

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING  
CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM  
APRIL 9, 2018

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

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

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Boyer, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Mekjian, Directors Barr, Mondora and Schnackel, Fire Chief Unruh and City Attorney Joppich

**WATER & SEWER MASTER PLAN PRESENTATION**

Director of Public Services Mondora stated that staff initiated a review of the city's water and sewer infrastructure with OHM advisors last fall as part of an asset management approach and identified ways to service those areas currently without service. She introduced OHM Advisors George Tsakoff and Bob Maynes and Jim Bearman of Stantec Financial Services.

Mr. Tsakoff, OHM Advisor, provided an overview of the city's water and sewer infrastructure, potential extension areas and prioritization of project areas, investment needs to provide service to those areas without water and/or sewer and options based on the city's current charter and ordinance language. Mr. Tsakoff outlined cost payback options related to the proposed extensions. He noted that the next step would be to complete the Master Plan reports and have further discussions with the Fire Department on need for hydrant coverage.

Obtaining easements in order to run water main through properties was discussed as an option to provide more hydrants and water coverage.

City Manager Boyer commented that to provide service to many of the areas currently without service would be very expensive and it is unlikely that many residents would come forward asking for these improvements; but the City would like to continue to review these areas and all options for further hydrant coverage as it relates to overall public safety.

Council concurred with that approach to address public safety. Mayor Massey added that it was also a good idea to review these areas as road improvements are considered or as part of an asset management plan as Director Mondora mentioned.

**PARKS & RECREATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL DISCUSSION**

Mayor Massey indicated that this discussion is picking up from where Council left off the last time it was discussed when they directed the City Attorney to prepare two ballot proposal options. He stated that staff is seeking a clear direction this evening on whether Council would prefer a ballot proposal for a straight renewal of the Parks and Recreation millage or a proposal that would also include an increase that would be on the August, 2018 ballot.

Discussion was held on the decrease in revenue currently as opposed to when the millage was first passed as well as the desire to maintain the current activities and provide for the expansion and improvement of facilities.

Director of Special Services Schnackel discussed the options for improvements with the renewal versus the renewal and an increase. She noted that with the 32% decline in revenue, their focus has been on services and not facility upgrades.

Considerable discussion was held on whether to put forth a millage proposal for a straight renewal or to include an increase and how that might affect an anticipated road millage on the November, 2018 ballot. The option of having two ballot questions on the August ballot where voters would be asked to vote separately on the renewal and then the increase was also discussed.

The consensus of City Council was to bring forth the straight millage proposal for consideration at a regular meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The study session meeting adjourned at 7:19pm

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk