4. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Review of City Manager

Mr. Auger requested to have his review in Executive Session.

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Doyle.

RESOLVED: To recess to Executive Session to perform a personnel review of City Manager Auger.

VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.02.024

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. and reconvened the regular City Council Meeting at 7:10 p.m.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5a. Regular City Council Meeting – February 4, 2013

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Kittle.

RESOLVED: To approve the February 4, 2013 City Council minutes.

VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.02.025

5b. City Council Workshop Minutes – February 4, 2013

Moved by Doyle; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the February 4, 2013 City Council Workshop minutes.

Mr. Knight asked that the minutes reflect the topic was not how to evaluate a professional it was to understand exactly what each of the professionals were doing and how they were doing it.

VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.02.026

6. APPOINTMENTS and PRESENTATIONS

6a. Reappoint Dawn Price to the TIFA Board for a term ending February 28, 2017

Ms. Doyle asked Ms. Price to comment on her time on the TIFA Board, including why she would like to continue on the Board.

Ms. Price explained she had never participated in any type of government committee and has learned quite a bit as well as working with a great group of people. She noted how exciting it is to be part of the transformation of the downtown. She stated she brings with her financial experience and understanding of business her 36 years of working at General Motors.

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Kittle.

RESOLVED: To reappoint Dawn Price to the TIFA Board for a term ending February 28, 2017.

VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.02.027

6b. Reappoint David Molnar to the TIFA Board for a term ending February 28, 2017

Mr. Molnar thanked Council for his first appointment. He didn’t know that he would be a participant in the City's growth, noting all the work that is being done downtown. His background is in international human resources and finance. One contribution he made to the TIFA Board was that he was able to have the balance sheet revised and simplified to reflect
an immediate picture of the TIFA finances. He is also looking forward to the completion of the United College Center, believing it is the first of its kind in Oakland County and possibly the state.

**Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Knight.**

RESOLVED: To reappoint David Molnar to the TIFA Board for a term ending February 28, 2017.

**VOTE:** Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 13.02.028**

6c. Appoint Linda Hogan to the BAC for a term ending December 31, 2015

Mayor McDonald explained Ms. Hogan used to volunteer at the Community Center, but now with a full time job she is unable to volunteer there and asked if there was something else she could do for the City. He believes with her background she will be a good fit with this Commission.

Ms. Hogan introduced herself and explained she is a designer for the auto industry and is currently working as a contract employee for Chrysler at Magna. She has quite an extensive background in design, including a degree in design and an interest in keeping the community beautiful.

Mayor McDonald noted she has also won a few of the Beautification Awards.

**Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by McDaniel.**

RESOLVED: To confirm appointment of Linda Hogan to the Beautification Advisory Commission for a term ending December 31, 2015.

**VOTE:** Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 13.02.029**

6d. Presentation – Traffic Safety Award

Deputy Director Hardesty explained each year the Association of Police Chiefs, Office of Highway & Planning, and AAA, present awards for excellence in traffic safety, for best overall safety programs in Michigan. Law enforcement agencies of various sizes from around the State apply for the awards. The awards are based on a variety of criteria, but the main focus is making roadways safer. This year at the winter conference, held February 7th, the MACP Traffic Safety Committee awarded the South Oakland County Crash Team third place for Excellence in Traffic Safety. The Team is made up of officers from Troy, Bloomfield Township, and Auburn Hills, with the Team Leader being Lt. Miarka. The Team received a beautiful plaque as well as a $5,000 grant that can be used towards equipment or overtime for safety programs.

Lt. Miarka presented the plaque to City Council in appreciation of their support of this Team.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT – none.

8. 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.

8a. Board and Commission Minutes

8a.2. Special Planning Commission – February 7, 2013
8a.3. Tax Increment Finance Authority – February 12, 2013

**Moved by McDaniel; Seconded by Kittle.**

RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda as submitted.

**VOTE:** Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 13.02.030**

9. OLD BUSINESS - none

10. NEW BUSINESS

10a. Motion – Approve Network Switch Purchase.

Deputy Director Hardesty explained as part of this year’s budget, an updated phone system is being considered and the first step in that process is to update the network switches. The new switches will help with a new phone system but they will be used by the entire network. These switches could be compared to tunnels that allow the data to travel through. Some of the switches have had to be replaced due to age. There was a very good response to the bids that were sent out, with the lowest bidder being Sehi Computer Products. The company is based in Rochester and has a very good reputation.
Responding to Mr. McDaniel, Mr. Cagle stated there will be seven switches with specifications for each particular site. Mr. Cagle explained the term generic was used to allow the bidder to use any switch manufacturer, and he would determine the best solution for the City based on cost and product capability.

