

MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING
CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM
OCTOBER 8, 2018

The Study Session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Massey at 6:00pm.

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 and Mondora and City Attorney Joppich

DISCUSSION ON THE TRANSITION TO A LOCAL ROAD MILLAGE

City Manager Boyer updated City Council on the educational meetings held with regard to the proposal to transition to a local road millage. He commented that staff is limited to providing education only on this issue.

City Attorney Joppich confirmed that the City is unable to expend funds to advocate for any proposal per the Campaign Finance Act but may provide educational information.

Discussion was held on ways to continue to get information out as many Council members were hearing from residents that they did not even know it was on the ballot.

City Manager Boyer suggested a city-wide election edition of the FOCUS newsletter, which has been done in the past for local elections.

Mayor Massey suggested an educational op-ed prepared by him to publish in the newspaper from all Councilmembers.

Attorney Joppich confirmed that could be done if Council were to take action at the regular meeting authorizing the op-ed on behalf of all Council members. He also stated that City Council members have the right to speak as individuals and submit their own letters to the editor but he would recommend that their title is not used as a member of Council so it is clear that it is being submitted on behalf of themselves and not Council as a whole.

Mayor Massey stated that if the proposal fails, the city will be required to go back to directed special assessments as the current city policy and follow the Charter for the SAD process.

The consensus of Council was that further education on the transition to a local road millage was needed and felt a city-wide mailing and an educational op-ed from the Mayor were good ideas.

ADJOURNMENT:

The study session meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk