades the artworks. Leaving the shutter open for extended registry (30 seconds or more) mutes the motions of the firmament and fluids to an arrested temporal abstraction. Standing against a subtle horizon may be a nondescript dock house (“On Anchor Bay: Lake St. Clair,” New Baltimore, 2015) or deciduous branches in their leafless state (“Solitude: Metro Beach, Michigan, Lake St. Clair,” 2010).

People are notably absent from all of the scenes Gaydash intentionally captured during the fall or winter off-season to get a “subtracted” effect under overcast skies. In that light, “Michigan’s Great Lakes” is antithetical to Thomas Struth’s “Museum Photographs,” a series of large-format, color prints that show people flocking to conserved art and architecture installations at museums from the Louvre to the Art Institute of Chicago.

Meanwhile, patrons entering the gallery halls of the DIA to see the Gaydash exhibition likely will relate to their own experiences of the Great Lakes and connected bodies of water. Signs and maps situated next to the monumental photographs inform visitors of where and when the photographs were taken, such as the bridge leading to Belle Isle Park in Detroit and a pier jutting out into Lake Michigan in Muskegon.

The museum also invites guests to contribute to #mygreatlakesatthedia, an Instagram stream that reminds us of the colorful lakes in which waves bounce, fall leaves evolve and athletic visitors surf, sail or hike along the shores. Selected shots are even printed on paper and hung in a gallery room.

Gaydash alludes to the tools he employs in his practice, for instance, the tilt-shift lens he used to capture an affirmative message he fortuitously found on a shed in the Upper Peninsula: “Y E S: Brevort, Michigan, Lake Michigan,” 2010.

“The idea of making things out of focus is part of the photography process itself,” Gaydash explains. Controlled blurring, as implemented on the shed’s sides, provides the “optical feeling” that renders the images “photographic in nature.”

The rustic appearance of the YES shed in Brevort invokes the artist’s stated fascination with the tensions between nature and civilization. He attributes this theme to lessons of Zen philosophy in which environmental factors eventually overpower architecture and artifacts of various forms. This erosion dynamic stands at the fore of the skeletal pier beams in “Last Known Surroundings: Forester, Michigan, Lake Huron” (2011) or “Rockport Ruins: Rockport, Michigan, Lake Huron” (2012).
Gaydash’s earlier days in photography centered largely on architecture and industry. Being a native of the Detroit region drove him to travel Downriver to seek out structures such as oil refineries and transmission grids. The industrial element of Gaydash’s work makes its way into this exhibition via the shadowy silhouette of the heavily industrialized Zug Island.

“We included the industrial site in there because the Great Lakes played a great role in the development of the automotive industry,” Gaydash explains, citing the history of how resources mined from the Upper Peninsula were shipped down to factories.

“Michigan’s Great Lakes” bears testimony to the state’s culture even in the absence of its constituents. Observers can derive a sense for the terrestrial ends of the land its humans inhabit together with a range of civilizational constructions thereon.

“Michigan’s Great Lakes: Photographs by Jeff Gaydash” will be on display at the DIA until Sunday, May 3.

Visit dia.org/greatlakes.
A vehicle caught fire in Auburn Hills on Monday, Dec. 30 after a tree fell on high voltage electrical lines on Juniper Avenue.

Submitted Photo - Courtesy of the Auburn Hills Fire Department

A vehicle fire lit up the 200 block of Juniper Avenue in Auburn Hills on the morning of Monday, Dec. 30.

The Auburn Hills Fire Department received a call just before 7 a.m. reporting that a car was burning with downed electrical wires over the vehicle. Firefighters found that a large tree had fallen on the high voltage lines bringing them down over the parked car.

Auburn Hills police blocked off the road and evacuated residents as DTE Energy shut off the power. Firefighters extinguished the blazing vehicle once the power was shut down.