Mr. McDaniel was curious as to how many ports each switch can accommodate.

Mr. Cagle stated it varies, dispatch has a major switch, with 168 ports, and some of the other lesser switches have 24 or 48 ports. The core switch, here in the administration building, has 48 ports, but needs eight SFP (fiber connections); this core switch connects with the other City buildings.

Mr. McDaniel asked if the switch provider is also a provider of the VOIP services; and asked if it is recommended to put both on the same network.

Mr. Cagle stated the provider has yet to be determined, he believes that will be a topic for the next Council meeting.

Deputy Director Hardesty explained Mitel is a phone system that will work with these switches; the switches meet the minimum requirements of Mitel, but would also work with others as well.

Mr. McDaniel noted he has some experience with these types of systems and is concerned that the switches will be able to handle all that is required for an organization of this size; with the VOIP and other data on the same network and connected with other networks.

Mr. Cagle explained the specs for this bid were received from Sun Tel for this VOIP product.

Answering Mr. McDaniel’s question, Deputy Director Hardesty explained Sun Tel has a GSA contract for the My Tel Solutions, so Sun Tel would automatically be the low bidder for the voice over IP.

Mr. Cagle confirmed these are full POE switches as well.

Mr. Knight was impressed with Mr. McDaniel's knowledge of the subject and asked Mr. McDaniel if he was satisfied with the bid.

Mr. McDaniel confirmed for Mr. Knight, he is satisfied.

Dan Sapp introduced himself, noting he put the bid together. Responding to Mr. Kittle, Mr. Sapp continued, stating this is the first project with Auburn Hills; however, the company has contracts with other cities, the most recent was Royal Oak. Addressing the Mitel issue, Mitel and HP are in a direct partnership, Sehi is not a VOIP provider.

Mr. McDaniel reasoned the VOIP provider should have offered a bid for the switches as well. He is pleased that there is a lifetime warranty on the switches.

Mr. Sapp noted the lifetime warranty is standard for HP; if a call comes in at 4:00 p.m., by 10:00 a.m. the next morning a replacement switch would be at the City. If a switch needs replacing and a particular one is no longer available, HP will make the replacement with a newer model.

Ms. Doyle too, was pleased with Mr. McDaniel's knowledge and appreciated the number of bids received; however, she was puzzled by the great cost gap between the lowest and highest bidders. She questioned if the low bidder meets the product, quality, and warranty of the higher bidders.

Mr. Cagle explained some of the bids were using Cisco products which tend to be more expensive, and the Cisco warranty is an additional expense. The reason for the vast difference is the brand name of the product, though most of the products are very similar and all work well. There were a few bids that were not considered because of the poor quality product. Mr. Cagle admitted he likes Cisco’s switches better and believes there are some advantages, but not for $11,000.00. HP has a wonderful reputation, and the City currently uses two HP switches, which are working fine.

Moved by McDaniel; Seconded by Doyle.

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of seven (7) network switches from Sehi Computer Products with a total cost of $43,170.51.

VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None

Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.02.031

10b. Motion – Approve Purchase of Sanitary Sewerage Pump

Mr. Herczeg explained during the holidays, one of its pumps at the Lake Angelus lift station quit working and it was determined that fixing it would not be cost effective. There have been three pumps available for this lift station, two working and one back-up; the pumps are on a six-month rotation. The bid was placed on the Michigan Inter-Governmental Network bid site, which has 279 companies listed and received only one bid. There aren’t many companies that make this type and size pump. Mr. Herczeg noted he contacted two other regional providers, one who bid in 2010 and decided not to bid this time, mentioning the new specifications as well as not wanting to bid against Kennedy again as the reasons for not bidding. The other potential bidder gave no reason.

Mr. Herczeg confirmed repairs would cost $16,000.00 and a new pump is $19,790.00; mentioning the specifications for these pumps were updated by OHM in 2010.
Mr. Knight was concerned that if these three pumps are rotated, then theoretically, they should all be wearing out quite soon.

Mr. Herczeg explained all three pumps were not purchased at the same time, so they shouldn’t all fail at the same time. Responding to Ms. Verbeke, Mr. Herczeg stated the life expectancy of a pump is generally 10 years; however, the last one lasted only seven years. Of the two that are working, one was purchased in 2002 and the other in 2010. This is not a budgeted item.

Mr. Kittle was curious if there was an issue with the new specification that the City isn’t aware of and that was why the other company chose not to submit a bid.

Mr. Herczeg believes it is more of an issue with the price; the other company’s bid was $5,000.00 more than Kennedy’s bid. Mr. Herczeg too, was perplexed with receiving only one bid out of the 79 possible.

Mr. Herczeg stated the last pump purchased cost $15,000.00, in 2010. In response to Ms. Doyle, he questioned why the huge jump in price and was told the price of precious metals is high and there is quite a bit of copper in the pumps.

Ms. Doyle asked how comfortable one can be with only one bid, to which Mr. Herczeg responded that the City has done business with Kennedy in the past. Their prices have either been competitive or they have had the best price of the bidders.

Mr. Knight questioned if it might be wise to purchase an additional pump with the anticipation that precious metals will continue to rise, therefore making pumps more expensive.

Mr. Herczeg stated he wasn’t sure if it would be a good thing to have a pump sitting on a shelf, it may not be good for the seals.

Mr. McDaniel noted it seems more often than not lately that when putting something out for bid, it results in receiving only one bid or very few. He questioned if there may be something that can be done to entice more bids, possibly going beyond the immediate region or possibly nationally.

Mr. Auger noted many times there just isn’t many suppliers for a particular item. For example, road striping; there are two known suppliers, one on the west side of the state and one on the east side. Depending on which side of the state you’re located determines from whom who you would receive a bid. In this case, Kennedy had no idea they would be the only bidder, so a company generally makes an honest bid. Often when there are few bids submitted, staff will contact companies and inquire as to whether they’d like to bid or find out why they don’t want to bid.

Mr. Kittle noted using only MITN as the encompassing bid network isn’t necessarily the answer.

Ms. Doyle thinks it would be helpful when receiving only one bid that staff contact other communities and find out their bidding process and their responses.

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To award the bid from Kennedy Industries Inc. 4975 Technical Drive, Milford, MI 48381 for the Sanitary Sewerage Pump in the amount of $19,790.00, to be paid from sewer account number (592-535-757.000).

VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke

No: None

Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.02.032

10c. Motion – Approve Featherstone Road Concrete Overlay and Water Main Replacement Scope of Engineering Services

Mr. Brisson explained this project is budgeted for 2014; a concrete overlay on Featherstone Road from Squirrel Road to Opdyke Road. This project is similar to the 2010 Squirrel Road project; the joints are separating and the road is still in decent enough condition to accept the concrete overlay, which is much less expensive than replacing the road. The road portion of the project will cost approximately $2.5 million, with federal funding of $1.6 million available.

Mr. Herczeg explained it was suggested to take advantage of the road construction and simultaneously upgrade the water main along Featherstone. The water main will be upgraded from 12” and 16” asbestos and concrete water mains to a 20” ductile iron water main, and will be constructed on the north side of the road. The new system will improve pressure along the Opdyke corridor.

Mr. Herczeg confirmed for Mayor McDonald, TIFA funds are being used.

Mr. Knight understood the upgrade from asbestos to ductile, but questioned if the size should have been larger when first installed.

Mr. Herczeg explained it is a problematic asbestos pipe that tends to break and has reached its lifespan. Upgrading the pipe is in the water master plan and will have better pressure for that district.

Mr. Juidici explained the current pipe has been there since the 1960’ or 70’s and is pre-Chrysler.

Ms. Doyle asked if there is an issue with water pressure and fire suppression in that area.
Mr. Juidici stated that we look for the weakest link in order to provide the best services. It was identified in the water master plan that the fire flow needs to improve here especially if we want growth in this area.

Mr. Herczeg explained the new pipe will be installed on the north side of Featherstone, leaving the current pipe on the south side. There is no harm leaving the pipe in the ground and there won’t be the additional cost to remove it.

**Moved by Doyle; Seconded by Knight.**

**RESOLVED:** To approve the Featherstone Road Concrete Overlay and Water Main Replacement Scope of Engineering Services provided by OHM Engineering Advisors for the not-to-exceed amount of $306,525.00. Funding is provided from TIFA B (252-736-971.000) $128,500.00, TIFA B (252-736-973.000) $62,800.00, and TIFA D (253-737-973.000) $115,225.00.

**VOTE:** Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke

No: None

Motion Carried (6-0)

**Resolution No. 13.02.033**

10d. Motion – Approve 2013 Pavement Maintenance Program, Scope of Engineering Services

Mr. Brisson explained the funding for this project comes from several budget sources; the biggest project will be the concrete patching on Squirrel Road, south of M-59. There will also be more sidewalk work in Bloomfield Orchards. The bid will be going out shortly and he will bring the bid back for Council approval.

Mr. Knight asked the difference of a cape seal and a slurry seal.

