



The City of Auburn Hills
City Council Meeting
Minutes

July 15, 2013

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
Also Present: City Manager Auger, Assistant City Manager Tanghe, Director of Emergency Services/Police Chief Olko, Deputy Director Manning, Senior Services Director Adcock, Director of Public Works Melchert, City Clerk Kowal, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Engineer Stevens
Guests 24

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. Regular Council Meeting – July 1, 2013

Moved by Knight; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To approve the July 1, 2013 regular meeting minutes as amended, changing Mr. Knight's comments regarding the Compensation Committee minutes to include '*noting the dissatisfaction of some of Council with the Compensation*' and regarding Taylor Road to read to '*quite a distance northbound on Lapeer Road*'.

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

No: None

Motion Carried (7-0)

Resolution No. 13.07.119

5. APPOINTMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

5a. Presentation – Proclamation for Dr. Gary Russi

Mayor McDonald stated Dr. Russi wasn't able to make it to the meeting because of a previous engagement and asked City Clerk Kowal to read the proclamation (Attachment A).

5b. Presentation – Oakland County Commission Vice Chairman Jeff Matis

- 5b.1. Community for a Lifetime
- 5b.2 Firefighter Gary Chapman

Mr. Matis explained he is stepping in for Chairman Michael Gingell, whose son was born earlier in the day.

Continuing Mr. Matis presented to the City a proclamation recognizing the City's designation as A Community for A Lifetime, noting it is an outstanding accomplishment for the City (Attachment B).

Mr. Matis proceeded and read the proclamation for Fire Fighter Gary Chapman (Attachment C).

Firefighter Chapman thanked his wife and family for their support and Chief Manning for submitting the recommendation letter to the American Legion. He intends to retire in seven years, 2020.

Mayor McDonald commented Firefighter Chapman makes the job look easy and fun and always has a smile, noting what an asset he is to the City and thanked him.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT – none.

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. Public Safety Advisory Committee – May 28, 2013
- 7a.2. Tax Increment Finance Authority – July 9, 2013

Moved by Kittle; Seconded by Doyle.

RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda.

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

No: None

Motion Carried (7-0)

Resolution No. 13.07.120

8. OLD BUSINESS – none

9. NEW BUSINESS

9a. Motion – Introduction of Ordinance 13-855 Regulating the Discharge of Fireworks.

Director Olko explained in 2011, State Legislature amended Public Act No. 256, known as the “Michigan Fireworks Safety Act” allowing local communities to pass ordinances regulating the ignition, discharge, and use of consumer fireworks to prescribe the hours of day or night during which a person may ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks. Once the law took effect in January 2012, complaint calls were no longer documented because fireworks were no longer illegal and there was no police response necessary. Since becoming aware of the Legislature to allow local governments to pass restrictions, the complaint calls were being tracked again. For the month of June, there were 64 fireworks complaints in the City compared to 34 calls for the same period last year.

Mayor McDonald stated he has received complaints as well from residents, and believes the City should move forward with some type of regulation.

Director Olko stated the draft ordinance will allow the City to limit the discharge of fireworks for a total of 30 days, as permitted by State statute, the day before and the day after a holiday. It is suggested the City limit the time of day for using consumer fireworks and prohibit the use from midnight to 8:00 a.m. except on New Year’s Day when the prohibition would be from 1:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. The ordinance would also prohibit all minors, 17 years old and younger from using fireworks at all, which is not included in State law.

Mr. Knight was curious if Rochester Hills has a similar ordinance, because he has been hearing fireworks for the past three weeks.

Director Olko wasn’t aware of any law, but a resident was going to urge the Rochester Hills council to pass a law limiting firework discharge.

Mr. Auger stated the City will share this ordinance, if approved with Rochester Hills.

Ms. Verbeke explained she and her family attended two separate firework displays where some of the audience members were shooting off their own fireworks, with many near misses of other people. She would like Council to consider sending a resolution to Lansing, stating where groups are gathered, attendees are not allowed to ignite random fireworks. She asked Director Olko for any suggestions.

Director Olko stated Section 12 of the Statute does state that a person may not use consumer fireworks on public property, school property, church property or the property of another person, without first getting expressed permission to use that property. She suggested Council may want to ask the State to put further restrictions into the law.

Ms. Doyle asked if the proposed ordinance has the maximum restrictions the City can impose under State law.

