



The City of Auburn Hills
City Council Meeting
Minutes

February 8, 2016

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, Mayor Pro Tem Mitchell, Council Members Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, Verbeke
Absent: None
Also Present: City Manager Tanghe, Police Chief Olko, Assistant City Manager Grice, City Clerk Kowal, Community Development Director Cohen, City Assessor Lohmeier, Lt. Miarka, Management Assistant Harris, Detective Martin, Executive Assistant Stockley, City Engineer Juidici, City Attorney Beckerleg,.
9 Guests

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4a. Regular City Council – January 25, 2016

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Mitchell.

RESOLVED: To approve the January 25, 2016 City Council meeting minutes.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 16.02.017

Motion Carried (7–0)

5. APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5a. Presentation – Citizen Award – Nelson Cox and Rob Cox

Police Chief Olko explained Nelson Cox and Rob Cox, DPW employees, were plowing snow January 4, 2016 at 2:00 a.m., along Atlantic Boulevard and noticed a vehicle that seemed to be out of place. Upon further investigation, they saw a hose running from the car's tailpipe into the vehicle; someone trying to commit suicide. Without hesitation the men opened the vehicle, taking sleeping pills from the man inside the vehicle and removed the car keys so the man could not flee. The men waited until emergency responders arrived at the scene. Sleeping pills, a suicide note and a religious book were found inside the vehicle. The driver was transported by ambulance to a Pontiac area hospital for mental health treatment.

If it wasn't for the excellent observation skills and the quick action taken, the outcome would have been tragic. On behalf of the Auburn Hills Police Department, Police Chief Olko commends these men for their courageous action.

Police Chief Olko presented certificates of appreciation.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Endres, Sylvan Lake resident and Pontiac School District resident, announced in one month all Pontiac School district residents will be asked to vote on two ballot proposals, along with the presidential primary. He is asking all residents go out and vote.

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

7a.1. Downtown Development Authority – January 18, 2016

7a.2. Board of Review – December 15, 2015

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Burmeister.

RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 16.02.018

Motion Carried (7–0)

8. OLD BUSINESS

8a. Motion – Approve Tax Incentive Agreement Settlement / Dokka Fasteners, Inc.

Mr. Tanghe explained at the last meeting, Dokka Fasteners, Inc., requested their residency requirements be waived. Staff suggested waiving the residency requirement, since Dokka Fasteners is no longer doing business. At the direction of City Council, staff negotiated with Dokka Fasteners a mutual settlement amount for the abated taxes; \$214,400.

Ms. Mitchell noted she struggled with this request, as did other Council Members, knowing the reasoning of the claw back provision. She appreciates the extra effort from staff, for negotiating with Dokka Fasteners and agreeing on a settlement. She is pleased with the agreed amount, but would have liked to collect the total amount of taxes. She realizes the business has ceased operation, and agrees receiving a portion of the abated taxes now, is better than prolonging the process and the City possibly spending more money in the long run to receive the full abated amount.

Mr. Knight was impressed learning of other businesses Dokka Fasteners brought to the community.

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Burmeister.

RESOLVED: To approve the attached resolution which outlines a settlement payment of \$214,400 by Dokka Fasteners, Inc. to be remitted by February 18, 2016 to the City of Auburn Hills. The purpose of the payment is to satisfy the business residency provision required in the company's tax incentive agreements with the City of Auburn Hills.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 16.02.019

Motion Carried (7–0)

9. NEW BUSINESS

9a. Motion – Approve Contract for Woodlands Consultant Services / Eric A. Olson, PLLC

Removed from the Agenda at the request of the Petitioner

9b. Motion – Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Federal Bureau of Investigations Detroit Metropolitan Identity Theft and Financial Crimes Task Force

Lt. Miarka explained fraud cases for Auburn Hills in 2015 increased by 60%, compared to 2014. Nationwide in 2015, the increase has exceeded 47%; there were 17.6 million victims in 2014. In December 2015, the Department confiscated 250 counterfeit credit cards in one case. Already in 2016, 180 counterfeit credit cards or compromised information have been taken in two separate cases.

