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 Kittle, Council Members Burmeister, Hammond, Knight, Mitchell, Verbeke
Absent: None
Also Present: City Manager Tanghe, Assistant City Manager Grice, Fire Chief Manning, Police Lt. McDonnell, Assistant Fire Chief Macias, Deputy Clerk Novak, Manager of Business Development Carroll, Management Assistant Mariuz, Recreation Director Marzolf, Youth Coordinator Mullins, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Engineer Stevens
24 Guests

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4a. Regular City Council Meeting – May 11, 2015
Moved by Hammond; Seconded by Mitchell.
RESOLVED: To approve the May 11, 2015 City Council meeting minutes.
VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke
No: None
Motion Carried (7–0)
Resolution No. 15.05.097

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Burmeister.
RESOLVED: To approve the May 11, 2015 Council Workshop meeting minutes.
VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke
No: None
Motion Carried (7–0)
Resolution No. 15.05.098

5. APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS
5a. Presentation - Lifesaving Award to Faurecia Staff
Fire Chief Manning congratulated the Faurecia Staff on their excellent teamwork and presented a Citizen’s Life Saving Award to Jeffrey Trempus and Robert Dowell.

The teamwork of the Faurecia Staff, who had an emergency plan in place, was executed perfectly. The call came into the Department as an unresponsive male, who when emergency crews arrived was awake and alert. When Clare Renshaw collapsed to the floor the plan went into action. Mr. Dowell assisted with the automatic defibrillator while Mr. Trempus proceeded with CPR. Other employees proceeded with the emergency plan by posting someone at the front entrance to direct the emergency personnel to the appropriate entrance, where several more employees were strategically located to direct emergency personnel at each hallway, doorway and elevator to the exact location of Mr. Renshaw. Because of the teamwork, pre-planning and preparation of an emergency plan, the outcome was successful in saving Mr. Renshaw’s life. Mr. Renshaw returned to work the following week.

The first responder team also included Alan Kowalewski, Robert Parmann, Connie Simon, and Jeff Tedler, who are also here this evening. Those not able to be here this evening are Haili Arbogast, Cedric Ballarin, Renee Godell, James Hillwig, Alexandra Jordache, Scott Cieslak, Kimberley Barker, Ryan St. Amour, Jim Stark, Jason Noel, Erick Cichy and Aerica Jennings.

Fire Chief Manning noted also in attendance are Clare Renshaw, Mark Stidham, President of Faurecia North America, Michael Lewandowski, VP of Human Resources, Christina Wootton, Faurecia Communications and Aaron Mayberry.

Fire Chief Manning introduced Mr. Stidham, who thanked the Mayor, City Council and the City for presenting this award to the Faurecia employees. He had only been on the job a few weeks when Mr. Renshaw collapsed. He congratulated the City as well as the employees for the quick action resulting in a positive outcome.

5b. Introduction of the Parks & Recreation Teen Council
Mr. Marzolf explained the Teen Council was formed with two goals in mind; to connect these teens and their peers with volunteering opportunities within the community, and to work as advisors to help plan activities that other teens will enjoy.

Mr. Marzolf introduced Mandy Mullins, the Youth Coordinator, who will focus on teens.
Ms. Mullins explained the Teen Council consists of eight teens, noting the four present are Max Marzolf, Aparna Sumanth, Joyce Yu and Ann Zhao. The other members are Bailey Drews, Divya Ramanathan, Joel Taber and Jerry Zeng.

**Max Marzolf**, President of the Teen Council, explained the group represented Auburn Hills at the annual MRP Youth Symposium and are working on raising funds through a family fun night at the Community Center. A teen dodge ball tournament is being planned for Summerfest and work is being done to recruit new Teen Council members for the upcoming school year.

Ms. Hammond asked what the requirements are to be on the Teen Council.

Mr. Marzolf stated there is an application process, students in 9th through 12th grade are eligible and they do not have to be an Auburn Hills resident.

