CALL TO ORDER: by Mayor McDonald at 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Present: Mayor McDonald, Mayor Pro Tem Hammond, Council Members Doyle, Knight, McDaniel, Verbeke

Absent: Council Member Kittle

Also Present: Assistant City Manager Tanghe, Director of Public Safety Chief of Police Olko, City Clerk Kowal, City Assessor Lohmeier, Community Relations Coordinator Carroll, Economic Development Coordinator Renaud, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Management Intern Guest, City Engineer Juidici.

Guests: 12

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4a. Regular City Council Meeting – April 1, 2013

Moved by Doyle; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the April 1, 2013 City Council minutes.

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

No: None

Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.04.064

4b. Council Workshop – April 1, 2013

Moved by Hammond; Seconded by Doyle.

RESOLVED: To approve the April 1, 2013 City Council Workshop minutes.

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

No: None

Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.04.065

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Amy Moore, a Forrester Square resident was seeking help from Council regarding the current assessment on her property and trying to refinance her home.

Mayor McDonald suggested Ms. Moore give Assistant City Manager Tanghe her contact information, and Mr. Tanghe can contact her during the week and see if there may be a solution.

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. Board of Review – 2013

7a.2. Planning Commission – March 26, 2013

7b. Motion – Approve Used Car Lot License Renewals

RESOLVED: To approve renewal of Used Car Lot Licenses for the 2013/2014 licensing period for A & S RV Center, Newcomb’s Service, Inc., Oakland Truck and Equipment Sales, Inc. and Parts Place, Inc.

Moved by McDaniel; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda.

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

No: None

Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.04.066

8. OLD BUSINESS - none

9. NEW BUSINESS

9a. Public Hearing/Adoption of a Brownfield Plan for the 3250 Auburn Road Redevelopment Project

Ms. Carroll noted the memo in the packet contains the information regarding this brownfield plan and asked if there were any questions.
Ms. Doyle asked what steps are taken to make the public aware of a brownfield plan and a public hearing; and where would the public be able to view the plan.

Ms. Carroll explained the City chose to post the public hearing on the City’s website; with new legislation, it isn’t necessary to publish a public hearing notice in the newspaper.

Continuing, Ms. Carroll noted this particular property purchased by the TIFA, was formerly known as Water’s Edge. As with all City property purchases due-diligence must be done. In this case, the City was aware of environmental issues on the property. The previous brownfield plan had expired and TIFA needed to do the due-care activities again to make sure nothing on the property had changed and to protect the City from any liabilities that may be associated with the property. When all the testing was completed, it was determined this site remains an unchanged brownfield site.

Ms. Carroll confirmed for Ms. Doyle, the public hearing notice was located on the home page of the City’s website, near the top of the page where special announcements are made. Also, a ‘facility’ as listed in the packet information, is a brownfield site as set by the State.

Mayor McDonald opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. and hearing no comment, closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Doyle.
RESOLVED: To adopt the attached resolution (Attachment A) approving a Brownfield Plan for the 3250 Auburn Road Development Project.
VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Hammond, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None

Resolution No. 13.04.067

9b. Public Hearing/Adoption of a Brownfield Plan for the 3505 Auburn Road Redevelopment Project

Ms. Carroll explained this site is similar to the previous site, and as part of the City’s due-diligence testing was also done on this site. This property was purchased by the City in April, 2012.

Ms. Doyle noted there is some cost associated with both properties, and questioned what the process is for the City to move forward.

Ms. Carroll noted because both properties are vacant, there isn’t any due-care obligations of the City. When the property begins to be developed the plan will be amended to suit those specific needs. The property must be contained in a plan in order for local site remediation funds to be utilized.

Confirming for Ms. Doyle, Ms. Carroll noted the City is protecting and containing this property as is for future site development. Ms. Carroll noted the sites cannot be altered in any way until development begins or testing must be done.