No injuries were reported, but a nearby travel trailer and second driveway were damaged from the fire. DTE Energy remained at the scene to return power to the neighborhood, according to the fire department.
Explore Michigan wines at Michigan By The Bottle tasting rooms, blog

- By Jane Peterson For MediaNews Group

It’s like a Michigan wine lover’s dream: You walk into a tasting room not knowing what you are looking for, then discover that you have several different options from a variety of wineries across the state to choose from.

That’s exactly what’s it’s like walking into Michigan By The Bottle’s three tasting rooms, located in Shelby Township, Royal Oak and Auburn Hills.

Michigan By The Bottle (MBTB) teams up with partner wineries that provide 100% Michigan wines. There are six partner wineries in Shelby Township, eight in Royal Oak and 12 in Auburn Hills. They vary some from location to location. Check out the list at mbbtbtasting.com/wineries.

“"We have a wide range of options: Dry, sweet, red, white, rosé, sparkling, fruit, dessert — you name it. We wanted to have something for everyone,” said Cortney Casey, co-founder with her husband Shannon.

The couple began MBTB as a blog because they felt like there were a lot of hidden gems in Michigan that wine lovers in the metro Detroit area hadn’t had an opportunity to be exposed to. So, Shannon and Cortney, in addition to the regular jobs, set out on a quest to share their unique Michigan wine finds with others through the videos, podcasts and articles posted online.
The outpouring of support was amazing.

“We discovered that there were so many Michigan wine lovers out there that just hadn’t been united in a meaningful way before,” said Cortney.

Their success led them to open the first MBTB tasting room in 2012, quickly followed by the others in 2014 and 2016.

The Caseys are both certified sommeliers through the Court of Master Sommeliers program. They love showcasing Michigan wines and helping their guests discover new varieties.

“Some of them already know and love Michigan wineries; some are just finding Michigan wine for the first time; some are just getting into wine in general,” she said.

At Michigan By The Bottle, there is room for everyone, whatever your level of experience. MBTB team members are well trained and skilled at assisting guests in finding wines that they love. Cortney said team members love Michigan wine as much as they do, and she thinks guests can feel that when they visit.

There are 40 different wines on the tasting menu at any given time. Guests can order in various sized flights, which are a series of wines offered in small pours or by the glass. Wine slushies and snacks are also available.

All of the wines on the menu are organized by style, which provides guests an idea of the sweetness level and characteristics of each wine.

Cortney said they are especially committed to having a robust lineup of reds, since there’s a lot of misconceptions about them. She said that a lot of people think that because the state has such a cold climate, that vintners can’t produce high quality red wines.

“Michigan can do it all, and there are tons of fantastic reds out there. We often have guests who walk into our place and say: ‘Ugh, Michigan can’t make reds!’ We love changing their minds when they come in and taste,” she said.

The atmosphere in the tasting rooms is casual and comfortable. The tasting area is bright, clean and features the colorful artwork of Michigan artist Stephanie Schlatter on the walls. If you want to learn more about wines you certainly can, but if you just want to relax and sip a glass of great wine, you can do that, too.

“I like watching the friendships that develop in our tasting room over wine. Wine has a way of bringing together both friends and strangers over a common appreciation for what’s in their glass. It can be very personal and very social at the
same time,” she said. “We have a lot of regulars who we see frequently and know by name. Many of them have befriended each other and now travel in a pack. It’s such a joy to see the great friendships that have grown out of a shared love of wine.”

In addition to drop-in tasting and events, MBTB schedules many events, everything from dinners featuring a guest chef and winemakers from partner wineries to wine education workshops, live music performances, a book club, themed parties, blind tasting challenges, trivia nights, pop up food events and more.

A commitment to local

Since Michigan By The Bottle (MBTB) features only Michigan wines, co-founders Shannon and Cortney Casey wanted to embrace products crafted by others across the state, too.

“Almost everything we serve is from Michigan,” said Cortney Casey. “Besides the wines, obviously, our offerings also include cheese from Zingerman’s Creamery in Ann Arbor, Leelanau Cheese in Suttons Bay and Farm Country Cheese in Lakeview; chocolate from Mindo Chocolate Makers in Dexter and Sanders in Clinton Township; dips from Chuck & Dave’s in Fraser; chips from Jarhead in Flint; and Maria’s House-Made Salsa in Warren, among others.