Mayor McDaniel thanked the teens for their willingness to serve on the first ever Teen Council.

### 6. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Kathy Genautis**, Sweets, 3395 Auburn Road and **Julie DeCaire**, The Edge, Men’s Grooming, 3395 Auburn Road, Suite B, would like to propose the City place 30 minute parking signs at the first five parking spaces directly in front of their building. Unlike other downtown businesses, 3395 Auburn Road has no rear entrances to the building, so the rear lot parking isn’t an option. The 30 minute parking would allow their patrons direct access to the building. Currently the parking spaces are generally used by those visiting the apartment building, the DEN, Fuego Hookah Lounge, and the University Center, who remain parked for hours, requiring those that would just pop in for a quick stop to park further away from the store front. Many of the spur-of-the-moment stops are lost because of the distance the visitor would have to park. Business has declined because of the lack of close by parking spaces and customers have commented, particularly seniors, they didn’t stop because there wasn’t any close parking and they aren’t able to walk that far.

Mayor McDaniel thanked the ladies for addressing Council, noting it has been a topic of conversation with Council and City staff. The issue is being investigated and staff will be forthcoming with a recommendation in the very near future.

**Virginia Emanuel**, a retired nurse, currently teaches at the Community Center; she has classes for Alzheimer and memory loss patients. She explained she has classes in other communities that draw as many as 40 people, but here in Auburn Hills there are generally only four participants. These classes help to refresh minds through math, reading, writing, art and music and help to slow the progression of memory loss. She currently is allowed to teach her class one day a month and she was told if there aren’t more students, the class will be canceled. She needs help with advertising her class as well as more time to reach more people; she is asking Council for help. She has also asked Karen Adcock, Senior Director for help as well.

Mr. Kittles asked how people participate in the classes she holds her at the City.

Ms. Emanuel stated she has on average four people. Her classes are held the third Monday of the month from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Burmeister asked where else Ms. Emanuel teaches, and what can be done in Auburn Hills.

Ms. Emanuel explained she does the footwork and recruits professionals such as lawyers, doctors, teachers, nurses and politicians to come in and speak with the people attending the classes. She doesn’t understand why not many people participate in Auburn Hills. She teaches at the Baldwin Center in Pontiac, Meadow Creek on South Boulevard and others.

### 7. CONSENT AGENDA

7a. Board and Commission Minutes

- 7a.1. Downtown Development Authority – April 28, 2015
- 7a.2. Tax Incentive Review Committee – May 4, 2015
- 7a.3. Tax Increment Finance Authority – May 12, 2015

Moved by Burmeister; Seconded by Kittles.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the Consent Agenda.

**VOTE:** Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittles, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke

No: None

**Motion Carried (7–0)**

**Resolution No. 15.05.099**

### 8. OLD BUSINESS

8a. Motion - Ordinance No. 15-868 An Ordinance To Amend Article II, Downtown Development Authority, Of Chapter 30, Community Development, Of The Auburn Hills City Code Of Ordinances

Ms. Mariuz explained this is an amendment to the Downtown Development Authority Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan, which was created as a long-range fifteen year guide. A public hearing was held on April 27, 2015, as well as staff being available to answer any questions prior to this evening’s meeting.

The Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors considered and approved the proposed Tax Increment Financing and Development Plan and have forwarded their recommendation to Auburn Hills City Council.

Mayor McDaniel announced and congratulated Assistant City Manager Grice for being appointed the Executive Director of the DDA Board. He extended thanks on behalf of City Council to Ms. Mariuz for all her hard work in moving this project
forward. She has become the local expert, meeting with the County and answering many questions. He also thanked Ms. Carroll for her work on this long process.

Mr. Knight is pleased with Mr. Grice being the Executive Director of both the TIFA and the DDA and asked if there is any conflict in holding both positions.

Mr. Beckerleg, City Attorney, stated there is no conflict.

Ms. Hammond thanked the Citizens Council members who sit on this Board and helped to develop the plans.

Moved by Knight, Seconded by Hammond.

