



# The City of Auburn Hills

## City Council Meeting

### Minutes

January 20, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER:** by Mayor McDaniel at 7:23 p.m.

**LOCATION:** City Council Chamber, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

**Present:** Mayor McDaniel, Mayor Pro Tem Kittle, Council Members Burmeister, Hammond, Knight, Mitchell

**Absent:** Council Member Verbeke

**Also Present:** City Manager Auger, Assistant City Manager Tanghe, Director Olko, Community Development Director Cohen, City Assessor Lohmeier, City Clerk Kowal, Senior Services Director Adcock, Fleet Manager Skinner, Recreation Director Marzolf, DPW Director Melchert, Manager/PGA Pro Marmion, City Attorney Beckerleg, and City Engineer Juidici.

105 Guests

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4a. City Council Meeting – December 16, 2013

**Moved by Burmeister; Seconded by Mitchell.**

**RESOLVED: To approve the December 16, 2013 regular meeting minutes and workshop minutes.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.001**

#### 5. APPOINTMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5a. Presentation – Age Friendly Auburn Hills Community Survey

Ms. Adcock mentioned she and Mr. Cohen attended the AARP summit in Washington D.C. They joined 14 other initiatives from across the country and learned some very good information and best practices that will be used. Recently, she and Mr. Cohen gave presentations to the Michigan Association of Planning and the Assessor's Association on age friendly communities.

Continuing, Ms. Adcock noted besides Mr. Cohen and herself, the Leadership Team consists of Stephanie Carroll, Don Grice, and Planning Commissioner Bob Pierce, with new members being Dawn Keiser and Elizabeth Brennan. The Leadership Team has been working on putting a plan together by meeting once or twice a month. The logo has been developed, Age Friendly Auburn Hills, which will be included on many publications within the City. A survey will be distributed in February, which AARP partnered with Auburn Hills. Throughout the next few months, there will be visioning meetings held with residents to find out what may be needed and what is working.

In February, both she and Mr. Cohen will be participating in an Age Friendly, MML webinar. A video will soon be released nationally, with Mr. Auger and Mr. Pierce speaking about why communities need to be age friendly and why it is important to the residents.

Last year the ball got rolling with acceptance from the WHO and the Auburn Hills team was created. This year the plan is to move forward meeting with and surveying the community. There will be extensive public outreach to determine what the residents currently need and what may be needed in the future. Next year, work will begin on writing a vision statement and an action plan; these actions will include members of the community.

Ms. Mitchell noted she likes the logo and asked if the visioning meetings will be done in conjunction with the Planning Commission meetings, or would those meetings be held independently.

Ms. Adcock explained the meeting will be separate meetings from the Planning Commission meetings. A meeting schedule will be made available so everyone will be aware of the meetings in advance.

Mr. Cohen stated the exact dates and location are yet to be confirmed, but will begin at the end of February and run through the end of April.

5b. Motion – Appointment Toni Whitley to the Board of Review

Mayor McDaniel noted Ms. Whitley is currently the vice president on the Library Board and has applied to serve on the Board of Review.

Ms. Whitley thanked the Mayor and continued, stating she has been a resident of Auburn Hills for the past 15 years and has worked with Mr. Knight on the Boys and Girls Club Advisory Committee. She is also involved with the League of

Women Voters and has recently been elected treasurer of the League. She is currently serving as the vice president of the Library Board. Since being retired, she has more time to volunteer and does so regularly at the Community Center.

Much of her background has been in finance, a retired stock broker/financial advisor and felt the Board of Review would be a good fit for her.

**Moved by Mitchell; Seconded by Knight.**

**RESOLVED: To confirm the Appointment of Toni Whitley to the Board of Review for a term ending December 31, 2014.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell  
No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.002**

5c. Motion – Appointment Bernard Ris to the Board of Review

Mr. Ris introduced himself, noting he prefers to go by Bernie. When he moved to Auburn Hills, 13 years ago, he found the community to be age friendly then.

He has been on the Board of Directors for Heritage in the Hills homeowners association for the past seven years and is a member of the Rochester Lions Club. His professional background is in the automotive industry, serving in several management positions. He feels this would be a wonderful opportunity to serve the community.