The tasting room walls feature artwork created by Stephanie Schlatter, a talented artist based out of Grand Rapids. MBTB also works with a number of local restaurants and vendors for its events.

“I think our guests really enjoy knowing that the snacks and wines they’re enjoying are all coming from close to home, and that they’re supporting Michigan-based small businesses,” she said.
Explosives sniffing dog school named Innovator of the Year by Oakland University

By Natalie Broda nbroda@medianewsgroup.com; @NatalieBroda on Twitter
Dec 20, 2019

Elite Detection K9, a Leader Dogs for the Blind company, has been named Innovator of the Year by Oakland University.

The program breeds and trains scent-detection dogs to work in law enforcement with the goal of helping to fill a shortage of 6,000 trained explosives-detection dogs in the industry. Elite Detection K9 broke ground on a new, $4 million facility in Auburn Hills this summer with plans to open in early 2020. It’s currently housed at Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester Hills.

“The creation of Elite Detection K9 was a way to build on the 80 years of experience we have in breeding and training dogs to guide people who are blind or visually impaired,” Sue Daniels, president and CEO of Leader Dogs for the Blind, said. “While EDK9 is using our proven model to breed these exceptional scent-detection dogs, it is modifying our methods to develop the traits that are required for scent-detection work.”

The company was also honored with an award at the Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce Silver & Gold Awards Holiday Brunch on Dec. 9.

“Innovation happens across all business sectors and leads to businesses and services that enhance people’s lives in new ways,” Greg Guidice, president and CEO of Elite Detection K9, said. “The scent-detection dogs we breed, raise, train and ultimately deploy become part of the fabric of each community where they serve, while also providing added measures of safety and security, as well as the intangible sense of well-being that comes with a wagging tail.”
Fiat Chrysler and Peugeot sign deal for 50-50 merger

By COLLEEN BARRY and ANGELA CHARLTON Associated Press  Dec 18, 2019

FILE - In this Nov. 2, 2019, file photo the logo of Italian automaker Fiat is pictured in Villeneuve d'Ascq, northern France. Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and PSA Peugeot announced Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019, that their boards signed a binding deal to merge the two automakers, creating the world's fourth-largest auto company. (AP Photo/Michel Spingler, File)

MILAN (AP) — The boards of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and PSA Peugeot on Wednesday signed a binding merger deal creating the world’s fourth-largest automaker with the scale to confront the challenges of stricter emissions regulations and the transition to new driving technologies.

The companies said in a joint statement the new group will be led by PSA’s cost-cutting CEO Carlo Tavares, with Fiat Chrysler’s chairman John Elkann as chairman of the merged company. Fiat Chrysler CEO Mike Manley will stay on, but it was not announced in what capacity.

No name for the new company has been decided, executives said in a conference call, but both Tavares and Manley insisted that it was not a “touchy subject.”

The deal, which was unveiled in October, was announced as a 50-50 merger, but PSA has one extra seat at the board and Tavares at the helm, giving the French carmaker the upper hand in daily management.

The executives said they expect the deal to take 12-15 months to close. It will give birth to a group with revenues of nearly 170 billion euros (nearly $190 billion) and producing 8.7 million cars a year — just behind Toyota, Volkswagen and the Renault-Nissan alliance.

Fiat Chrysler shares rose nearly 2% in Milan, while Peugeot shot up 4.2% in Paris trading.

The merger is expected to create 3.7 billion euros in annual savings, which will be invested in “the new era of sustainable mobility” and to meet strict new emissions regulations, particularly in Europe.
"The merged entity will maneuver with speed and efficiency in an automotive industry undergoing rapid and fundamental changes," the companies said in their statement.

New technologies includes electrified engines, autonomous driving and connectivity, part of what Tavares described as "the transition to a world of clean, safe and sustainable mobility."

No plants will be closed under the deal, the companies said. Savings will be achieved by sharing investments in vehicle platforms, engines and new technology, while leveraging scale on purchasing.