Mr. Beckerleg stated the ordinance as proposed is the maximum the City can impose under the State law; however, a provision in the ordinance, *Section h*, on page four, states in part ‘*no person shall use, discharge or ignite fireworks thereby creating or causing an imminent danger or threat to the public health, safety, or welfare...*’.

Mr. Kittle questioned prohibiting 17 year olds from using fireworks; he suggested the ordinance be amended to allow 17 year olds, under the supervision of a parent or guardian, to discharge fireworks.

Director Olko stated the ordinance can be amended.

Mr. Kittle asked what would be considered as ‘*cost incurred*’ for a violation, as stated in the ordinance and is included in a \$500.00 fine.

Director Olko explained if there was a seizure of fireworks, they must be stored in a different manner than other evidence; the fireworks would need to be stored in another building. So therefore, the cost incurred may be the renting of a container, such as a POD.

Mr. Kittle asked how the community would be informed if this ordinance is adopted.

Director Olko explained the ordinance would be announced via the web site, social media, news paper publication and possibly a firefighter doing a public service announcement for the cable channel.

Mr. Kittle stressed the necessity for making the public aware of an ordinance limiting the use of fireworks, and suggested possibly mailing a summary sheet or an explanation to those 64 complainants.

Mayor McDonald noted changes can be made to this proposed ordinance and Council will have a chance to see those changes at the next meeting, prior to adopting the ordinance.

Director Olko confirmed for Ms. Verbeke it is illegal to discharge fireworks in the streets.

Ms. Verbeke asked if the ordinance could contain language for people to use common sense and not light fireworks when it has been extremely dry and avoid trees.

Director Olko agreed to include common sense notations and also noted the State statute as written and the City's fire code both prohibit Chinese lanterns, which have an open flame and lift-off.

Ms. Doyle agrees, and also stressed the need to over-communicate the City's fireworks ordinance.

Mayor McDonald noted he attended the grand opening of the fireworks store located in the City, and commented how intuitive the owners are of firework safety and are aware of the City possibly adopting ordinance, which will have more restrictions on fireworks as other cities have done.

Mr. Knight suggested notifying residents by posting at the top of the front page of the City's quarterly newsletter the adoption of a new City ordinance restricting the use of fireworks, since the newsletter is mailed to all residents.

Moved by Hammond; Seconded by Verbeke.

RESOLVED: To introduce Ordinance 13-855 to amend Chapter 38, Fire Prevention and Protection, and to set a public hearing, second reading and final adoption on August 5, 2013.

Mr. Kittle asked if the second reading of the ordinance will include the changes as discussed this evening.

Mr. Auger stated Council should make any changes to the ordinance this evening so the ordinance will reflect what will be adopted; however, there will be the chance to make suggested changes at the public hearing.

Mr. Kittle stated he hadn't worked on any language for the ordinance, but to air his concerns with what is currently being presented. Primarily he is concerned with communicating with the public the ordinance, as well as restricting 17 year olds from discharging fireworks with adult supervision.

Mr. Auger stated the underage with adult supervision will be investigated, making sure it doesn't conflict with State law.

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

No: None

Motion Carried (7-0)

Resolution No. 13.07.121

9b. Motion – Approval of Glenmeade Dedication

Mr. Melchert explained a request was received for City Council to consider acceptance of Glenmeade Lane as a public street. City Council has had a policy of not accepting private streets for the past several years; however, this item was considered by City Council at a regular meeting on March 5, 2001. There was a general consensus to approve and include Glenmeade Lane into the City's public road network, but also to have further discussion regarding the acceptance of Auburn Court. At the time Glenmeade Lane was never formally adopted. There has been some road maintenance done by the DPW, prior to discovering Glenmeade had not been formally adopted. Both DPW and OHM have conducted an inspection of Glenmeade and found it to be in good condition and constructed to meet City standards. Typically when Council adopts a road, it is brand new and has a PASAR rating of a nine or ten, meaning no maintenance is required; Glenmeade has a PASAR rating of six, which is considered good. If Glenmeade is adopted this evening, it is recommended that a preservative treatment be applied such as crack and joint sealing.

To bring Glenmeade to a PASAR rating of eight, the cost of joint repair would be \$49,550.00, as estimated by OHM. This would require the removal of good concrete, two feet on either side of the joint, which isn't necessary maintenance at this time. The City will request the businesses along Glenmeade to submit \$49,550.00, to cover the future costs of the joint road repair.

Mr. Melchert noted the \$49,550.00 repair would bring Glenmeade to a PASAR rating of eight; a rating of 10 would require a brand new road.

Mr. Knight is concerned with a road that is already 10 years old, and questioned if the City would want to take ownership of a road that is only rated at PASAR six, with the intent it could become PASAR rating eight. He would prefer a better rating than eight.

Mr. Melchert noted a PASAR rating of nine would be a new concrete overlay; however, with the completed inspection the road is holding up very well with a substantial amount of good concrete. He believes with the proposed treatment, costing approximately \$11,000.00, and future treatments, there can be another 10 years use of the current road. There are plans to experiment the joint filling which includes cleaning the joint, fill and roll the joint with hot patch asphalt and then have an over-band on top of the hot patch to seal. Using hot patch asphalt alone lasts generally two to three years, and with the over-band, it is anticipated the patching will last five years.

Mr. Knight suggested an escrow account be setup by those businesses along Glenmeade in the event the road needs repairing over the next few years. He approves of accepting the road, but doesn't want to have any unexpected repair costs.

Mayor McDonald asked City Engineer Stevens to explain the road inspection results.

Mr. Stevens noted the PASAR rating is six, with joint seal and small patching, the PASAR rating will increase to a seven or eight. A PASAR rating of nine is typically a concrete overlay at a substantial cost, and a 10 rating is a brand new road.

The current business owners are giving the City \$49,550.00 for future maintenance of the road; it is not an escrow account.

Mayor McDonald noted he is comfortable with adopting Glenmeade and doesn't recall why Council didn't follow through with the adoption in 2001; and is pleased the owners are contributing \$49,550.00.

Ms. Hammond questioned if all five businesses on Glenmeade, agreed to pay \$49,550.00.

Mr. Melchert explained Iroquois Industries has their entrance off of Brown Road, so they will be contributing \$5,000.00 and the balance is divided among the other businesses.

Ms. Hammond explained she has seen no confirmation indicating the business would be contributing any money.

Mr. Melchert stated he has spoken with the business owners on two separate occasions, and with Brian McGinnity acting as the spokesperson for the businesses. There have been discussions via phone and e-mail that all businesses are willing to contribute and the resolution contains language regarding the \$49,550.00 contribution.

Mr. Beckerleg also noted, all parties will be signing a Quit Claim Deed.

Ms. Verbeke asked for clarification on determining when or if the City accepts a road.

Mr. Melchert explained when a development is platted it is noted on the site plan that the road will be public roads, which City Council approves at the site plan review. Once the development is completed, Council has the opportunity to accept the road as a public roadway; which has been inspected to make sure it meets City standards. Some roads at development time are proposed as private roads and remain private roads. In the past, private roads were not required to meet City standards; however, in the past decade or so, City standards must be met. As noted in the Council minutes from March 5, 2001, that was the case with Council wanting further discussion regarding Auburn Court, not sure if City standards were met.

Mr. Melchert confirmed for Ms. Verbeke that the City has been snow plowing Glenmeade since 2001 and noted there is a good amount of truck traffic on the road.

Ms. Doyle asked how Auburn Hills' residents benefit if the City by accepts Glenmeade as a public road.

Mr. Melchert stated the business owners along Glenmeade would benefit as well as any customers using the road. With the City taking over the road, it ensures the road is part of the City's road maintenance rotation, preventative maintenance as well as major restoration or reconstruction in the future.

Ms. Doyle asked about setting a precedent by accepting this road, noting Forester Square has come before Council.

Mr. Melchert explained in 2001 City Council put a moratorium on accepting new roads, if the roads were not identified on the site plan to become a public road and approved prior to development. It is up to City Council to accept a road or not, as a public road.

Ms. Doyle asked what the defining factor is for Council to accepting a road as a public road.

Mr. Melchert noted generally, new roads are brought to Council for acceptance, not an older road such as this that fell through the cracks; it was never brought back to Council for a formal acceptance.

Mr. Auger explained it is at the discretion of Council to accept a road or not. In this case, at the time of acceptance, there was another road seeking acceptance by Council that had a bridge over a waterway and not built to City standards. Glenmeade at one time was a dirt residential road, but over time, industry took over and the road was built for commercial use and meets City standards, with the intention to become City owned.

Mr. McDaniel asked why Forester Square is not an accepted City road and why Glenmeade is.

Mr. Auger explained Forester Square roads were never meant to be City roads; they are much narrower and not built to City standards.

Mr. McDaniel asked if Glenmeade remained a private road, how would an issue with water or sewer lines under or near the road be addressed if need be. Would the City have the right to do any repair work?