RESOLVED: To adopt Ordinance 15-868, approving the Auburn Hills Downtown Development Authority Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan.

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

No: None

Resolution No. 15.05.100

9. NEW BUSINESS

9a. Motion –Establish a Public Hearing for a Brownfield Plan for 3507 Auburn Road (former Mound Steel)

Ms. Carroll explained this is a request to set a public hearing for a Brownfield Plan for 3507 Auburn Road, commonly known as the former Mound Steel facility. The date requested is June 8, 2015.

Mr. Knight emphasized the total cost, $306,475, is an estimated cost.

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Kittle.

RESOLVED: To establish a public hearing date of June 8, 2015, at 7:00 pm for the adoption of a Brownfield Plan for 3507 Auburn Road.

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

No: None

Resolution No. 15.05.101

9b. Motion – Adoption of the By-Laws for the DDA

Ms. Mariuz noted the By-Laws establish the internal affairs for the DDA, including provisions of powers of the Board, appointment of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, meetings, contract liability, and financial reporting requirements.

At their meeting on April 28, 2015, the Auburn Hills Downtown Development Authority considered and approved the proposed bylaws and have forwarded their recommendation to City Council.

Mayor McDaniel explained there were many questions asked and answered pertaining to the By-Laws at the DDA meeting.

Moved by Burmeister; Seconded by Knight.

RESOLVED: To adopt the bylaws for the Auburn Hills Downtown Development Authority.

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

No: None

Resolution No. 15.05.102

9c. Motion – Approval of DDA/Oakland County Opt-In Contract

Ms. Mariuz explained public notices were mailed out for the first public hearing held August 11, 2014, each external taxing jurisdiction was notified of the intent to capture taxes and had 60 days to opt out.

As of October 10, 2014, Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority the Library and the County opted-out of tax capture. Since then, Auburn Hills has been working with Oakland County to establish a contract; the Ad Hoc Committee granted unanimous approval on April 23, 2015; the Finance Committee gave unanimous approval on April 30, 2015 and the Board of Commissioners final approval was also unanimous on May 6, 2015. The contract with the County is capture for a period of 15 years, or after Auburn Hills has collected approximately $1.6 million of County tax dollars, whichever occurs first.

Moved by Kittle; Seconded by Mitchell.

RESOLVED: To adopt the Tax Increment Financing Agreement between the County of Oakland, City of Auburn Hills and the Auburn Hills Downtown Development Authority.

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

No: None

Resolution No. 15.05.103

9d. Motion – Approval of TIFA/Oakland County Sunset Contract

Ms. Mariuz explained as part of the agreement for Oakland County’s participation in tax increment financing capture within the Downtown Development Authority, it was necessary that a sunset date be established for County tax capture within the three current Tax Increment Financing Development Districts.

At the time the TIFA was established, State law did not allow external taxing jurisdictions to opt-out of capture. The Tax Increment Financing Plans for Districts A, B and D will continue to capture County taxes until their expiration on December 31, 2031. The Authority may continue beyond its expiration, however County taxes will not be subject to capture.
Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Hammond.

RESOLVED: To approve the Agreement between the County of Oakland, the City of Auburn Hills and the Auburn Hills Tax Increment Finance Authority to End the Capture of County Taxes on December 31, 2031.

VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell, Verbeke
No: None

Motion Carried (7-0)

Resolution No. 15.05.104

9e. Motion – Approval of the Town Square Project

Mr. Grice explained he is covering these next two items on behalf of DPW. This first is to establish a downtown Town Square, which began when discussing the replacement of the official Christmas tree, because of its state of decline. This location has been chosen with the Christmas Tree in mind as well as additional space for community events, offer usable greenspace for the downtown businesses and residents, and potentially serve as the location for the public ice rink. This location would allow the DEN to serve as a convenient warming station for wintertime events. A public square was located at the intersection of Auburn Road and what was once Principal Street, now known as Grey Road. The proposed new Town Square will occupy a portion of the land where the original public square of the 1830’s existed.

