

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, April 01, 2002 in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mayor Mitchell.

PRESENT: Bush, McShane, Mitchell.

ABSENT: Campbell.

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, Attorney Dovre, Director Goss, Director Gushman, City Manager Lauhoff.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

04-02-705 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Bush, to approve the agenda as submitted. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

04-02-706 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to approve the minutes of the regular and special meetings of March 18, 2002. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES OF OTHER BOARDS

04-02-707 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Bush, to approve the minutes of the following boards and commissions:

- Downtown Development Authority regular and special meeting minutes of March 5, 2002 and March 13, 2002.
- Farmington Community Library Board of Trustees minutes of March 14, 2002.
- Farmington Area Commission on Aging minutes of February 26, 2002.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATION: MAYORAL PHOTOGRAPH – TRACEY FINLAYSON, MISS FARMINGTON/OAKLAND COUNTY 2001-2002.

Miss Finlayson, Miss Farmington/Oakland County 2001-2002, presented the mayoral portrait to former Mayor Hartsock. The portrait was donated to the City by Focal Point.

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Miss Finlayson spoke about her current dual platform of increasing awareness of Alzheimers disease and environmental issues. She also spoke about an upcoming joint activity with the Farmington Public Schools to plant tree seedlings on Earth Day.

Council thanked Miss Finlayson for her attendance and wished her good luck in her pursuits.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

CONSIDERATION OF RESIGNATION LETTER FROM MR. WILLIAM HARTSOCK.

04-02-708 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to accept the resignation of William Hartsock from the City Council effective March 31, 2002. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council expressed their good wishes to Mr. Hartsock.

REQUEST FOR OUTSIDE SALES, 35243 GRAND RIVER, FRESH APPROACH MARKET. Administration recommended approval of the request by the manager/owner of Fresh Approach Market to conduct outside sales and displays for the next twelve-month period.

Mr. Saxton, owner of Fresh Approach, was present.

04-02-709 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Bush, to grant permission for outside sales displays and an expanded hanging flower/basket area, as described in the request for Council approval, for the next twelve month period to Fresh Approach Market at 35243 Grand River; outside sales and displays are for flower sales from April 8 through September 29; pumpkin sales from September 18 through November 1; and Christmas tree sales from November 20 through December 28, 2002. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LETTER FROM ANN MARIE MATHEWS, GENERAL MANAGER, HURON RIVER HUNTING AND FISHING CLUB, REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR SPECIAL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES. Administration reviewed the request and proposed events, noting that the City Fire Marshall will review the location of the tents and outdoor operation for compliance with state and local ordinances.

Ms. Ann Marie Mathews, General Manager of Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club, was present.

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04-02-710 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to grant permission for special outdoor events and tents at the Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club; Men's Classic Car Stag on June 11, 2002; Father's Day Family BBQ on June 15, 2002; Cigar Dinner on June 20, 2002; and Clambake on August 11, 2002, as described in the request for Council approval. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION OF A SIGN VARIANCE REQUEST AT 33312 GRAND RIVER BY MR. DAN BLUGERMAN OF THE THOMAS A. DUKE COMPANY. Administration advised that the Thomas A. Duke Company has been employed to lease the location at 33312 Grand River, an historic building downtown Farmington. Administration further advised that Mr. Dan Blugerman of the Thomas A. Duke Company has requested permission to install a 4' x 6' vinyl sign secured by nylon cords to the front building columns that would require variances to the City Sign Ordinance.

Mr. Blugerman was present to discuss the need for the sign. In response to a question from Council member McShane, he stated that the method and location for hanging the sign was recommended by the sign company. He further stated that window signs would not be functional.

Council member Bush stated she could not support this request based on the following: this type of sign has not received approval in the past; would require two variances; and the option of a window sign as recommended by the Building Department.

Mayor Mitchell expressed his reservations regarding the size of the sign and noted the importance of marketing tools other than signage to sell or lease the building. He further stated that the sign ordinance was designed to protect the Central Business District and the proposed sign would not be appropriate.

04-02-711 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Bush, to deny a sign variance to Section 25-4(6) and Section 25-13(11) of the City Sign Ordinance for the installation of a 4' x 6' vinyl sign at 33312 Grand River Avenue, as requested by Mr. Dan Blugerman of the Thomas A. Duke Company. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

CONSIDERATION OF BID PROPOSAL FOR 2002 ROAD PAVING PROGRAM.