Mr. Brisson explained the cape seal is an aggregate base with slurry on top, for a more moderate repairs; a slurry seal is for roads that are in decent condition.

Mr. Kittle asked about the non-motorized path on Opdyke Road between Featherstone and South Boulevard, costing $140,000.

Mr. Brisson explained that is a completely different project, and is not part of this request for engineering services; that project is to connect the safety paths from Auburn Road to just south of Featherstone.

Mr. Juidici stated the safety path project was started last year and is getting ready to be bid out through MDOT. The City received a grant for approximately half the cost of the project; the overall cost of the project is approximately $500,000.00. The project includes a new bridge over the Clinton River, significant retaining walls and work along the M-59 corridor to connect Auburn to Featherstone.

**Moved by Knight Seconded by Verbeke.**

**RESOLVED:** To approve the Scope of Engineering Services for the 2013 Concrete and Asphalt Maintenance Programs with services provided by OHM Engineering Advisors at a not-to-exceed amount of $ 75,500.00.

**VOTE:** Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke

No: None

Motion Carried (6-0)

**Resolution No. 13.02.034**

10e. Motion – Adopt the Resolution Authorizing Application to the State of Michigan for the consideration of the designation of Community for a Lifetime.

Ms. Adcock noted this is a very exciting time for the City; this is the first phase of looking at the community for the aging population. The State of Michigan has a program called the Livable Community, which is a community for a lifetime. The program looks at 10 attributes: Walkability/Bikeability, Supportive Community Systems, Access to Health Care, Safety & Security, Housing - Availability & Affordability, Housing- Modification & Maintenance, Public Transportation, Commerce, Enrichment, and Inclusion.

Currently, more than 13% of Auburn Hills’ population is over 60 years old; 6% of the homeowners are 65 or older and 13% of the households have a family member aged 65 years or older.

Five months ago a team comprising of City Staff, Planning Commissioners, and community volunteers completed the Community for a Lifetime Assessment looking at the 10 different categories. The Assessment was completed in a variety of ways including: group meetings, observations, and research. The group also relied on City Staff’s expertise and knowledge. Additional support was provided by other departments.

This exercise can be viewed as an opportunity to take a snapshot look of the community and to assess the current attributes and to use the gathered data for future planning. The Assessments are not intended to be judgmental, but rather as an exercise to highlight a community’s accomplishments and to provide information on challenges and needs a community may experience as population demographics shift. This is only the beginning of looking to the future of Auburn Hills and its aging population. It is not an absolute, nor will all the findings or recommendations become a reality.

Some recommendations may be simple, such as installing additional benches at City parks or near trailheads; or redesigning services or programs. Other findings may be incorporated into long term planning for the City. Other recommendations or findings may be too costly or impractical such as the construction of a bridge over a busy roadway.

In the end the Assessment proved Auburn Hills is a great place to live, work and to play.
The next step would be to have Council approve a resolution to proceed and submit to the State for review. The following phase will be to put together action steps and working on other assessments.

Ms. Adcock confirmed for Mr. Kittle there were 57 respondents for the mini assessment. There was a focus study done at the craft fair and other programs at the Community Center for the mini assessment; the large assessment was done by the teams.

Ms. Adcock stated Auburn Hills is ahead of most in acknowledging and working the aging population. This Assessment is a tool that can be used by the Planning Commission, for budgeting purposes, and other departments may find the information helpful in planning for the future.

Ms. Adcock confirmed for Mr. Knight the action plan would be based on the State’s findings of the Assessment.

Mr. Knight believes the public transportation will be a pinch-point, noting as stated in the report, the car is one of the last bits of freedom someone will give up. The City currently has three buses and he is unsure if they will meet the need.

Mr. Kittle asked if the three buses are not needed for the Community Center, there may be the possibility of selling one to the TIFA for downtown transportation.

Ms. Adcock stated all three buses are needed and used every day. There is a waiting list for rides; the dialysis and chemo patients put a strain on the bus system. As the population ages, there will be more residents needing rides for medical appointments, so there will be a need to get creative with the transportation as well.

Ms. Doyle noted currently there are between 9% and 13% of the City’s households having an aging family member, and by the year 2035 that number is expected to reach 25%. She asked of the 10 attributes listed, which one would Auburn Hills might be at the leading edge, one that would have great impact on the seniors.

Ms. Adcock chose housing; 90% of all Americans want to stay at their own home. Assisted living which is privately paid, and nursing homes, are very expensive. The research indicates more people are choosing to stay in their own homes with in-home support services. Some of the creative ways to keep folks in their homes are the “granny flats”, accessory dwellings, allowing an increased number of unrelated people in one home, and home modification (how to modify a home and keep them safe). Healthcare is another important issue, as well as being able to afford to continue to live in their own home.