Mayor McDonald opened the public hearing at 7:14 p.m. and hearing no comment, closed the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Moved by Doyle; Seconded by Verbeke.
RESOLVED: To adopt the attached resolution (Attachment B) approving a Brownfield Plan for the 3505 Auburn Road Development Project.
VOTE: Yes: Doyle, Hammond, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
No: None

Resolution No. 13.04.068

Motion Carried (6-0)

9c. Public Hearing/Motion – Approve Industrial Facility Exemption Certificate/Faurecia USA Holdings, Inc.

Mr. Lohmeier explained this request is for real property, a new industrial building with approximately 280,000 square feet of gross building area which will serve as Faurecia’s North American Headquarters for its automotive components supply business. The building will be divided into 170,000 square feet of office space, 100,000 square feet of shop/testing, and 10,000 square feet of warehouse space.

The total project investment is estimated at $24,000,000, anticipating 689 employees at this facility. There will be 462 employees transferring from the Troy Tech Center, 111 from the Squirrel Road location and 92 from the West Entrance Dr. location and expecting to hire 24 new employees.

Faurecia is seeking an eight year tax abatement, starting December 31, 2013, though the building lease is for 15 years.

Mayor McDonald opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Robin Dupree, Faurecia Tax Manager agreed with Mr. Lohmeier’s introduction of the project, noting this facility will be a premiere facility for the company. Continuing, Ms. Dupree noted the hope is to break ground this month and to occupy the building by the end of 2014.

Ms. Doyle asked if Faurecia had open tax appeals for any of the currently occupied facilities.

Mr. Lohmeier noted there are no pending tax appeals with Faurecia or owners of the property, General Development.
Ms. Doyle noted there will be 24 new employees hired, and asked what types of jobs those would be.

Ms. Dupree stated she wasn’t sure of the breakdown, but she believed them to be salary positions, technical positions in the research and development area as well as financial positions.

Confirming for Mr. Knight, Ms. Dupree stated this is not a production facility, there will be research and development for the seating division and the front end division.

Mayor McDonald closed the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the request for an 8-year year IFEC for Faurecia USA Holdings, Inc. for a total real property investment of $24,000,000 by adopting the attached resolution (Attachment C).

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

Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.04.069

9d. Motion – Request to Waive Residence Requirement – Faurecia Interior Systems, Inc.

Mr. Lohmeier explained the facility located at 900 N Squirrel Road has an IFT for personal property of $400,000. The certificate was issued for two years and scheduled to expire December 30, 2012. The agreement includes Faurecia remaining at the facility for two years after the certificate expires. David Broysiak, North American Tax Director for Faurecia, has requested the City forgive and waive the two year residence requirement since these employees are going to be located at its new facility on High Meadow in Auburn Hills.

Mr. McDaniel asked if the residential requirement couldn’t mean within the City as opposed to a specific facility within the City.

Mr. Lohmeier explained at one time the abatement policy indicated the residency requirement was within the City, not facility specific, but at some point the policy was amended and the change occurred to facility specific.

Mr. McDaniel noted a similar request came before Council sometime ago; he suggested Mr. Kittle, Council liaison to TIRC, might propose amending the policy to have the residency requirement apply to the City as opposed to a facility.

Moved by McDaniel; Seconded by Hammond.

RESOLVED: To approve the request by Faurecia Interior Systems, Inc. to waive its two-year residence requirement pertaining to IFT 11-464 for its facility located at 900 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills so long as Faurecia USA Holdings, Inc. fulfills its new construction IFEC application relating to the construction of the real property facility as approved in City Council agenda item 9c.

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

Motion Carried (6-0)

Resolution No. 13.04.070

10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Knight:

- Invited Council to attend the Boys and Girls Club Steak and Burger dinner being held April 24, 2013 at Meadowbrook Hall, with a reception beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.
- Thanked staff for responding so quickly to the requests made by both he and Ms. Doyle.

Ms. Verbeke:

- Congratulated Mr. Lohmeier on his recent appointment as the President of the Great Lakes Chapter of the Appraisal Institute.
- Asked if there was any determination resulting from the conversation and meeting Mr. Auger had with the Oakland County Road Commission regarding the painting of directional arrows on Joslyn Road.

Mr. Juidici stated he did not attend the meeting; however, Mr. Melchert and Mr. Brisson attended and he will follow-up with them tomorrow and contact her. He knows the conversation regarded the concrete overlay the Road Commission will be doing on Joslyn Road from the City limit line to just north of Pacific.