Administration advised that bid documents were prepared by City engineers, Orchard, Hiltz and McCliment, Inc., for the 2002 Road Paving Program. Administration further advised that this program includes the pulverizing and resurfacing of streets in Woodcroft subdivision.

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City administration, with the Public Service Director and City Engineer, recommended that Council award the 2002 Road Paving program contract to the low bidder, Summit Transport, Inc. of Brighton, Michigan.

04-02-712 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to award the bid for the 2002 Road Paving Program to the low bidder, Summit Transport, Inc. of Brighton, Michigan, in the amount of \$319,092.90; funds to be provided from the Municipal Street Fund for fiscal year 2001-02.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: McShane, Mitchell, Bush.
Nays: None.
Absent: Campbell.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO AMEND COUNCIL ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE. Administration advised that as a result of Mr. Hartsock's resignation, vacancies exist on the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission and the Farmington Employees' Retirement System Board.

04-02-713 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Bush, to appoint Council member Bush to the Farmington Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees and Mayor Mitchell to the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission Board for unexpired terms ending 2003.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PURCHASES TO UPGRADE FINANCE COMPUTER SYSTEM. Administration concurred with the Clerk/Treasurer's Office and recommended Council approval to upgrade the finance computer system. Administration also recommended approval of the City's current vendors, Peripheral Vision and First Computer, based on their knowledge of the City's system and cost competitiveness.

In response to a question, Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell stated that the present computer system was installed approximately eight years ago and historically the life span of this type of system has been 8-10 years. She further stated that this upgrade has been moved forward by a few months due to the difficulty in obtaining parts and service on our current system. Responding to an additional question, Ms. Cantrell stated that the upgrade would accommodate new accounting procedures. She further stated this is a win/win situation because we will eliminate some additional equipment, utilize currently owned personal computers and piggyback onto the City's existing computer network system.

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City Manager Lauhoff cited additional changes with this upgrade which will include: the replacement of the dot matrix printer with a laser model; a change to laser printing of water/sewer bills; and expand the ability to periodically send out notices to the public.

04-02-714 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to approve the proposed upgrades to the finance computer system in accordance with the City's purchasing policies and as detailed in the request from the City Clerk/Treasurer, in the amount of \$48,163.95; funds provided in the current FY2001-02 budget.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mitchell, Bush, McShane.
Nays: None.
Absent: Campbell

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MISCELLANEOUS

PUBLIC COMMENT.

Shelley Maxwell, Chairperson of the Farmington Area Jaycees, was present to announce the upcoming "Citizen of the Year" banquet to be held on Tuesday, April 16th, from 7-9:30 p.m., at the Farmington Manor.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Council member McShane asked the Public Safety Director how we are recognizing and encouraging those businesses who did not sell to minors during the recent "tobacco sting" operation. Director Goss responded that there has been no recognition, however, this operation was done in conjunction with Oakland County. He further stated that the City of Farmington had an 85% compliance rate with this latest sting which is somewhat better than average. He also stated that the City fully enforces the local ordinance on minors in possession.

City Manager Lauhoff informed Council of upcoming events at the Mansion during the Founders Festival, which will include: Vintage Model Sail Boat display in the barn; Model A car display on the front lawn; Jazz trio on Friday evening; a competition croquet tournament between the Farmington/Farmington Hills Council; and a regatta at the Heritage park pond.

Council member Bush questioned the legal use of Alta Loma subdivision as an alternate route to Farmington road and the status of the Farmington road construction. Director

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Gushman responded that the temporary road signs in the subdivision were placed to deter truck traffic and only minor problems have occurred with the road construction.

City Manager stated that there was significant effort put forth by the DDA and the Chamber of Commerce to inform businesses about the road construction and that the Departments of Public Services and Public Safety have fielded many calls and concerns from residents. He further stated that it takes about two or three weeks to work out the minor glitches.

CONSIDERATION TO SET MEETING DATE FOR JOINTLY FUNDED AGENCY BUDGETS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 7 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE VISITORS CENTER, HERITAGE PARK.

04-02-715 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Bush, to set a special meeting with the Farmington Hills Council to review joint agency budgets for Tuesday, May 7, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Visitors Center in Heritage Park. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVE MONTHLY PAYMENTS REPORT

04-02-716 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to approve the monthly payments report for March, 2002. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

04-02-717 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

JAMES K. MITCHELL, MAYOR

PATSY K. CANTRELL, CITY CLERK/TREASURER