The front-line people, those using the credit cards are easier to catch than those at the head of the operation. The investigation of these cases is very complex and requires many resource hours. The Department has the opportunity to join the task force with the FBI, which requires a Memorandum of Understanding. Currently, Detective Martin has been assigned part-time to the task force.

The FBI has received approval to reimburse agencies up to \$17,500 in overtime costs, provide a vehicle and fuel, and necessary equipment and training. The investigator assigned to this task force will still be responsible for investigating local fraud cases and other crimes that occur in the City. The agreement can be dissolved with 30 days' notice for any reason.

Mr. Burmeister asked if 30 days is sufficient time to determine the merits of joining the task force.

Lt. Miarka explained the goal is to keep a member of the Department in the task force for as long as possible; the 30 days is an available option, for any party or any reason, who wishes to withdraw from the agreement.

Mr. Kittle asked if the key cards for hotels contain personal information such as driver's license numbers and/or credit card information.

Lt. Miarka stated the hotel key cards should only have information to access entry into a room, not any personal or financial information.

Mayor McDaniel questioned the safety of using the new electronic card available that contains all of your credit cards on one card.

Lt. Miarka stated having all of one's information on one card increases the amount of possible loss. He suggested keeping smaller credit limits on several credit cards, making the loss, less, if stolen.

Lt. Miarka confirmed for Mr. Burmeister theft occurs from stealing credit cards, credit card information or the mail. Many thefts come from wait staff who have credit card scanners on their phones.

Lt. Miarka recently read the new 'chip' credit cards that were to be more secure, that thieves have already found a way to defeat the chip.

Moved by Mitchell; Seconded by Hammond.

RESOLVED: To approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Auburn Hills and the Federal Bureau of Investigations and authorize the Chief of Police to sign the agreement on behalf of the City.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke

No: None

Resolution No. 16.02.020

Motion Carried (7–0)

Mr. Tanghe thanked Lt. Miraka for doing a great job in presenting ‘Workplace Violence Prevention and Active Shooter’ training programs. So far, there have been six sessions, with well over 100 people attending from various companies within the City. Mr. Tanghe stated Lt. Miraka is a great representative of the City and Police Department.

10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Kittle:

- Asked if information can be made available to the City residents regarding the quality of water, here in the City. Possibly mailing postcards to the residents assuring them of the water quality, in light of what is happening in Flint.

Mr. Tanghe stated the City provides a water quality report annually.

Mr. Burmeister:

- A resident recently received an extraordinarily high water bill, and Carl Meister took the time to visit the resident and explain with graphs the situation. Unfortunately the leak wasn’t detected early. He thanked Mr. Meister for taking the time to visit with the resident.

Mr. Knight:

- Spoke with Mr. Melchert regarding the striping downtown and understands it will be etched into the pavement this spring.
- Appreciates the white Christmas lights remaining on downtown, it enhances the area.
- Noon tomorrow (Tuesday), at the Community Center, there is an Optimists meeting with a special guest attending, Dorothy Lookabaugh, 92 years old and a Chief Petty Officer in the WAVES.
- Anyone wanting to take a chance on the Morning Optimist raffle, can see Mr. Tanghe, Mr. Grice, or himself.

Ms. Verbeke:

- Asked if there is any information available regarding the widening that will be taking place on Baldwin Road, as announced by the Road Commission for Oakland County.

Mr. Tanghe stated he will find and forward the information to Ms. Verbeke.

- Announced March 8th election will have Pontiac School millage questions on the ballot, and noted if anyone is interested in circulating Vote No information or signs, to please contact her.
- Asked if there were concerns with the Woodlands Consultant agreement that was removed from this evening’s agenda.

Mr. Cohen stated there are no concerns, just making sure the language in the contract is accurate. The agreement should be ready for the next Council meeting.

Ms. Mitchell:

- Friday, February 12th, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Bigby Coffee on Joslyn Road, she will be available for questions and comments from residents. She thanked the residents that attended her last meeting.
- Wished everyone a happy Chinese New Year, the year of the Monkey.

11. CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT – none

12. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT – none

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Kevin R. McDaniel, Mayor

Terri Kowal, City Clerk