But the executives also said there would be cuts. Decisions on where those will come will be made after the deal closes.

"There is room for sharing (a) significant amount of existing platforms and avoiding excess investments for the future," Tavares said.

Both the Peugeot and Fiat brands are strong on small-car technology, with significant overlap in Europe. Manley said that the convergence of platforms would be "an early target" that will likely take two years to achieve.

The company will be legally based in the Netherlands, and traded in Paris, Milan and New York.

The executives played down the significance of the new entity's name and headquarters location, but both are symbolic choices that go a long way to signalling who is in the driver's seat, where engineering and management brains will be based, and the relative importance of each entity in the new company.

The French and Italian governments as well as unions will be on the look-out for the responses, given the national significance of car-making to both economies. The French government helped bail out PSA Peugeot in 2014 and owns a 12% stake in the French company through the state investment bank.

While the merger of Fiat and Chrysler has been a success, with the Italian-American automaker thriving on the strength of the U.S. market and the executive prowess of longtime CEO Sergio Marchionne, the history of car mergers is littered with failed tie-ups. Most famous among those is the short-lived Daimler-Chrysler merger, which foundered on cultural differences between the German and U.S. entities.

Manley said the new name "is an exercise we're embarking on now. We have two very historied companies coming together. ... I don't think it will be a touchy subject, just an interesting process."
Tavares will be the company's first CEO for five years, but there was no word on succession. Manley, who took over as CEO of Fiat Chrysler just before Marchionne's death in July 2018, will work alongside him, Elkann said in an email to employees.

The new company will start with a strong base in Europe, where PSA is the second-largest carmaker, while Fiat makes most of its profits in North America and has a strong presence in Latin America. It will be looking to strengthen its position in China, where both PSA and FCA lag.

"That is part of the opportunities," Tavares said. "We are not happy with our performance there. We think we should be doing better in China."

Tavares said the deal has the support of its Chinese partner and investor Dongfeng, which "understood what needed to be done."

As part of the deal, Dongfeng’s stake in the new company will be diluted from 6.2% to 4.5%, through the sale of 30.7 million shares.

Fiat Chrysler will pay its shareholders a 5.5 billion-euro ($6.1 billion) premium, raising questions about whether the new company will be saddled with too much debt. Analysts estimate that Peugeot is paying a hefty 32% premium to take control of Fiat Chrysler.

Fiat Chrysler has long been looking for an industrial partner to shoulder investment costs as the industry faces a transition to electrified power trains and autonomous driving. A previous deal with French rival Renault last spring fell apart over French government concerns about the role of Renault's Japanese partner, Nissan.

Tavares said both the French government and unions backed the new deal from the beginning.

French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire issued a written statement calling it "very good news for France, for Europe and for our auto industry. It represents an important step in the creation of a European champion ... to face the challenge of sustainable mobility."

He said the government would monitor closely the location of decision-making centers, and to ensure that the new company preserves French jobs and confirm PSA's commitment to creating a European battery industry.

Italy's economy and finance minister, Roberto Gualtieri, likewise welcomed the deal, saying it "was a fundamental step in the consolidation of the car industry."
How downtowns across Oakland County changed in 2019

By Natalie Broda nbroda@medianewsgroup.com; @NatalieBroda on Twitter
Dec 28, 2019

Riverside Park in downtown Auburn Hills on Friday, Dec. 28, 2019.
Photo by Natalie Broda - The Oakland Press

Downtown Rochester
It was a packed year of new housing developments, restaurants and road work in downtowns across Oakland County.

Here’s a look back on what’s changed in the local downtowns, big and small, throughout 2019.

Auburn Hills

Downtown Auburn Hills saw a host of ongoing road projects this year, including road rehabilitation and water main improvements on South Squirrel Road.

The new Riverside Park amphitheater and splash pad was unveiled this June. The $1 million redevelopment project included the addition of a 950 square-foot stage with seating for 300 and lawn seating for 200. Demand for the new splash pad was so high, the city instated a $3 non-resident fee less than a month after it opened.