Mr. Melchert stated it would be the responsibility of the business owners along Glenmeade to keep up the water and sewer lines, with the City stepping in only if the problem became a hazard.

Mr. Knight doesn't believe the City should not be accepting Glenmeade just because it wasn't accepted in the past, but because it makes good business sense. He would like to know on what basis the City should accept the roadway.

Mayor McDonald stated it is based on the City Engineers recommendation that the road is a good road, and with an investment of \$49,550.00, the road can be rated PASAR seven or eight.

Mr. Stevens explained a PASAR 10, rated road has a life expectancy of 20 years, provided there maintenance is continuing, a seven or eight has a life expectancy of 15 years with ongoing maintenance. Continuing, Mr. Stevens stated Glenmeade was built to City standards; there are many private roads that were not built to City standards. The standards include a right-of-way, 70 feet wide, nine inch thick concrete, and drainage; many of the private roads do not meet these standards.

Mr. Knight noted the road appears to be in good shape, and by accepting this road the City will receive a small amount of money from the State. He would like to have a reason to accept this road, so in the future if there are other roads being

considered to become City owned, there are criteria to base it on. He believes Glenmeade should be accepted not only because it is a good road, but there are five major businesses located on the road.

Mr. Kittle believes accepting this road is merely a formality that was overlooked.

Mr. Auger stated Mr. Knight's reasons are very true why this road should be accepted as a City road; five businesses on the street, with FEV having numerous locations in the City, many of the businesses on the road are looking to expand, and the City tells the businesses it a long-term relationship between businesses and the City. For these reasons, the City should accept this road as a public road.

Moved by Hammond; Seconded by Knight.

RESOLVED: Move to approve the resolution, accepting Glenmeade Lane as a public roadway.

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

No: None

Resolution No. 13.07.122

Motion Carried (7-0)

10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Ms. Hammond:

- Had the pleasure of filling in for the Mayor on Saturday, for the ribbon cutting for Lyle's 16 Flavors, located at Opdyke and Pontiac Roads in the BP Plaza.

Mr. Kittle:

- There is a workshop scheduled for August 5th with additional workshops being planned for the budget process; however, he doesn't believe an hour before a Council meeting will be adequate time for the budget discussions and suggested possibly adding some other times; either other week days or possibly a Saturday. He would like to continue working through the already prepared workshop schedule, hoping to complete the list prior to Ms. Doyle leaving Council.
- Would like to have an assessment report regarding the maintenance of Squirrel Road and a solution of the imperfections in the concrete.
- Would like a joint meeting with the Planning Commission to determine and discuss the residential areas of the City and if there is room for more residential areas in an attempt at balancing the residential with the commercial.

Mr. McDaniel:

- He too, questioned the Squirrel Road issue and if there will be a report. Asked who signs off when the road work has been completed satisfactorily and bills are submitted for final payment.

Mr. Auger stated there are several steps, depending on the project. This project has a draw down payment system with the City holding a retainer until the project is completed. Talks have taken place with the contractor to determine what solution is best to correct the situation. There will be a staff meeting in the morning and more information will be forthcoming.

Ms. Doyle:

- Was surprised to read an article in this morning's Oakland Press, from news reporter Andrew Kidd. She appreciates the articles written about Auburn Hills and agenda items of the Council. She acknowledged Mr. Kidd in the audience and asked if he would like to speak about the Proclamation for Dr. Russi.
Andrew Kidd explained he had written the story Friday, and had no intention of publishing it until Tuesday; however, in error, the story was published prior to the event happening and apologized for the error.
- Asked if a news release had been done about the City being recognized as A Community for a Lifetime, only one of 14 cities in the country is news worthy beyond the Oakland Press. Another fabulous story would be the demolition of the Showcase Cinemas.
- It was wonderful to see Firefighter Gary Chapman being honored. She sits on the Public Safety Advisory Committee, and Trevin Robinson is another wonderful firefighter that is leaving the City; he has written quite a number of grants, receiving over \$500,000.00 in federal grants for the City.
- Suggested the City have a reception for new leaders in the community, such as the new president for Oakland University and the new OCC president. There are a number of new key players in the community and she feels there should be some type of reception for them.

Ms. Verbeke:

- Asked if the Library Board had contacted the Mayor about having a joint meeting.

Mayor McDonald stated the Library Board President contacted Mr. Auger stating, the Board would like to review an agenda prior to meeting with Council.