Ms. Verbeke noted in a Road Commission pamphlet she received it mentioned property needed to be acquired to complete the project and was curious what property was needed.

Mr. Juidici believes there are a few temporary grading permits that are needed to change the grade of the road; all aspects of the project must be aligned to receive the federal government funding for this project. He noted the funding for this project is just north of Pacific; however, there are talks between the City and County of tri-party funding to do repairs as far as the funding will allow.
• Asked if there have been other issues, similar to Ms. Moore’s regarding the Forrester Square assessment.

  Mr. Tanghe stated yes, there have been other instances. He noted Ms. Moore will not like the answer he will be giving her, but it isn’t anything the City controls. The only way around the problem is to pay off the assessment and not have a lien against the property.

  Clarifying for Ms. Verbeke, Mr. Tanghe explained it appears as a lien on the property for the life of the special assessment district. At the sale of a property the lien would be paid off with the proceeds from the sale. When the lien is paid off, the City would submit a discharge of lien to the County, indicating the lien has been paid and no longer exists.

  Mr. Beckerleg noted it is required by mortgage companies that the lien be paid in full, not the City.

Ms. Doyle:

• Asked about the e-mail communication regarding the barn and asked if there will be a more formal discussion.

  Mr. Tanghe explained the property purchased was for the land, anticipating the removal of the barn and the other buildings. Since then, there has been some thinking that there may be a use for the buildings and if the buildings should be kept. Mr. Spencer, Building Official, stated the house would be an expensive proposition to bring up to code. An individual examined the barn determining it was built between the 1860’s and 1880’s; however, the cost would be considerable to make use of it. The barn could be stabilized in its current state, but it could not be used. The sent e-mail was stating it is back to the original plan of removing the buildings from the property; just a heads-up in case Council had any last minute thoughts or concerns. The current plan is to leave the barn as is; it has been standing for over 100 years, another year or two probably won’t make a difference. At a future date a decision can be made to re-purpose the barn as it stands or possibly disassembling the barn and re-purposing the wood into a gazebo or another structure at one of the City parks.

• Noted there hasn’t been any activity at the soccer fields on Dutton Road and asked how the project was doing.

  As mentioned by Mr. Kittle, it is becoming a dust bowl and asked what measures will be taken to keep the dust down.

  Mr. Juicici noted when construction was started last fall there were some problems with utility easements. Those problems have since been resolved and now with the frost gone construction should begin this week. The construction should be completed and restoration should begin in the next couple of months with new vegetation keeping the dust down.

• Mentioned an article about a citizen getting involved to keep a 300 year old tree from being cut down. She wanted to remind residents there is a 300 plus, year old tree on North Squirrel Road and as the City moves forward, she hopes the tree will be treasured and appreciated as part of the City’s heritage.

Ms. Hammond:

• Is happy to see spring, noting the skate park is opened and was quite busy this evening when she drove past.

• Thanked Police Chief Olko for the presence of more police officers on Auburn Road and Squirrel Road, it is very much appreciated.

Mr. McDaniel:

• Asked Mr. Tanghe for an update on the construction of the housing and parking garage downtown.

  Mr. Tanghe stated the schedule is farther behind than was anticipated; however, there will be a partial opening, 40 apartments, by fall. The apartment owner, Mr. Haussman, met with Oakland University administrators, and O.U. will advertise the apartments as an option for housing on their website.

  The retail portion of the building will be ready by fall, with a signed lease from a sandwich shop. He isn’t aware of any other signed leases at this time.

  There will be 97 apartment units, consisting of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments, which can house approximately 135 students. The attached parking structure can accommodate 233 cars; the ground floor and the ramp are waiting for the concrete to be poured and then the finishing details and landscape will be completed.

  The DEN, just east of the apartment building, is completed on the inside and the walkways, both front and back, will have direct access to the apartment building/retail units.

  The University Center construction started last week, the former Stan’s Dugout. The upper floor, approximately 2,400 square feet, will be the Avondale Virtual Academy, with a classroom that will hold about 40 students as well as an office. It will be the home of UCAN, United College Access Network.

  The lower level will have two classroom rooms, one will accommodate 50 students and the other, 30 students.
The larger room will have stackable furniture as well as furniture on wheels, so the area could be cleared and used for other functions, such as the tree lighting ceremony or town hall meetings; City functions. There is no other space similar to this in the downtown area.

The UCAN building is expected to be open and holding classes in January 2014; the DEN is expected to be ready by September, but will be determined because the need may not be that great with the limited number of apartments ready; and all spaces by January 2014. The parking structure should be opened in May, but no later than June.

Mayor McDonald asked about the over-head power lines, he thought they were to be put underground.

Mr. Tanghe stated the lines will be underground; it has been a struggle and work has been done in segments. The power lines that run behind the buildings will be removed last, because new services installed to the back of those buildings will be needed. The lines that run adjacent to Primary will also be placed underground; all will be done this year.

Mr. Knight asked if the apartments were for students only, and if so, isn't that discriminatory.

Mr. Tanghe stated the apartments are available for anyone under the fair housing act; however, the marketing will be towards the student population of Oakland University, Baker College, Cooley Law School and OCC. There will be a professional management company running the apartments and they are aware of the laws.

Mayor McDonald:

- Reminded Council there will be a joint meeting with Rochester Hills, April 29, 2013.

11. CITY ATTORNEY’S COMMENTS – none

12. CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS

Mr. Tanghe:

- Congratulated Jeff Spencer, Building Official, who received an appointment by Governor Snyder to the Barrier Free Design Board for the State of Michigan and joins the ranks of Director Olko who was also appointed by Governor Snyder to the MCOLES, Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

__________________________________    _________________________________
James D. McDonald, Mayor      Terri Kowal, City Clerk
CITY OF AUBURN HILLS
RESOLUTION

APPROVING BROWNFIELD PLAN FOR
3250 AUBURN ROAD

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, held in the Council Chamber at 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326 at 7:00 pm. On the 15th day of April 2013,

The following resolution was offered by Council Member Knight and supported by Council Member Doyle;

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn Hills (the City) has created a Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (the Authority) pursuant to PA 381 of 1996, as amended (the Act); and

WHEREAS, the Authority met and considered the Brownfield plan submitted by City of Auburn Hills for the property consisting of parcel with Sidwell Number 02-14-36-103-015; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has reviewed the Brownfield plan in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, following review of the plan, unanimously approve the same and recommended approval to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the notices required by the Act have been given; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in accordance with the Act, met and conducted a public hearing on April 15, 2013 in order to review the plan; and

WHEREAS, during the public hearing conducted by the City Council on April 15, 2013, all persons, including the affected taxing jurisdictions, were allowed an opportunity to comment on the amended plan and present their view and recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Auburn Hills City Council that:

1. The City Council of the City of Auburn Hills hereby approves the Plan and determines that the Plan, in accordance with the Act constitutes a public purpose.

2. Furthermore, the Plan meets the requirements of Section 13 of the Act.

3. Furthermore, that the costs of eligible activities proposed are reasonable and necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act.

   AYES: Doyle, Hammond, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke

   NAYS: None

   ABSENT: Kittle

   ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION 13.04.067 APPROVED (6-0)

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 a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Auburn Hills City Council held on the 15th day of April, 2013.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature on this 16th day of April, 2013.

____________________________
Terri Kowal, City Clerk
CITY OF AUBURN HILLS
RESOLUTION
APPROVING BROWNFIELD PLAN FOR
3505 AUBURN ROAD

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, held in the Council Chambers at 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326 at 7:00 pm, on the 15th day of April 2013:

The following resolution was offered by Council Member Doyle and supported by Council Member Doyle;

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn Hills has created a Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (the Authority) pursuant to PA 381 of 1996, as amended (the Act); and

WHEREAS, the Authority met and considered the Brownfield plan submitted by City of Auburn Hills Tax Increment Finance Authority for the property parcel with Sidwell Numbers 02-14-25-451-011 and part of 24-14-25-451-010; and the common address of 3505 Auburn Road; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has reviewed the Brownfield plan in accordance with the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, following review of the plan, unanimously approved the same and recommended approval to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the requirements of the Act have been met; and