**Moved by Kittle; Seconded by Mitchell.**

**RESOLVED: To confirm the Appointment of Bernard Ris to the Board of Review for a term ending December 31, 2018.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell  
No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.003**

5d. Motion – Appointment of Ilene Ingram to the Beautification Advisory Committee

Dr. Ingram introduced herself, noting how excited she is to serve on this Committee. She sat in on a meeting and believes it will be mutually satisfying position for herself and the Committee Members.

**Moved by Hammond; Seconded by Kittle.**

**RESOLVED: To confirm the Appointment of Ilene Ingram to the Beautification Advisory Commission for a term ending December 31, 2014.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell  
No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.004**

5e. Motion – Appointment of Salvatore Petras to the Public Safety Advisory Board

Mr. Petras introduced himself and appreciates the opportunity to serve on a board in his community.

**Moved by Burmeister; Seconded by Mitchell.**

**RESOLVED: To confirm the Appointment of Salvatore Petras to the Public Safety Advisory Committee for a term ending November 30, 2015.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell  
No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.005**

5f. Motion – Reappointments to Public Safety Advisory Board, Beautification Advisory Board, and Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Mayor McDaniel noted these are reappointments and if there are no questions from Council he would accept a motion to accept the reappointments and invited those Board Members to stand for recognition.

**Moved by Kittle; Seconded by Knight.**

**RESOLVED: To confirm the re-appointments of Craig Capen to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, term to expire December 31, 2016; Tom Coolman, Jay Boelter, and Forrest (Skip) Taylor to the Public Safety Advisory Committee, terms to expire November 30, 2015; Rich Foster and Karen Lewis to the Beautification Advisory Committee, terms to expire December 31, 2016; and Dave DeClerck to the Tax Incentive Review Committee, term to expire December 31, 2017.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell  
No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.006**

## 6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor McDaniel asked anyone in the audience wishing to speak to please complete a Public Comment Form, to help the Clerk's Office with the meeting transcription. He also requested that those who have spoken previously on a specific topic, and have no new information, to give other residents the opportunity to speak and contribute new information. Mayor McDaniel also stated comments will be held to a two minute time limit.

Mayor McDaniel welcomed and introduced the House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel.

**Tim Greimel** thanked Mayor McDaniel for the introduction and opportunity to speak, echoing thanks and congratulations to the new appointments and reappointments to the City's Boards and Commissions. He also congratulated the newly elected Council Members, as well as the re-elected Council Members and Mayor McDaniel and Mayor Pro Tem Kittle on their new positions.

Mr. Greimel first noted there is nothing the State Legislature can do to retroactively stop the Pontiac School judgment from being levied. On December 31, 2013, the Governor signed a law to prevent school judgments being levied on the tax rolls in the future. Though the bill is less stringent than first proposed, it should prevent the vast majority of future levies of judgments on the tax rolls.

Continuing, Mr. Greimel noted the University Drive bridge closure, stating he will be contacting the Michigan Department of Transportation Director first thing Tuesday morning. This bridge has been a great concern to Auburn Hills as well as many others, being in need of repairs, widening and a reconfiguration. He spoke with the MDOT Director this past fall about lobbying to allocate money for the bridge. The Director assured him at the time that this bridge was in good enough shape, with no structural defects that would close down the bridge for years. He will contact the City with an update after speaking with the MDOT Director on Tuesday.

Regarding the gas and oil drilling being proposed in Auburn Hills, he understands that many residents are concerned with the process. He asked that common sense regulations be approved to prevent nuisances such as noise, eye-sores and smells from intruding into residential areas and to minimize truck damage on local roads that are not designed to handle heavy trucks. He also wants to protect the environmental treasures throughout Auburn Hills, whether it be public or private; including not leasing City owned land for the purpose of natural gas drilling. Safeguard and minimize any risk environmental risk or public safety concerns and protect the property values of residents in the community. He realizes these issues are taken seriously, as well is the welfare of the residents by Council.

