



The City of Auburn Hills

City Council Meeting

Minutes

July 23, 2012

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: City Manager Auger, Assistant City Manager Tanghe, Director Olko, City Clerk Kowal, DPW Director Melchert, Road & Facilities Manager Brisson, Recreation Director Marzolf, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Engineer Juidici, Library Director Stephanie McCoy, Planning Commissioner Mitchell, County Commissioner River
96 Guests

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4a. City Council Meeting – July 9, 2012

Moved by Doyle; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of July 9, 2012 City Council Meeting.

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

No: None

Motion carried (6-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.07.106

5. APPOINTMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

5a. Command Staff Promotions within the Department of Emergency Services

Mr. Auger highlighted the many accomplishments of Director Olko's who began her law enforcement career in 1973 at the Ingham County Sheriff's Department in Mason, Michigan while still in her final year at Michigan State University. She completed a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice at MSU 1974 and persuaded the Sheriff to send her to the 19th Mid Michigan Police Academy making her the first woman road patrol officer for the department.

In 1977 Chief Olko left the Sheriff's Department for Meridian Township Police in Okemos, Michigan looking for different policing challenges. While at Meridian Township Chief Olko served as a patrol officer, court officer, sergeant, community relations officer, lieutenant and captain. While there she received the Red Cedar Optimist Club, "Officer of the Year," Okemos, Michigan, 1985; the George Fritz Public Safety Award in 1980, 2 Departmental Citations, and a Meritorious Service award for her on scene actions in an armed robbery case 1979; and a Certificate of Appreciation from the Meridian Township Board of Trustees, 1993. During the time she served as a crime prevention officer she co-produced and appeared in Meridian Township's HOM-TV, "Police Report", which won Regional First Place in the 1990 Philo T. Farnsworth Video Competition.

Also during that time she also completed a Master's Degree in Technology at Eastern Michigan University and the Northwestern University Traffic Institute's School of Police Staff and Command.

In 1993 she left Meridian Township for Auburn Hills where she became the Deputy Chief of Police serving in that role until being appointed Interim Chief of Police in 1996 and Chief in 1997. Now the longest serving Chief of Police in the history of the Auburn Hills/Pontiac Township Police Department, Chief Olko heads a staff of 51 sworn personnel with 13 civilians and administers a budget of \$10 million.

In January of 2012 Chief Olko was promoted to Director of Emergency Services for the City of Auburn Hills when the City merged the administration of their Fire and Police Departments.

Director Olko believes that policing should be very closely integrated with the community and as a result she is very active in the community and among her peers. She has served as the president of the Auburn Hills Morning Optimist Club, the Oakland County Chiefs of Police, the Southeastern Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police as well as the Chair of the Traffic Safety Committee for the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police. She currently chairs the Oakland County Public Safety Answering Point Committee and the OakWin 800 Radio System both subcommittees to Oakland County's CLEMIS. She is an adjunct professor at Oakland University in the School of Public Administration and has taught numerous classes for various organizations on police administration and leadership. In 2006 Governor Granholm appointed Director Olko to the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards representing the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police. She was reappointed in 2011 by Governor Rick Snyder and was elected Chair of the Commission for a 2 year term beginning in 2012.

She is the recipient of a 2001 Community Service Award from Pontiac Youth Assistance and Greater Pontiac Community Coalition; a 2004 Leadership Oakland Distinguished Leadership Award and was admitted to the Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice Wall of Fame in 2008.

Married for 34 years to Robert, she is the proud mother of one son, Aaron age 30 who with his wife Kristen, have made her the proud grandmother of one.

Ms. Kowal administered the Oath of Office to Director Olko.

Director Olko expressed her joy as serving at the City's Director of Emergency Services and one of the happiest and important roles she has is to select the leadership for the department. She stressed the success of the agency is related to the shared values, integrity, honest, loyal and truthful behavior.

With the merger of Police and Fire Administration, she introduced James T. Manning, Deputy Director of Emergency Services/Fire. He has been in law enforcement for 25 years. In addition to his law enforcement certification he also holds a state certification in fire fighting. His prior assignments have been the commander of the operations, investigations, and technical services divisions. He oversees the daily operations of the Fire Department.

Ms. Kowal administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Director Manning.

Director Olko proceeded and introduced Thomas G. Hardesty, who holds the position of Deputy Director of Emergency Services/Police and has 25 years of law enforcement experience. His prior assignments have been as the commander of the operations, investigations, and technical services divisions. In addition to his law enforcement certification he also holds a state certification in fire fighting. He oversees the daily operations of the Police Department.

Ms. Kowal administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Director Hardesty.

Next Director Olko introduced the Lieutenants, who are in divisional leadership roles. Each had to pass a series of tests, as well as having their background evaluated including their education, training and work record prior to becoming Lieutenants.