Mr. Auger stated he met with Ms. Mitchell, Library Board President, and she questioned what the meeting would be about. He explained it would be a get to know you meeting, as Council has done with other boards, commissions and communities. Ms. Mitchell asked about the agenda and the locations, since there hasn't been a joint meeting in the past. She agreed to a meeting, but is busy the month of August, and she wants to attend the meeting; however, there was no actual date set.

- Asked if there have been any complaints about the additional tax pertaining to the Pontiac school district; and asked if any action been taken regarding the MESA lawsuit against the school board.

Mr. Auger stated the tax judgment was entered, and unless there is a change by court order, the Auburn Hills residents within the Pontiac school district must pay the additional tax.

Mr. Knight:

- Questioned if the Proclamation for Dr. Russi was adopted by Council, then why was there no motion to adopt it. Mr. Auger explained a proclamation is proclaimed by the mayor and resolutions are voted on by council.
- The national gas meeting for the province of Canada is being held in October in Toronto and suggested to Mr. Auger and Mr. Melchert to possibly send someone from the City to learn more.
- Asked Mr. Melchert for a copy of the angle parking; it is imperative there be only one lane from Cherryland on the east to near where the farmer's market is to the west.

Mr. Auger stated the parallel parking will extend to Pixley Funeral Home.

Mr. Knight's other concern is left-hand turns on east bound Auburn Road to northbound Squirrel Road.

- On the south side of Opdyke Road, there is a walking path on the bridge that doesn't connect to anything and asked as he has requested in the past, if something would be connecting.

Mr. Auger stated the bridge over M-59 has received a grant to install a path. The City's DPW is currently working with MDOT to discuss what can be done to adjust the federal standard for pathways. The City would like to install an eight-foot path to align with the bridge; however, federal specifications require a 10 foot wide path, so there are ongoing discussions at this time.

- Requested when the streetscape dedication is ready, he would like a joint benefit concert with Oakland University.

Mayor McDonald:

- Asked when the angle parking will be completed.

Mr. Auger stated July 23rd and July 24th are the target dates; contingent on the weather.

- The comments he heard regarding Summerfest were all very positive, including the number of City employees who volunteered their time was very appreciative.

11. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT – none.

12. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Stated on the City's website there is information on where someone could go to have their child's car seat checked making sure it is installed correctly. Training for car seat inspections is continuing to be investigated.

Ms. Verbeke was thankful for the information and asked if the training would be for City staff.

Mr. Auger stated there is a three-day training the City is trying to have here, in Auburn Hills.

Mr. Kittle noted two big seat belt manufacturers in the City used to provide the service and questioned if those manufacturers still do.

- The budget workshop that is scheduled will be again like last year, assumptions to better understand what is anticipated for next year. He asked if Council would like to do the budget assumptions and whether it takes place at a workshop or during a regular meeting.

Ms. Verbeke stated she enjoyed the informal setting which is still open to residents; she believes this presentation should be included each year during a workshop.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by McDaniel; Seconded by Doyle.

RESOLVED: To recess to Executive Session to discuss Land Acquisition.

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

No: None

Resolution No. 13.07.123

Motion Carried (7-0)

City Council adjourned to Executive Session at 8:27 pm. and reconvened the regular meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Moved by Kittle; Seconded by Knight.

RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of .137 acres of vacant land with property identification number 14-25-382-012 in the not-to-exceed amount of \$892.25 and authorize Assistant City Manager Thomas Tanghe to execute a purchase agreement with the Oakland County Treasurer on behalf of the City Auburn Hills.

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

No: None

Resolution No. 13.07.124

Motion Carried (7-0)

Moved by McDaniel; Seconded by Doyle.

RESOLVED: To concur with the TIFA Board's decision to acquire 880 Doris Road for use as a DPW facility with the commitment from City Council that it will be utilized, at the very least, as a south-end operations facility. Expenses for its ongoing operations and maintenance shall be included in the DPW's annual operating budget.