There were many questions and concerns of Council:

Moving the MOM’s Memorial – not staying where it is

Mr. Knight wasn’t aware of all the changes, removing asphalt, installing grass, moving parking places, where the tree will be planted, Isn’t ready to approve a project that has not been thoroughly explained. He agrees with a town square but wants more detailed plan, with a presentation.

Mr. Grice explained the intention is to remove the asphalt from the parking area, the tree will be placed behind the MOM’s Memorial, the sidewalk is only a conceptual drawing, not sure if it is necessary; that parking spacing being removed will be located across from the apartments, the five banked handicap parking spaces would be moved to the back public parking lot, if needed; the two charging stations will be moved near the City’s irrigation control box, further to the east.

Mr. Knight the drawing he is reviewing is an older drawing, it doesn’t include the downtown apartment building. He agrees in principal with a town square, but not without a detailed plan.

Mr. Kittle asked if drainage would be included in the plan, some winters are warmer than others and wouldn’t want the area to become a mud bog.

Mr. Grice said there will be storm drains included in the project.

Mr. Kittle noted two businesses earlier this evening commented about the lack of parking for their businesses, if this plan to remove parking spaces would further hinder those businesses.

Mr. Grice explained the DPW monitors parking during downtown events, and there has never been a time when all parking spaces are full.

Mayor McDaniel stated the parking issues downtown is the underutilization of the parking garage, by both residents of the apartments and the visitors.

Ms. Hammond agrees with Mr. Knight, the tree positioned behind the MOM’s memorial may not be the appropriate place for the tree; it wouldn’t be as visible to those passing by behind the memorial. She too, would like a better plan and more information for the town square.

Regarding the tree, it is still possible to plant the tree in the location of the previous tree, depending on the root system of the previous tree and utilities. The thought was to be located the ice rink on the south side of the site, at the base of the Christmas tree. The tree does get salt spray from the Auburn Road during the winter months, damaging the tree and that was taken into consideration when proposing the new location.

It was the intent of the DPW to keep costs down and to do much of the work in-house that is why there isn’t the typical site plan. OHM was gracious enough to do this plan, there was no need for grade and elevation drawings.

Mayor McDaniel believes Council is in agreement that all want a Town Center. He understands DPW wanting to move quickly to get a tree planted and be ready for the Christmas season. If this project doesn’t move forward soon, there will have to be a backup plan.

Mr. Knight doesn’t think compromising the Town Square plans should be dictated by planting a Christmas tree; a purchased cut tree can be used for the tree lighting ceremony. He would like to see what other plans there may be to utilize this Town Square including how or what an ice skating rink could be used during summer months. He suggested possibly moving the MOM’s Memorial 90 degrees and having an update on the downtown plan. He would like to take a few months to discuss and plan the Town Square and forget about having a Christmas tree planted and ready for this year’s tree lighting. He appreciates the attempt at saving money, but he doesn’t want the project to look like money is being saved. He is in favor of reviewing the downtown plan and possibly make some changes.

Ms. Verbeke agrees, this project is moving too fast and asked about the open space on the other side of the DEN; who will be using the Town Square. If this is only to be used for the Christmas tree lighting and the Memorial Day parade, then the area is too big; families with children will be going to the parks. She is concerned with removing parking spaces, especially
since those spaces are across the street from Sweets. There are more questions than answers, and she would like to have more information.

Mr. Kittle noted this project has been approved by the TIFA, and the property is located within a TIF district, and asked how the DDA plays into the project. Should the DDA have any input into the Town Square?

Mr. Tanghe explained for this very reason there is one Director over both the TIFA and the DDA, so the two can work collaboratively together. This project plan was done inexpensively, there are no complex changes being made, just looking for a low cost solution to creating a green space, town square. This isn’t a new idea, it’s been discussed for months and it was hoped the property could be prepared for the tree lighting ceremony this winter.