Police Lieutenant Ryan Gagnon has 13 years of law enforcement experience and has previously been a field training officer, use of force/firearm instructor, and road patrol supervisor. He is currently assigned as the Technical Services Division Commander in charge of Communications, Records, Property/Evidence, Professional Standards and several other roles.

Ms. Kowal administered the Oath of Office to Lieutenant Gagnon.

Police Lieutenant Jill McDonnell is currently assigned as the commander of the investigations division. She has 21 years of law enforcement experience and has previously been a court officer, school resource officer, and directed patrol supervisor and a road patrol supervisor.

Ms. Kowal administered the Oath of Office to Lieutenant McDonnell.

Director Olko explained the Sergeants lead and direct the operations of officers in the field every day and must make the best decisions in interest of the community; they are the first point of contact on critical instances in the field. The sergeants too, must pass a number of tests and evaluations.

Officer David Miller promoted to the rank of sergeant. Sergeant Miller will be assigned to the operations division as a supervisor on the road. He has 15 years of law enforcement experience and has previously worked as field training officer, mall officer, and motor carrier officer.

Ms. Kowal administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Miller.

Officer Jeremy Stubbs promoted to the position of sergeant. Sergeant Stubbs will be assigned to the operations division as a supervisor on the road. He has 11 years of law enforcement experience and has previously worked as a school resource officer, bike officer, and in the directed patrol unit.

Ms. Kowal administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Stubbs.

Director Olko turned the podium over to Deputy Director Manning for the fire promotions.

Deputy Director Manning thanked City Council and Management for having the confidence to make him Deputy Director. Continuing he explained the fire department was established in 1942 years and is relatively a small organization with only 52 personnel. They provide EMS and fire protection for over 20,000 residents; daytime population over 100,000.

Deputy Director Manning introduced Lieutenant Ronald Aguayo, noting he has been promoted to the rank of Captain within in the Paid on Call ranks of the Fire Department and is responsible for the operation of Station 3. Captain Aguayo has 17 years of fire fighting experience. He is a state licensed EMT and has previously been a field training officer.

Ms. Kowal administered the oath of office to Captain Aguayo.

Continuing, Deputy Director Manning introduced Firefighter Andrew Garrett who has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant within the Paid on Call ranks of the Fire Department. Lieutenant Garrett will be responsible for

commanding operations in the field and is assigned to Station 3. Lieutenant Garrett has 14 years of firefighting experience. He is a state licensed EMT and has previously been a field training officer.

Ms. Kowal administered the oath of office to Lieutenant Garrett.

Deputy Director Manning introduced Firefighter Donald Upton who also has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant within the Paid on Call ranks of the Fire Department. Lieutenant Upton will be responsible for commanding operations in the field and is assigned to Station 2. Lieutenant Upton has 10 years of firefighting experience. He is also a state certified EMT.

Ms. Kowal administered the oath of office to Lieutenant Upton.

Director Olko thanked City Council on behalf of everybody in Emergency Services who has the opportunity to serve this great community. She invited Council to a celebration at the Public Safety Building after Council business was concluded.

Mayor McDonald thanked Director Olko and stated the Public Safety Department makes the Council Members proud to say they are residents of Auburn Hills.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Ashley representing the golf dome at 3951 Joslyn Road, formally known as Mulligan's, stated it was recommended that he speak before City Council. He explained he holds a management agreement for the golf dome with an option to purchase the site, after Mulligan's walked away from the business. Mr. Ashley explained the business was destroyed, physically, literally, cosmetically and most importantly the customer base. A lot of time and money has been spent cleaning and resurrecting the facility. The shortened winters of the last two years has not been beneficial for the dome, nor has the economy. With the meager profits being made, there has been 10,000 sq. ft. renovation for a new banquet and event area, the buildings have been painted, the parking lot improved, refurbished the miniature golf courses inside and out, HAVC equipment updated, the many hazardous electrical issues have been repaired, and many other projects done. The back taxes have all been paid and are current, as well as the water bill that was in excess of \$100,000 has been paid. He is trying to improve the facility and move it in the right direction, which has been a challenge, especially with the Brownfield issues. Despite his best efforts, he and the bank have come to the realization that the business will never thrive as a golf only facility. He would like this facility to become a multi-sport facility offering training and leagues of golf, lacrosse, football, baseball and other field based sports and activities for all ages.

In the past, there have been requests to rent the dome and now with the addition of the banquet and event facility there will be the opportunity to rent the space for private, corporate and special events; however, those inquiries to rent the space required the availability of alcohol and/or beer and wine.

The note holding bank in Minnesota is lending an additional \$400,000 to install new turf in the dome to make it a viable space. The plan is to install the turf in early September and be open for business October 1st. A new snack bar is currently being installed to help supplement revenues and benefit the league members and being able to offer beer and wine is a major part of the concept to continue growth.

Mr. Ashley understands there currently are two liquor licenses being held by the City which to be used for downtown businesses only. However, he is asking Council to release a license, possibly on a temporary basis, for the dome, to offer their patrons alcoholic beverages as they proceed with the conversion of the facility to become a multi-sports facility. If and when the license is needed for the downtown, he would be agreeable to return it, or when an escrowed license becomes available it would be returned to the City. Liquor licenses on the secondary market are quite expensive, \$80,000 to \$100,000 for a beer and wine license.

Mayor McDonald asked who the owner of the property is.

Mr. Ashley explained it is a bank, PRINS from Minnesota, who purchased the note from Comerica bank in 2005 or 2006. The goal is for Mr. Ashley to purchase the property from the bank, he has that option; however, the bank has allowed him to manage the property and get it going before committing to a purchase.

Mayor McDonald asked Mr. Ashley prepare a letter to Council and City Administration, giving the complete background as was presented this evening for consideration. This will give Council more time to review and discuss the request. Mayor McDonald noted it is an interesting concept of possibly releasing a license on a temporary basis and asked Mr. Ashley to mail the letter to the City Manager.

Mr. Ashley thanked Council for their time.

Oakland County Commissioner River noted the County Commission is now live streaming their meetings on their website, including the last meeting which was the review of the County's finances. Continuing, Ms. River stated she had the pleasure of appointing Veronica Mitchell to the Women's Commission for Oakland County.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Knight requested Item 7a. Approval of Street Markings be removed from consent agenda.

7a. Board and Commission Minutes

- 7a.1. Tax Increment Finance Authority, July 10, 2012
- 7a.2. Board of Review, July 17, 2012

7c. Motion – Approve Carpet Replacement/Admin Building

RESOLVED: To approve the costs associated with carpet replacement and tile repairs for the Administration Building and award the bid to Imperial Floor Covering, 2550 E. Oakley Park Road, Suite 200, Walled Lake, Michigan 48390 in the amount of \$ 12,013.00. Funding is provided from TIF-D account 253-000-931.000.

Moved by Doyle; Seconded by Hammond.

RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda Items 7a. and 7c.

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

No: None

Motion carried (6-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.07.107

7a. Motion – Approve Street Markings

Mr. Knight explained he spoke with DPS and was told due to budget constraints the street marking project isn't as expansive as in the past, but is still being done with safety in mind. Continuing, Mr. Knight stated he would be in favor of increasing the budget for the street marking if it is deemed more markings would increase safety, noting inclement weather makes it difficult seeing street markings, especially for seniors.

Mr. Knight was also concerned with a single bid, but learned there aren't many companies that do this work and the prices have been held over the past three years, and only this year was there an increase of about 25%.

Responding to Ms. Hammond, Mr. Melchert explained RS Contracting has not submitted bids in a number of years because they are located and do most of their work on the west side of the State.

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To award the bid for street markings to PK Contracting, 1965 Barrett, Troy, Michigan 48084 at a cost not to exceed \$ 59,431.00. Funding is provided from Local Streets (203-453-935.100) and Major Streets (202-452-935.100).

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

No: None

Motion carried (6-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.07.108

8. OLD BUSINESS – None

9. NEW BUSINESS

9a. Riverwalk Implementation – Riverside Park Phase One Design

Mr. Marzolf explained previously the TIFA Board of Directors approved the Scope of Design Services from Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment, Inc. to develop a Preliminary Plan for Phase One – Riverside Park Improvements and On July 10, 2012, staff presented and made a recommendation to the TIFA Board to approve the Scope of Design Services provided by OHM Engineering Services for the Riverwalk Implementation - Riverside Park Phase One Design. All of the funding has not been determined; however, after discussing and finalizing there may be grants available to help with the costs.

Responding to Mr. Knight, the dance floor will be right out in front.

Mr. Knight doesn't believe the amphitheater is large enough, noting on an average night for the park concerts the turnout is 200 or so people.

Mr. Juidici explained the size and topography of the hill is what dictates the size of the amphitheater and how it can be configured. The seat walls are 18 inches high, the general height of a chair. The configuration is to maximize the amount of seating possible, resulting in 300 plus seats. Each terrace is approximately eight feet deep which will allow seating on the lawn or personal lawn chairs and the walls between each terrace will allow 200 or so additional seats. In total there is the possibility of over 550 seats. Mr. Juidici also noted seating on the hillside, on the plaza and if the dance floor isn't being used an additional 150 chairs could be set up.

Mr. Knight suggested the stage be pushed back further to allow more flat space. Mr. Knight believes this will be very successful and wants to make sure everyone can be accommodated.

Mr. Juidici explained the challenge has been the majority of the park is within the flood plain, which is why the stage is situated so it will not be in the flood plain.

Ms. Verbeke asked where the existing play area is in relationship to the amphitheater and questioned the comment in the OHM letter, *As previously discussed; we understand that integrated stage lighting & sound systems will not be included in the amphitheater structure at this time.*

Mr. Marzolf explained the play area will remain where it is with a water play area in front; and assured Ms. Verbeke a sound system is included in the plan and wiring for lights will be done. Mr. Marzolf noted there has been discussion to have speakers project to the rear of the amphitheater to allow the sound to be heard throughout the park.

Mr. McDaniel asked if there were any specifics for the splash pad.

Mr. Marzolf explained it will be modest in size and motion activated spraying up from the ground, similar to that in downtown Detroit along the river walk; it may be possible to adjust the size.

Mr. Marzolf confirmed for Mr. Knight the bridge is part of the second phase.

Ms. Doyle recalled the original concept of the plan, to make Auburn Hills a destination for outdoor recreation for Oakland County and questioned if there is a launch site on the river for canoes and kayaks.

Mr. Marzolf stated there is a launch site which will be enhanced and improved with this project.

Responding to Ms. Doyle's concern of not making mistakes and learning from other communities, Mr. Marzolf noted this project will proceed as many others have in the City, by using good quality materials, of having a good laid plan, and knowing that there are already many residents that enjoy the Friday night concerts. He also mentioned discussion with Oakland University and Avondale Schools and others to provide musical experiences; the City is not able to program, provide and pay for all the performances, so work is being done to form partnerships. A big component of success will be the programming of events, so grants and other options are being investigated.

Mayor McDonald noted this will enhance the active lifestyles of Auburn Hills' residents and is another positive direction in which the City is heading.

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Knight.

RESOLVED: To approve the costs associated with the Scope of Design Services provide by OHM Engineering Services for the Riverwalk Implementation - Riverside Park Phase One Design in the not-to-exceed amount of \$161,500. Further, to approve the Geotechnical Services estimated cost of \$4,000 to be provided by Shleede-Hampton Associates under a separate contract.

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

No: None

Motion carried (6-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.07.109

10. COMMENTS AND MOTION FROM COUNCIL

Ms. Verbeke:

- Asked what the procedure is when a renter doesn't pay the trash bill, is the property owner notified. Mr. Melchert wasn't sure if it mirrors the water billing process and notifies the property owner, but he will investigate and let her know.

Ms. Doyle:

- Asked Mr. Melchert if this is the first time this situation has come up with a renter not paying the bill. Mr. Melchert hadn't heard of any other instance; however, he isn't as involved with the trash hauling as Mr. Grice and Mr. Keenan are and they may have already addressed this issue.
- Questioned the Open Issues Log, noting she hadn't seen it in her packet. Mr. Auger stated it is not included in the packet, it is sent from his office every month. Ms. Doyle suggested since it is an ongoing document, that it shouldn't be sent only once a month. Mayor McDonald suggested since it will be a topic at the next study session that it can be addressed at that time.
- Asked about the 'Lunch & Learn' with Plante Moran. Mr. Auger explained he has the list of contracts for City consultants, and if there is thought of letting bids, then maybe asking Plante Moran for this free learning opportunity should wait until it is determined who will be the City's auditor. He will discuss the list of consultants as part of his report this evening.

Ms. Hammond:

- Noted the foliage is too tall to see oncoming traffic at the round-about at the clock tower, especially for regular cars.
- When will the street top coats be continued in the City? Mr. Brisson explained it is scheduled for next week.

Mr. McDaniel:

- Congratulated Ms. Mitchell on her appointment, noting it is well deserved and also how well she represents our City.

11. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT – none.

12 CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Distributed to City Council the list of out sourced contracts for the City.
- Will be out of town the rest of the week, attending the Michigan Local Managers Association summer retreat.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION - added to the agenda at the start of the meeting.

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To recess to executive session to discuss the acquisition of land.

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

No: None

Motion carried (6-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.07.110

Adjourned to Executive Session at 8:07 p.m.

Reconvened the Regular Session at 8:30 p.m.

Moved by Verbeke; Seconded by Doyle.

RESOLVED: To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a purchase agreement for the property with parcel identification number 14-35-202-005 in the amount of \$140,0000, subject to the staff recommendation contained herein; and furthermore, authorize Assistant City Manager Thomas Tanghe to execute all necessary documents applicable to this transaction up to and including those required for closing.

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

No: None

Motion carried (6-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.07.111

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.