**Sylvia Bucknavich**, 3711 Crestwood Drive, thanked Council for holding a very informative workshop this evening. She noted a train wreck in New Brunswick, Canada, that recently occurred causing a train to explode that was carrying oil, taking the rest of the afternoon and through the following day until noon before the fire was out. This was the fourth train accident involving oil transportation and an investigation is ongoing to determine what chemicals may be in the crude oil, since crude oil generally isn't very volatile. This evening there was talk about containment, but as demonstrated in West Virginia with leakage polluting the water, the containment method does not ensure the safety.

As mentioned in the workshop, there would only be a truck or two a day transporting the oil, noting one community receives \$10,000 in royalties; she doesn't believe that amount of money reflects only one or two trucks daily. She would like to hear other professionals speak on the topic at future meetings.

**David Lonier**, 1842 Commonwealth, noted the method of oil and gas extraction as described earlier this evening is nothing less than chemical warfare that will poison the water, the earth and people. The only people to benefit will be those at the oil companies. He encourages the City to do everything possible to keep the oil companies from drilling within the City.

Also, he has irrefutable evidence that smart meters are surveillance devices, with the evidence coming from the Congressional Research Service which he has available to Council. Under Michigan Penal Code, installation of a surveillance device on private property without consent is a felony. He believes Detroit Edison is committing a felony, a \$30 billion industry can do anything it wants. Federal law also prevents surveillance devices from being on homes. He is also concerned with the health issues related to the smart meters.

**Jim Przybylo**, 3778 Tienken Road, a resident since 1973 and has suffered through the noise of the Ajax Paving Company; and if not the noise the smell that lingers afterwards. He was offered a lease, but declined knowing too well about noise and smell pollution. Upon doing research, he read that 5% of the well concrete walls fail within the first year.

He recalled seeing on the news where there was black oil flowing through a neighborhood, because it was not contained properly. For those reasons, he is against oil or gas exploration within the city limits of Auburn Hills.

**Dawn DeRose**, 910 Seward, Detroit, suggested focusing on stopping oil and gas drilling and move towards the cleaner renewables. The water usage for drilling is ridiculous, very large amount. She referenced a contract that stated fracking will not take place if the drilling is successful. She had available for Council, articles relating to oil spills dating from 1907 forward, the water usage, the actual cost to the environment including health issues, the DEQ questions and answers, and others.

**Rimi Hirmiz**, Exhale Hookah Lounge owner, explained it has been one and a half months since the new ordinance has been in effect and business has decreased by over 40%. He provided the sales list for November and December of 2013, January of 2014 and December of 2012 showing the 40% drop in activity. There are 174 hookah lounges in the state and only five that close at 12 midnight; all of the Troy locations will be shut down in the next couple of months. In order for the hookah lounges in Auburn Hills to be successful, the closing time needs to be extended.

**Linda Hasson**, 1075 Williamson Circle, Pontiac, stated she testified in front of the House Committee along with State Senator Jim Marleau, House Leader Tim Greimel, and many others. She understood the tax levies may circumvent the Headlee Amendment.

**Lori Rapp**, 3502 Riverside Drive, is opposed to oil and gas drilling especially near homes, schools and parks. The oil and mineral rights below their property were leased to Jordan Oil Westbay without their knowledge. She and her husband are concerned how their lives and health will be affected by the drilling. She presented pictures of what has happened in other communities in southeast Michigan. Large wells are very close to subdivisions, flares that burn off the natural gas and oil wells expose residents to toxins, gases and bad odors. Increased truck traffic is causing wear and tear on the roads. She spoke of the many truck accidents and the explosions that occur. She asked that images she presented do not become a reality in Auburn Hills.

**Tom Rapp**, 3502 Riverside Drive, does not want any oil drilling within the City, for health concerns, truck traffic and destroying the roads, safety issues and environmental issues.

**Rita Fitzhenry**, 3553 Leyland Court, explained zero decibels is threshold hearing, prolonged exposure to 85 decibels can initiate a slow decline in hearing; one diesel truck at 35 feet, idling, has 100 decibels. A jet flying over at 100 feet above ground generates 103 decibels. The gentleman from the oil company, earlier stated they have three diesel engines running when drilling a well, which equates to 300 decibels.

