



The City of Auburn Hills

City Council Meeting

Minutes

February 6, 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, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Verbeke
Absent: None
Also Present: Assistant City Manager Tanghe, Director of Emergency Services/Police Chief Olko, DPS Director Melchert, Fleet Manager Skinner, Senior Services Director Adcock, Community Relations Coordinator Carroll, Fire Chief Burmeister, City Assessors Lohmeier & Bennett, Library Director McCoy, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Engineers Stevens & Juidici, TIFA Member Ardelean, Planning Commissioner Mitchell
12 Guests

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular City Council Meeting – January 23, 2012

Moved by Kittle; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the January 23, 2012 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.016

5. APPOINTMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Item 7a.1. was removed from the Consent Agenda.

7a. Board and Commission Minutes

7a.2. Beautification Advisory Commission – January 25, 2012

7b. Motion – Approve the Purchase of One 2012 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4 Quad Cab Pickup Truck and Two 2012 Dodge 2500 4x4 Reg Cab Work Truck

Moved by Ms. Hammond; Seconded by Mr. Knight.

RESOLVED: To approve Consent Agenda Items 7a2, and 7b.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.017

7a.1. Public Safety Advisory Committee – January 24, 2012

Ms. Doyle commented that she would like to see the minutes for the PSAC contain more detail and content, not just action items especially when there is a good discussion. Ms. Doyle also indicated she had spoken with Director Olko and believes that the minutes can reflect more detail going forward and will work with the Clerk's Office to accomplish this request and improve the minutes.

Moved by Ms. Doyle; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the January 24, 2011 Public Safety Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.018

8. OLD BUSINESS – none

9. NEW BUSINESS

9a. Motion – Approval of Trash Shared Cost Assistance Program

Mr. Kittle asked about the annual budget of this new program and Ms. Carroll indicated there is a \$5,000.00 max in year one.

Ms. Verbeke asked what would happen to the extra dollars that didn't get used in year one since there are only 8 individuals on the list. Ms. Carroll indicated that there are not plans in place for the unused dollars at this time.

Mr. Knight went on record to say that he would help assist six individuals who request assistance through this program.

Ms. Doyle questioned why the December-January application window was in place, because someone could lose their job in July. Ms. Carroll indicated there was flexibility in the program and special exceptions can be made as long as applicants' income-qualify under the guidelines.

Mr. Kittle asked if these dollars from Waste Management could be used to bridge the gaps in cuts to the CDBG program for the items we typically fund. Mr. Kittle also commented he would be willing to chip in dollars to assist individuals in Auburn Hills.

Ms. Adcock indicated that the current CDBG program dollars could not be used for this type of program. Ms. Adcock stated that down the road, we can look at other ways to fund a program of this nature.

Mr. Hammond asked how the word about this program was getting out. Ms. Adcock stated the committee wanted to get Council approval prior to going forward, but felt word of mouth was going to be the best way.

Moved by Mr. Knight; Seconded by Ms. Verbeke

RESOLVED: To approve the Trash Shared Cost Assistance Program (T-SCAP).

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

No: Kittle

Motion carried (6-1)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.019

9b. Motion – Approval of Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle Testing and Usage Agreement with Chrysler Group, LLC
Mr. Cohen introduced another new and exciting partnership with the City involving three new plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

Ms. Doyle asked about the expedited charging time, which is two to four hours, quick charging on these vehicles. Mr. Glowiak responded that it is a full-charge in a maximum of four hours as these vehicles are cutting edge. In terms of plug in vehicles, they are using premier technology and will continue to use the best technology available.

Ms. Hammond asked if we needed to retrofit our current charging stations. Mr. Cohen responded that our current charging stations would work just fine and nothing needs to be done.

Moved by Ms. Hammond; Seconded by Mr. Knight

RESOLVED: To direct the City Manager to enter into the Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle Testing and Usage Agreement with Chrysler Group, LLC.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.020

9c. Motion – Approval of Special Land Use Permits, Site Plan, and Tree Removal Permit / RSC – Fields at Auburn Hills

Mr. Simon Dover of the Rochester Soccer Club, indicated that based on several meetings, including the Planning Commission meeting, they would be increasing the number of stalls in the restroom facilities based on the feedback from discussions. He expressed his excitement about be a part of Auburn Hills.

Mr. Knight asked about the rotating the use of the fields. Mr. Dover indicated that is very normal to rotate fields to let the fields rest and a rotation system would be put into place.

Ms. Doyle asked Mr. Dover to list additional items that the RSC had to change or add as a result of several meetings. Ms. Doyle indicated she lives within about 1,000 feet of the property and she appreciated the efforts of the RSC and City staff that went into listening to the residents who had concerns.

Mayor McDonald invited Mr. Heilbrun to come forward to share his comments.

Mr. Heilbrun read a prepared statement in which he re-stated his opposition to the proposed development.

Mr. Knight commented that he is disappointed that the property is going to be used in this manner. However, this use provides a wonderful open space, almost like a park and he does not have an objection to it being used for soccer fields.

Ms. Verbeke thanked the petitioner for listening and responding to the Planning Commission's concerns.

Mr. Kittle asked about the typical 9:00 pm end time Monday through Friday and 6:00 pm on the weekends. Mr. Kittle inquired whether we can stipulate the 9:00 pm end time during the week so that RSC must adhere to the 9:00 pm end time.