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

No: Kittle

Resolution No. 13.07.125

Motion Carried (6-1)

14. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

James D. McDonald, Mayor

Terri Kowal, City Clerk

Proclamation

The City of Auburn Hills

Honors Dr. Gary Russi

- WHEREAS,** Dr. Gary Russi has served as Oakland University’s President since 1995; and
- WHEREAS,** Under his leadership, Oakland University has experienced unprecedented growth and has been recognized as a top-rated academic institution that is known as a university on the rise; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Russi has had a distinguished and accomplished career over the past eighteen years and has made a lasting mark on the university; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Russi has for many years maintained a high level of interaction with the City of Auburn Hills, Home of Oakland University; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Russi shares and encourages the vision of creating a college town in cooperation with the City of Auburn Hills for the benefit of the students and the entire university community; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Russi has forged numerous partnerships with Auburn Hills through a number of initiatives that most recently include the University Drive Streetscape project and encouraging further development in our Downtown ; and
- WHEREAS,** The Elected Officials and Staff who worked with Dr. Russi describe him as *an outstanding community partner and a friend of the Auburn Hills Community; Now,*

Therefore,

Be It Resolved that the City of Auburn Hills hereby adopts this Proclamation to honor the years of service of Dr. Russi to the greater Oakland University community and that the City Council, Staff, and Citizens of Auburn Hills wish Dr. Russi a very long, healthy, happy and well deserved retirement.

Adopted on this, the Fifteenth Day of July, in the Year Two Thousand Thirteen.

The Honorable James D. McDonald, Mayor

Terri Kowal, City Clerk

Proclamation

Oakland County Board of Commissioners

HONORING

THE CITY OF AUBURN HILLS

WHEREAS, the qualities of life upon which we pride ourselves in Oakland County are, in part, the result of exceptional communities, like the City of Auburn Hills; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn Hills offers a finely-tuned balance for all segments of its population providing a great mix of residential, industrial and commercial properties as well as a growing economic base; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn Hills is a family-friendly community which values its residents, especially, its senior citizens through its investment in creating a senior-friendly environment that has garnered special state recognition; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging and the Commission on Services to the Aging has designated Auburn Hills as a “Community for a Lifetime,” a special designation that only a few communities in the state and nation have achieved due to its efforts to meet the needs of its senior population; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn Hills is leading the way for other Oakland County communities through its concentrated efforts to strengthen the city’s appeal to senior citizens. The city has created a walkable downtown and numerous outreach services including Home Chore services and the Meals on Wheels program, which in 2012, served food to more than 10,000 people. The senior- focused activities and events, along with Auburn Hills Senior Citizen Services have effectively promoted civic, social and recreational engagement. These are only a few of the many efforts that have made Auburn Hills an aging-friendly community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn Hills active senior center along with the city’s ongoing assessments to identify how to address the needs of senior citizens, by looking at transportation, health care, housing, safety and security; and

WHEREAS, we proudly join with the City of Auburn Hills residents to honor the City of Auburn Hills, its leaders and the Auburn Hills Senior Citizen Services, for their outstanding work on behalf of area seniors and their proactive approach to addressing the needs of senior citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael J. Gingell, Chairperson of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim commendation in honor of the City of Auburn Hills and its special designation as a “Community for a Lifetime,” a distinction that continues to enhance the quality of life in the community and Oakland County.

Attested to this 15th day of July 2013, at Pontiac, Michigan.



Michael J. Gingell, Chairperson

Oakland County Board of Commissioners

Proclamation

Oakland County Board of Commissioners

Honoring

AUBURN HILLS FIREFIGHTER GARY CHAPMAN

WHEREAS, the qualities of life that we value in Oakland County are enriched by exceptional public servants, like Auburn Hills Firefighter Gary Chapman, who has contributed to the public good and protection of residents in the Auburn Hills community; and

WHEREAS, throughout Auburn Hills Firefighter Gary Chapman's 33-year career, he has been admired for his outstanding talent as a professional firefighter and he continues to excel in every aspect of his profession. Because of his strong work ethic, dedication to the community and high level of skill, he has been recognized as the American Legion's 2013 Firefighter of the Year for the State of Michigan at the American Legion's 95th Annual State Convention on June 28, 2013; and

WHEREAS, we proudly join with the City of Auburn Hills residents, the Auburn Hills Fire Department and the Auburn Hills American Legion Post 143 to honor Auburn Hills Firefighter Gary Chapman on his achievement; as we applaud his commitment to public service.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael J. Gingell, Chairperson of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim commendation to Auburn Hills Firefighter Gary Chapman for his tremendous contributions and extraordinary work. We congratulate and thank him for his distinguished service as we applaud his achievement as the American Legion's 2013 Firefighter of the Year for the State of Michigan.

Attested to this 15th day of July 2013, in Pontiac, Michigan.



Michael J. Gingell, Chairperson

Oakland County Board of Commissioners