WHEREAS, The City Council, in accordance with the Act, met and conducted a public hearing on April 15, 2013 in order to review the plan; and

WHEREAS, during the public hearing conducted by the City Council on April 15 2013, all persons were allowed an opportunity to comment on the amended plan and present their view and recommendations;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Auburn Hills City Council that:

4. The City Council of the City of Auburn Hills hereby approves the Plan and determines that the Plan, in accordance with the Act constitutes a public purpose.

5. Furthermore, the Plan meets the requirements of Section 13 of the Act.

6. Furthermore, that the costs of eligible activities proposed are reasonable and necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act.

AYES: Doyle, Hammond, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Kittle
ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION 13.04.068 APPROVED (6-0)

STATE OF  MICHIGAN)
)SS
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 a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Auburn Hills City Council held on the 15th day of April, 2013

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature on this 16th day of April, 2013.

___________________________________
Terri Kowal, City Clerk
CITY OF AUBURN HILLS
RESOLUTION
APPROVING AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE
FOR FAURECIA USA HOLDINGS, INC.

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Auburn Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, held in the Council Chamber at 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills MI 48326 on the 15th day of April, 2013.

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson Knight and supported by Councilperson Verbeke;

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.A. 198, 1974, M.C.L. 207.551 et seq., after a duly noticed public hearing held on the 15th Day of September, 1986, the City of Auburn Hills, established an Industrial Development District, commonly referred to as the Schostak-Comerica Industrial Development District; and

WHEREAS, Faurecia USA Holdings, Inc. has filed an application for an Industrial Facility Exemption Certificate with the Clerk of the City of Auburn Hills with respect to proposed new real property to be constructed within the Schostak-Comerica Industrial Development District; and

WHEREAS, before acting on said application, the City Council of Auburn Hills held a hearing on the 15th day of April, 2013 at a regularly scheduled meeting, at which time the applicant, the assessor, and a representative of the affected taxing units were given written notice and were afforded an opportunity to be heard on said application; and

WHEREAS, construction and installation of the facility has not begun earlier than six (6) months before January 15, 2013, the date of the acceptance of the application for the Industrial Facility Exemption Certificate; and

WHEREAS, completion of the facility is calculated to and will at the time of issuance of the certificate have the reasonable likelihood to retain, create or prevent the loss of employment in Auburn Hills; and

WHEREAS, the aggregate SEV of real and personal property exempt from ad valorem taxes within the City of Auburn Hills after granting this certificate will exceed 5% of an amount equal to the sum of the SEV of the unit, plus the SEV of personal and real property thus exempted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the City Council of Auburn Hills that:

1. The City Council of Auburn Hills finds and determines that the granting of this Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate, together with the aggregate amount of the certificates previously granted and currently in force, under PA 198 of 1974, and PA 225 of 1978, shall not have the effect of substantially impeding the operation of the City of Auburn Hills, or of impairing the financial soundness of a taxing unit which levies an ad valorem property tax in the City of Auburn Hills.

2. The application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate with respect to a New Facility on the following described parcel of real property situated within the Schostak-Comerica Industrial Development District; to wit;

The real property parcel the facility is located on is identified as part of 02-14-23-200-008, having an address along High Meadow Drive, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Legal Description


is hereby approved.

3. The Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate shall remain in force and effect for a period of eight (8) years, and the starting date for the certificate is December 31, 2013 and the ending date is December 30, 2021.
4. The total project investment approved is $24,000,000.

5. Faurecia USA Holdings, Inc. agrees to operate the facility for which the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate is granted for the term of the certificate, plus an additional two years after the date of the certificate’s expiration.

AYES: Doyle, Hammond, Knight, McDaniel, McDonald, Verbeke
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Kittle
ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION 13.04.069 ADOPTED (6-0)

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 a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Auburn Hills City Council held on the 15th day of April, 2013.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature on this day of , 2013.

________________________________
Terri Kowal, City Clerk