Mr. Beckerleg stated that because it's a SLU, it can be a condition to the approval.

Mr. McDaniel inquired about the noise ordinance as it relates to work being performed. Mr. Tanghe clarified the difference for McDaniel that the ordinance as it stands now, is related to construction work.

Moved by Ms. Doyle; Seconded by Mr. Kittle

RESOLVED: To accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation and approve the Special Land Use Permits, Site Plan, and Tree Removal Permit for RSC – Fields at Auburn Hills subject to staff and consultant conditions with the added stipulation that Monday through Friday the fields will close at 9:00 p.m. and on the weekend at 6:00 p.m.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.021

9d. Motion – Approval of Temporary Event Permit / Palace Sports & Entertainment – 6 Championship Drive

Mr. Mario Etemad thanked the Auburn Hills Planning Commission, the Community Development Department and Council for helping the Palace of Auburn Hills through this process. As a result of the Planning Commission meeting and recommendations, they will have a tent dedicated to First Aid and they will also have their own security on duty. They expect about 20,000 to come and go and throughout the day.

Ms. Doyle inquired about any preparations being made for parents dropping off their kids at the event. Mr.

Etemad assured Ms. Doyle that there is a plan in place for the whole drop-off/pick-up situation.

Mr. Etemad indicated that this event will take place rain or shine.

Ms. Verbeke, as a Planning Commission representative, requested an incident report at the conclusion of the event.

Director Olko indicated her department did some checking around with other cities who hosted this event and there was nothing out of the ordinary that occurred during the event.

Moved by Mr. McDaniel; Seconded by Mr. Kittle.

RESOLVED: To accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation and approve the Temporary Event Permit for Palace Sports & Entertainment, LLC subject to staff and consultant conditions.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.022

9e. Motion – Approval of Rezoning from B-2, General Business District to I-1, Light Industrial District or any other appropriate zoning district / COLPRO LLC – 3475 Joslyn Road

Mr. Knight asked Mr. Beckerleg for reassurance on this rezoning as it relates to the Master Plan. Mr. Beckerleg assured Mr. Knight he was comfortable with this particular rezoning.

Moved by Ms. Verbeke; Seconded by Mr. Knight.

RESOLVED: To accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation and rezone 3475 Joslyn Road from B-2, General Business District to I-1, Light Industrial District. The rezoning shall be referenced as Ordinance No. 12-840.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.023

9f. Motion – To set a public hearing for Michigan Next Energy Authority- Alternative Energy Personal Property Exemption United Solar Ovonic, LLC

Ms. Verbeke wanted to confirm that Council would be making a decision to opt-out or opt-in?

Mr. Bennett clarified that Council would be setting the public hearing to only opt-out.

Moved by Mr. Knight; Seconded by Ms. Doyle.

RESOLVED: To set a public hearing on MNEA Certificate Resolution 2011-140 for the regular City Council meeting of February 20, 2012.

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

No: None

Motion carried (7-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 12.02.024

10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Knight:

- Recognized and commended our EMS workers and the Fire Department for their professional response to an incident that Mr. Knight experienced when he slipped and fell on the ice shoveling snow.
- Requested an update on the Student Housing Development and Parking Structure in the Downtown. Mr. Tanghe provided the Council with an update.

Ms. Verbeke:

- Asked a question regarding the cable TV, and if Council would be approving anything. Mr. Tanghe suggested Council discuss during their topic at the Council's goals/objectives workshop to discuss what level of programming, equipment, etc. is a priority to City Council.
- Ms. Verbeke asked if Council would be looking at the Charter this year.

Ms. Doyle:

- Ms. Doyle requested an update to the issue brought before Council at the last meeting by Donna Quince Cobb related to the smokers from Duffy's hanging out in front of her All State business and the delivery trucks that completely block off their ability to get out of their parking spaces. Mr. Cohen will follow-up with Mr. Auger when he returns.

Mr. McDaniel:

- Inquired about the street lighting on Nichols. Residents are concerned about their street being so dark at night. Mayor McDonald informed McDaniel that DTE needs 50% of the residents to sign a petition to get the process started.

Mr. Kittle:

- Asked Mr. Bennett about the draft property tax incentive policy and where it stands. Mr. Bennett responded that it will be brought to Council soon. It's been through the TARC process already.
- Asked Mr. Bennett how Mr. Lohmeier is coming along on his level IV certification. Mr. Bennett responded that is coming along nicely and Mr. Lohmeier is completing all the necessary program work. If everything goes according to plan, he will receive the certification in May.

Ms. Hammond:

- Congratulated Mr. Beckerleg on his recognition of Attorney of the Year.

11. City Attorney's Report-none

12. City Manager's Report

- Informed Council that the renovation work on the log cabin downtown starts Tuesday. Reported that staff is working on environmental projects related to two Downtown projects getting the sites ready for development.
- Mayor McDonald asked Mr. Tanghe when construction would actually begin on the new student housing development and which would be constructed first, the parking structure or the housing. Mr. Tanghe responded that they two are being built simultaneously. He further explained that the parking structure portion of the project has delayed this project a little since it was way over budget. Construction will begin in March, which is just a short delay, but be assured we are doing the proper due diligence on the project. Mr. Tanghe also reported that the DTE portion of the project has been delayed to do many engineering changes that took place during the planning of the relocation.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

James D. McDonald, Mayor

Terri Kowal, City Clerk