

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING  
CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

The Study Session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Massey at 6:05pm.

Council Members Present: Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey, Rich and Steckloff

Council Members Absent: Bridges

Others Present: City Manager Boyer, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Mekjian, Directors Barr, Gardiner and Mondora and City Attorney Joppich

**PRESENTATION ON PROPOSAL TO TRANSITION FROM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS TO A LOCAL ROAD MILLAGE**

Mayor Massey stated that the city has been discussing for some time now the transition from special assessment districts to a local road millage. The presentation was being provided to Council so that they could answer questions of the public and to make sure information was being disseminated accurately.

City Manager Boyer stated that he feels it is important to share fact-based information and the city is doing so through town hall meetings and by meeting with various organizations and homeowner's associations to get information out to the public so they understand the proposal. He noted that letters were also sent to approximately 1,700 homeowners that were currently in an active special assessment district inviting them to a meeting to discuss how the proposal would affect them and about 50 people showed up to that meeting. Staff has also been fielding calls daily and all of the information and the presentation being shown tonight are on the city website.

Karen Mondora, Director of Public Services, showed a power point presentation explaining why the city was considering transitioning from special assessments to a local road millage and how the funding would be used to maintain the roads.

Discussion was held on the process for paving gravel roads.

Attorney Joppich explained the procedures for refunds as outlined in the proposal language.

Councilmember Rich inquired how the funding would be used for the money collected in the first year since refunds would also be issued in that first year. She also inquired what would happen if the proposed Charter Amendment fails.

City Manager Boyer explained that the city would be able to do approximately 8 miles of road reconstruction in the first year and then the goal is 10 miles per year each year thereafter. He stated that if the Charter Amendment fails, the city would go back to using special assessment districts (SAD's) to maintain the roads.

Councilmember Bruce inquired if the city were to go back to directed SAD's should the Charter Amendment fail, how many miles of road would they anticipate doing per year. Mr. Boyer responded that the city's goal would still be 10 miles per year.

City Manager Boyer pointed out that the City heard from every subdivision that was notified they were being considered for a directed SAD that they were not in favor of the directed SAD and asked the city to find a different option for maintaining the roads.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The study session meeting adjourned at 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk