

MEETING MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
SEPTEMBER 28, 2018 8:00 AM
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL – VIEWPOINT ROOM
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD
FARMINGTON HILLS MI 48336

CALLED TO ORDER BY: CHAIRMAN ANHUT AT 8:00 AM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: SLAUGHTER, HARTSOCK, CANTOR, BEIERMEISTER, ZACHOS, ANHUT

MEMBERS ABSENT: ELLIOTT, LINDSEY-FEAGIN, MARTIN

OTHERS PRESENT: Gary Mekjian, Assistant City Manager; Mark Stec, Farmington Hills City Planner; Richard Lerner, Farmington Hills City Councilmember

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Slaughter, support by Hartsock, to approve the agenda as submitted.
Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 2018:

Motion by Cantor support by Beiermeister to approve the minutes as submitted.
Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS:

- Automated Vehicle Technology
 - Members Zachos and Beiermeister gave an update about the Connected Vehicle Systems project going on with Oakland County
- Road Millage Ballot Proposal
 - Assistant City Manager Mekjain spoke to the Board about the upcoming November 6 ballot initiative to amend the City Charter and change the procedures for replacing and maintaining infrastructure from directed special assessment districts to having a dedicated millage specifically for local roads.
 - The Ballot Proposal is a single question that would accomplish two tasks. First, it would amend the City Charter to authorize a tax rate for local roads and infrastructure, and second, it would eliminate special assessment rolls. In by eliminating the special assessment rolls, all unpaid SAD balances will be zeroed-out and refunds would be provided to properties that have paid off the special assessment as of November 6, 2018.
 - In 2014 a pavement assessment was conducted which showed that 56% of local roads are in poor condition. In 2016, 10 miles of road were reconstructed. When the pavement assessment was reevaluated in 2017 the percentage of roads in poor condition increased to 58%. A 2% increase with the reconstruction of 10 miles in the previous year. A road millage would allow for a better match of funding. There is a goal of 10 miles each year, over the course of ten years. The millage creates a lifecycle management of infrastructure assets.
 - Farmington Hills voters can visit the City's website, on the front page there is a direct link to the Ballot Proposal Language and frequently asked questions. Mekjain added that people are encouraged to call the City Manager's office at 248.871.2500.
- Update for Mark Stec, City Planner:
 - Mark Stec stated that the Planning Commission met on September 20.
 - A site plan and landscape plan were reviewed for JST Corporation located along the south side of 12 Mile Road, west of Drake Road. This is a professional office and testing facility. The applicant will need to pay into the tree fund for the removal of 156 replacement trees
 - A site plan and landscape plan were approved for 28333 Grand River for a gas station and convenience store.

- A suite plan and landscape plan were approved for 2481 Orchard Lake Road for retail stores and automotive lube center.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- Chairman Anhut paid a compliment to City Manager Boyer and city staff in hiring and selection process of the new Economic Development Director.
- Ronnie Jamil
 - Mr. Jamil spoke about his development at 29970 W. Twelve Mile
 - His building includes Bella Vino, Bella Vita Pizza and the newest addition Farmhouse Coffee and Ice Cream.
 - Chairman Anhut supported a variance request for Farmhouse Coffee and Ice Cream to the Zoning Board of Appeals to allow on site consumption of food. Chairman Anhut added that this is an example of economic development and business retention within the community.
- Sam Slaughter – Detroit Auto Show 2020
 - Member Slaughter gave an update to the changes to the Detroit Auto Show in year 2020.
 - The show is being moved from January to June
 - Member Slaughter presented the press release for the new Auto Show dates which explains the cost benefit for exhibitors, and the ability to use Downtown Detroit for brand and industry engagement.
 - A video of the 2020 launch was showed to the Board and Member Slaughter stated that he would email the link to the video to the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- None

BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS:

- Member Zachos talked adding action items to the EDC agenda.
- Chairman Anhut said the next EDC meeting is November 21, 2018.
- Councilman Lerner spoke to the Board about constructing a fiber backbone as a city utility. Examples in Holland and Traverse City were highlighted. The fiber could be installed and then opened up to a provider. There is a 35% take rate and break even point.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Anhut adjourned the meeting at 9:27 AM

Minutes drafted by: Samantha Seimer