In new business, a former auto industry worker followed her lifelong dream to open a new flower shop, Sprigs Floral Expressions, at 3345 Auburn Road. Blue Skies Brewery, part of the Chateau Aeronautique Winery in Onsted, will likely be opening its doors at 3358 Auburn Road this spring after a year of construction.

New $9 million, 48-unit luxury apartment building coming to downtown Auburn Hills

A new $9 million, 48-unit apartment complex will break ground this spring in Auburn Hills.

A new $9 million, 48-unit luxury apartment building on the corner of Auburn Road and Squirrel Road in the city’s downtown was also announced this year. Across the street, a four-story, mixed use development is nearing completion in the new year.

Birmingham

A proposal that would have seen the demolition of a parking deck in downtown Birmingham was turned down by voters in August. City officials were looking to pass a $57.4 million bonding effort to bring down the the parking structure at 333 N. Old Woodward and build a new deck on Bates Street.

Two renowned metro Detroit chefs, Luciano DelSignore and Takashi Yagihashi, opened a new fine dining concept at at 310 E. Maple Road in September. Peroni, which features three dining spaces across 2,700 square-feet, offers a wine list of over 400 bottle selections with contemporary French, Italian and Japanese cuisine.

The fate of Hunter House Hamburgers on Woodward Avenue has been in discussion throughout the year. A developer is looking to tear down the 1950s-era eatery and build a five-story residential and retail complex. The city’s planning board approved a preliminary site plan this summer.
Commerce Township

A $100 million mixed-use town center took steps forward in 2019 in Commerce Township. Five and Main, a 575,000 square-foot lifestyle center featuring residential, retail, restaurant, hospitality and high-end entertainment offerings, is set to begin construction in 2020.

Ferndale

In October, the state approved a 29 million mixed-use development for downtown Ferndale. The Development on Troy, or “the dot,” will be built as a public/private partnership between the city and a development group. The five-story building will feature retail and office space as well as a parking garage.

Downtown Ferndale played host to the Detroit Axe Women’s Tournament this year, bringing in 40 axe throwers from across North America in August.

Baker College made moves in spring to try and build a new campus downtown, but issues such as parking stalled talks.

Pontiac

Several new housing projects were announced for downtown Pontiac this year.

Ohio-based Woda Cooper Companies Inc. started construction on its $9.4 million apartment complex, The Hamilton, located on the corner of Carter Street and Woodward Avenue this summer. Winston Commons, a $12.4 million townhome development at 69 Douglass St., is also still in the works.

A total of 25 new lofts were announced as part of a $4.5 million development of 50 Wayne St. this May. The historic building will also see office and retail space. Nearby in the Riker Building, the Downtown Pontiac Surveillance Group added 100 cameras to its monitoring of downtown this summer with a $10,000 grant.

Kevadiya Inc., a federal IT consulting firm, began a $1.5 million renovation of 100 North Saginaw St. in spring. The company plans to expand into new office space there.

DTE continued work on a $27 million project to upgrade electrical vaults downtown as new businesses open and require more power. A new medical marijuana school, Higher Learning Institutions, is under construction at 17 South Saginaw St. Next year, five medical marijuana dispensaries will be allowed to open downtown.

A new restaurant featuring homemade sausage, Little MO, recently opened on the corner of Saginaw and West Huron. In May two downtown gyms, Anytime Fitness and Maxout Fitness, merged operations.
Rochester

The 24th Street Sports Tavern announced in January that it had purchased Mr. B's Food and Spirits at 423 S. Main St. The restaurant was a 40-year staple to the downtown. The original 24th Street Tavern is located in downtown Oxford.

SFL Companies to move headquarters to downtown Rochester

SFL Companies, a supply chain management and logistics firm based in Auburn Hills, is moving headquarters to a new, larger space in downtown R...

SFL Companies, a supply chain management and logistics firm, moved its headquarters to 303 Third St. in downtown Rochester this June.

Rochester was named the third safest area in Michigan by the National Council for Home Safety and Security in 2019.

Southfield

Big Boy launched a new fast casual restaurant concept in Southfield this August. The 3,000 square-foot pilot restaurant is located at 26400 Telegraph Road, offering delivery service in a three-mile radius.

A new accessible walkway and other improvements were completed this fall at Inglenook Park, part for in part by a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Improvements completed at Inglenook Park in Southfield

The city of Southfield has recently completed improvements at Inglenook Park, including a new walkway that is compliant with the Americans wit...

City officials decided this winter to rename the Southfield Municipal Campus after former Southfield Mayor and City Councilman Donald Fracassi. New signage for the Donald F. Fracassi Municipal Campus will be installed this winter.

Troy

Ongoing road work on I-75 and its ramps meant more traffic for the the Troy area this year, especially along Big Beaver.

Troy, Royal Oak celebrate new menorahs in public places

Troy and Royal Oak are celebrating the installations in public places this year of new menorahs, symbols of the Jewish holiday Hanukkah.

This holiday season new menorahs, symbols of the Jewish holiday Hanukkah, were set up for the first time ever at Troy City Hall.

In November, Troy residents heard the announcement that Clawson Public Schools is looking to join the Troy School District. No timeline on the merger has been released.
AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) — A state lawmaker suspected of drunken driving said she made a "stupid mistake" by getting behind the wheel after drinking alcohol.

Rep. Rebekah Warren, D-Ann Arbor, was arrested by Auburn Hills police and lodged in the Oakland County jail early Friday.

Warren told police she had been at an event in Detroit and was headed home to Ann Arbor, Lt. Ryan Gagnon said.

But she was stopped on northbound Interstate 75, a long way from Ann Arbor.

"I made a stupid mistake; I drank alcohol and got into my vehicle to drive," Warren said. "I apologize to those impacted by my actions. Most importantly, I am extremely grateful that I did not hurt anyone."

She refused a breath test and declined to give a blood sample until police obtained a search warrant, Gagnon said.

Any further action will depend on the results.

Warren has been in the House or Senate since 2007. This is her final term under Michigan's term limits law.
The Auburn Hills Public Library is launching a new Michigan author speaker series in 2020.

Four authors from around the state will be in attendance from January until April. The events, which are free and open to the public, are hosted by the Friends of the Auburn Hills Public Library.

The talks will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on the fourth Saturday of every month. The authors planned to attend are:

- Jan. 25, Irene Miller, Holocaust survivor and author
- Feb. 22, Ron Rademacher, speaking on Michigan small towns that hide unique objects
- March 28, Doc Fletcher, speaking on his book “The History of Tiger Stadium”
- April 25, Gary James Erwin, speaking on a collection of recently published short stories centered in Michigan

“We are so happy to have the chance to bring local authors to our patrons,” CJ Juntunen, adult/digital services liaison for the library, said. “There is such a diversity in topics being presented on by each author and making it available free to our community is a wonderful feeling.”

For more information on the authors and their topics, or to register, call 248-364-9466 or check out ahplib.org/events/calendar.
The big blue letters which spelled out The Palace of Auburn Hills on the 31-year-old arena have been taken down.

It marks the beginning of the end for the stadium, which officially closed in the fall of 2017 following the Detroit Pistons’ move to Detroit. Livonia-based developer Schostak Bros. & Co. purchased the 22,000-seat arena in June for an undisclosed amount.

Now, the tear down of the Palace of Auburn Hills appears imminent as the developer plans to seek demolition permits in the coming weeks, Auburn Hills Mayor Kevin McDaniel told the Detroit Free Press. The lettering was removed this week and sold at a recent auction, according to a Pistons spokesperson.

It’s likely that the structure will be imploded, similar to the Pontiac Silverdome, which was demolished two-years ago this week. It took two tries with explosives to bring down the 80,311-seat stadium in 2017.

It’s been speculated that the 100-acre property will eventually be turned into a mixed-use site with corporate offices.

Nearly 75 percent of the city’s tax base comes from corporate and industrial land-use.