Ms. Doyle asked how the City would be able to accommodate the healthcare issues.

Ms. Adcock noted having transportation available for healthcare visits as well as affordable services; partnering with home health agencies, medical facilities, bringing agencies into the City to visit the seniors at home or at the Community Center, similar to the old type health fairs. There is also the concern of home healthcare businesses; how will these businesses be regulated? Currently there are no regulations. Maybe the City could come up with a solution to regulate the home healthcare businesses. One remedy in trying to keep seniors safe is to educate them before anything bad can happen. Elder abuse is rampant, with many focusing on financial end. The educating could be done through programs at the Community Center, the newsletter, cable TV, or social media.

Ms. Doyle asked and hoped there will be town hall type meetings involving the public.

Ms. Adcock explained this is merely the first step in this process and yes, she intends to have those types of meetings. The next step will be going to the public and asking what they see in the future for them and Auburn Hills.

Mr. Knight noted he had seen in a magazine a small modular home that is constructed in the backyard of a family member, where an elderly person is able to live on their own, but close to family if need be. He hopes the Planning Commission will begin looking at those possibilities for Auburn Hills in the very near future.

Ms. Adcock stated that would be an accessory dwelling and the Planning Commission has been very involved in this process thus far and has been looking at some of those ideas.

Continuing, Ms. Adcock explained she has seen where an accessory building was put inside a garage, nobody was aware of the apartment but the property owners and when it was no longer needed, it was removed. This is where ordinances and building codes must be reviewed and revised.

Mr. Kittle acknowledged the Planning Commissioners in the audience and commended them on a job well done and also recognized those from OHM. Continuing he explained there was a presentation by SEMCOG about the aging population and it was an intriguing and interesting presentation. It was very informative of demographics and what it will do to services, the needs, and tax base.

Ms. Adcock stated if Council would like, she can get great amounts of good information on the aging process and how the City can go forward and be on the leading edge.

Mr. Kittle stated the presentation he saw talked about the declining property values associated with people staying in their homes longer; they generally can’t afford to fix them up, make improvements or pay their taxes.

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Knight.
RESOLVED: To accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation and adopt the resolution authorizing application to the State of Michigan for consideration of the designation of Community for a Lifetime.

VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None  
Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.02.035

11. COMMENTS AND MOTION FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Knight:
- He saw the Forester Square housing and it reminded him of the row housing in Detroit. The homes are so close together that he is concerned a fire would take them all out.
  Mr. Auger stated all of those houses are fire suppressed.
- Noted his sister’s Troy home increased in value by 1% or 2%, and Mr. Ouellette mentioned sales of homes are increasing, as are the values.

Ms. Verbeke:
- Mentioned the light is out at Juniper and Grey and asked Mr. Brisson to investigate, she isn’t sure if it is a City light or DTE.
- Noticed on February 25th, there is a town hall meeting regarding burning.
  Mr. Kittle noted the meeting is March 25th.
- The Pontiac School District did not pay $7.8 million to the union for healthcare. The District entered into a consent agreement and the residents of Auburn Hills will be responsible for a portion of that money.
  Mr. Auger stated there is a possibility the cost may be included in the summer tax bill; however, the City is working with other communities that are in the same situation. None of the communities received any notification of the situation, and are trying to work on a solution.

Ms. Doyle:
- She had many out-of-town guests this past weekend for her son’s 21st birthday. She had Fieldstone cater, and was very pleased with the fantastic job they did. She noted Fieldstone caters events all year round. She mentioned her brothers, who are ice hockey players, went for a walk at Hawk Woods and mentioned how good the pond would be for skating; it was smooth as silk and there was no snow on it. She asked Mr. Marzolf if it is or could be used for skating.
  Mr. Marzolf noted it is a natural preserved area and not intended for any use.

Mr. Kittle:
- Today was the second meeting with the committee to evaluate and discuss leaf burning in the City; and was the first meeting with resident participation. Parameters were set for the town hall meeting to be held March 25, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., in the Community Center. It will be an open forum, inviting any and all residents to speak on the issue.

12. CITY ATTORNEY’S COMMENTS - none

13. CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS

- Congratulated Mr. McDaniel on his selection to the 40 Under 40, Brooks Patterson’s group.
- The City is working with the businesses on Glenmeade, to complete the process that was started a number of years ago for the City to accept Glenmeade as a City owned street. The acceptance of the street will come before Council for approval in the near future.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.