Mayor McDaniel stated as being a DDA board member, it was discussed with the new DDA Members who are very excited with what is happening with the downtown. The TIFA members are excited about creating this town square as are many of the business owners. He asked Council if there were any who do not want the town square at this location.

Ms. Hammond suggested this might not be the best location, the location is blocked by a building and many not see or appreciate the site.

Mayor McDaniel thinks it is the ideal location; the tree lighting ceremony has been held in that area for at least the past seven years and everyone knows the lighting is near the MOM’s Memorial. The tree does not have to be in suggested location, the tree can be placed anywhere within the proposed Town Square, possibly making it more visible.

Ms. Hammond is necessarily referring to the tree visibility, it is the entire green space being between two buildings.

Mr. Tanghe explained town squares are typically located at the termination point of a roadway, and this particular location is directly where southbound Squirrel Road runs into Auburn Road, located between Ashford Commons and the DEN. He suggested if there is too much green space, then some of the parking lot can remain, however, if it is the actual location there isn’t any other location to make an actual town square downtown. Regarding parking issues, Mr. Tanghe noted there aren’t parking problems, there are walking problems.

Mayor McDaniel stated more education is needed to help alleviate some of the parking issues by talking with the apartment management to make people aware of the parking available in the parking structure.

Ms. Mitchell appreciates saving money, but value is not necessarily the lowest cost. She suggests having the project reviewed bought back with a better, more detailed plan. The concerns and uncertainties are too great this evening for this project to receive Council approval.

Mr. Knight thought this town square area would have scheduled events every few weeks, not just a tree lighting location and the Memorial Day parade stop. He reiterated the MOM’s Memorial, if moved sideways or over a bit, would open up the space making it more visible.

Mr. Tanghe agreed more events should take place at a town square, but the focus is on the two events that already take place and as the square evolves, more events will likely take place there.

Mr. Knight suggested this being a workshop topic and invite the TIFA and possibly the DDA members.

Mr. Kittle envisions people sitting around on their lunch hours eating there and people sitting around reading, however, on the other hand this space will need to be maintained during the winter months with snow plowing. He was curious if this proposal ties in with the Hyatt-Palma study, or if that study is still being used as a guide for the downtown. He agrees, he sees no reason to hurry this plan through.

It was the consensus of City Council to hold a joint workshop with TIFA and possibly the DDA.

Mr. Tanghe noted the DDA should be seen as the marketing aspect of downtown and partnering with the downtown merchants and TIFA as infrastructure.

NO ACTION TAKEN

9f. Motion – Approval of Bid Award for University Drive Streetscape

Mr. Grice explained the University Drive Streetscape project is a cooperative effort between Oakland University and the City to update and beautify the entrance from I-75 into the City as well as the University. The project began in 2013 with the painting of the streetlights and the installation of the Auburn Hills and Oakland University street banners. Because the bid came in over budget, the City and Oakland University worked to reduce the overall contract to an acceptable amount.

A Power Point presentation showed three modules, the first module heading east from I-75 was to contain a fountain, but because of the cost, the fountain was removed from the plan. The next two modules are branding module as well as streetscape improvements. The branding modules compliment both the City and University, with elevated planters containing ornamental grasses, with ornamental grasses, perennials and flowers planted along the roadway. The Members of the TIFA were disappointed the fountain at this time was cost prohibitive, but hope to seek approval at a future time.

Mr. Burmeister asked how the streetscaping plan will affect the vacant property on the south side of University Drive next to the Wellington Green building.

Mr. Grice stated it won’t affect the vacant property, but may impact the road right of way.
Mr. Kittle noted the dandelions have become very prominent in the median grass and suggested action be taken to get rid of the weeds.

Mr. Grice explained there were contracted services providing weed control of all the boulevards, but those contracts were eliminated as a cost saving measure five or so years ago. He agrees, there must be weed control done. He is looking forward to this project.

Mr. Tanghe explained the City bills the University as the project, each segment, moves forward and is completed. The payments received are deposited in the TIFA accounts; TIFA makes all the initial payments.

Mr. Grice explained for Ms. Hammond that the modules will not obstruct traffic sight lines.

Mr. Stevens explained the modules, on the cross-over, if west bound and heading east, the modules will be to the east, not obstructing traffic view.

Ms. Verbeke asked for clarification on how the Tree Fund money will be used, and what type of balance in the account would remain.

Mr. Grice explained the Tree fund currently has a balance of just over $536,000; the only other item being considered from the fund is the Christmas tree.

**Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Mitchell.**

RESOLVED: To approve the award of the University Drive Streetscape in the amount of $543,530.00 to Warren Contractors & Development. Funding to be split from TIFA D account number 253-737-970.000 UNIVERSITYSS in the amount of $442,950.00 and the Tree Fund account 242-447-955.002 in the amount of $100,580.00.

Mr. Stevens noted because of the diverging diamond project, the module and the immediate surrounding area at Cross Creek, will not be completed until next spring. Everything for the streetscape east of Cross Creek will be completed this year.

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

**No: None**

Motion Carried (7-0)

**Resolution No. 15.05.105**

10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Ms. Hammond:

- Congratulated Lt. McDonnell on the successful and well planned Police Awards banquet. Mr. Kittle did a wonderful job filling in for the Mayor.
- She and Mr. Knight met with DPW personnel downtown and walked and pointed out some the issues. She asked Council to consider replacing the angle parking with parallel parking in front of the Fieldstone building.
- Worked at the blood drive at the American Legion, and asked for information regarding the Memorial Day parade, but no one seemed to have an answer. The hamburgers and hot dogs have been received, but no one knows who is in charge.

Ms. Verbeke:

- Attended the Beautification’s Perennial Exchange, noting it was well attended with over 100 people showing up.
- The Beautification Advisory Commission will have an information table setup at the Summerfest.

Mr. Knight:

- Pontiac Youth Assistance has contacted him regarding funding. He questioned if he can request a report of what impact the funding has on the kids and what type of programming is available. He received head nodding confirmation he can make that request.
- Reduce or suspend watering the medians, will help to eliminate the need to control weeds and not need much mowing.
- The BAC perennial exchange was great.
- Featherstone Road looks great and is moving along well.
- The Avondale receives $5,000 in Block Grant funds over a two-year period; however, the need is greater than $5,000. He has $1,300 worth of reimbursable expenses that meet the block grant criteria and asked if the City may possibly be willing to reimburse those funds, either through the City Council fund or the general fund.

Mr. Burmeister:

- Opdyke Road streetscape south of Walton Boulevard is looking rather rough, especially between Pontiac Road and University Drive.

Mr. Grice will let DPW know; those are contracted services.
Mr. Kittle:
- Played at Fieldstone, noting what great shape the course is in.
- Asked if June 15th was the planned start date for Squirrel Road project.
  Mr. Stevens stated the project had been planned for a June start, but there was a minor hiccup with the Federal government.
- Taylor Road is in horrible condition.

Ms. Mitchell:
- Thanked Ms. Carroll for the CKC activity update.
- Thanked Lt. McDonnell and asked her to share that there is continuous positive feedback from residents regarding the Police blog and the Twitter feed.
- She had a very enjoyable time at the Police Awards ceremony.
- Complimented Ms. Carroll, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Keenan on the well facilitated Brownfield Development Authority/Planning Commission meeting.
- Requested an update regarding the hiring of the Executive Assistant for the City Manager.
- Requested press releases be placed on the landing page of the City’s web site.

Mayor McDaniel:
- Last year he participated in the Paddlepalooza and suggested all Council Members reserve their spot for this year’s. This year the Paddlepalooza is being held May 30th. The race begins at Riverside Park.

11. CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT - none

12. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT
- A conditional offer has been made for the Executive Assistant position and hopes to have the new person begin June 22nd.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8: 40 p.m.

____________________________________  ______________________________________
Kevin R. McDaniel, Mayor                      Terri Kowal, City Clerk