She asked that notice be given to the residents if a public hearing is held by the state when an oil company is issued a permit. She went to Oakland County and learned a list of hazardous chemicals are to be provided to the County prior to receiving permits for any type of work being done using chemicals. Last she knew, the County had not received a list of chemicals from the oil and gas drillers applying for permits.

**Earnest Brock**, 3620 Bald Mountain Road, thanked the Council for the opportunity to express his concerns against the gas and oil drilling. His property backs up to the Apostolic Church, where drilling was being proposed, but is no longer the case. His area already has enough offensive smells and noise coming from the landfill and Ajax Paving and they don't need anything else. He asked the City to say no to well drilling in the area and allow the area to remain rural and maintain Hawk Woods as a nature center.

**Joseph Doyle**, 1446 Burhaven Drive, Rochester Hills, explained he teaches decision making and all decisions have adverse consequences. Companies very seldom will tell the negatives of their product. Another downside to drilling that has not been mentioned is radon, an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas; the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States as reported by the American Cancer Society. The drilling process releases the gases – radon and methane, another colorless, odorless and tasteless gas. These gases enter homes and can cause explosions and produces flaming water.

**Gail Hammill**, 1434 Burhaven Drive, Rochester Hills, she is opposed to drilling of any kind in a residential community and asked if anyone would purchase a home that has or is near a property that has a gas or oil lease. According to her real estate agent, people will not look to purchase a home where there is a possibility of gas and oil drilling. Continuing Ms. Hammill read a clause of her homeowner's insurance policy from AAA, reading in part that she is not covered from a *loss arising out of or in connection with another business. No liability or property coverage of discharge, dispersal, seepage,*

release of or escape of fuels, chemicals or other pollutants or contaminants from any source. Smog, smoke, agriculture smudging or industrial operations She suggested everyone check their homeowner's policy.

**Philip Baker**, 1434 Burhaven Drive, Rochester Hills, explained if the City agrees to allow drilling, it will cause a ripple effect to other communities. He proceeded to read a 2009 New York Times article regarding the rippling effect, which demonstrates how banks, mortgage companies, Freddie Mac and Fannie May become involved with loan defaults.

**Don Hughes**, 3744 Bald Mountain Road, noted the gas company will benefit the most from oil and gas development and the residents and the City have the most to lose in the drilling process. He encouraged the Council to implement the moratorium on drilling that was proposed at a previous meeting.

**Italia Millan**, 3744 Bald Mountain Road, urged the City Council to proceed with the proposed moratorium to work on implementing the necessary regulations to limit or prohibit oil and gas drilling. She visited a few drilling sites in White Lake Township, that were unattractive, noisy and smelly. The residents she spoke with stated the gains pale in comparison to losses the drilling caused.

She and her husband volunteer with the Clinton River Watershed Council doing stream and river monitoring. They understand the importance of water resources and their protection and accidents do happen. Case in point is the incident in West Virginia and the water supply, demonstrating how devastating a chemical spill can be. This type of industrial activity does not belong in neighborhoods or green spaces and urges the City to protect them.

**Mike Powers**, 3632 Aynsley Drive, Rochester Hills agrees with everything the other residents have said regarding oil drilling and applauded City Council for their openness and transparency. He was pleased to see Westbay's presentation this evening, it was a much better prepared presentation than what was presented to Rochester Hills. When oil is drilled for, there are chemicals pumped into the ground after most of the oil has been extracted, called *pusher chemistry*. Once the original drilling has been completed, there may be another round of extraction through fracking, taking what was left behind.

**Michael Runk**, 3516 Riverside Drive, submitted 10 letters written by residents regarding oil drilling in Auburn Hills. Wished Council a happy new year and hopes the decisions made are for the common good of the community.

**Sally Galloway**, 3328 Bald Mountain Road, noted many residents expressed her same concerns. If horizontal drilling is allowed, there are still many health and safety issues that will directly impact humans, domestic animals and wildlife. There will be clearing the land of trees, well pads, construction of roads, pipelines and other infrastructure. These impacts will affect water, soil, and light quality, increase noise pollution and traffic congestion. She noted fracking is included as part of horizontal drilling and would gladly send copies of the article to Council Members.

## 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. Board of Review – December 10, 2013

7a.2. Beautification Advisory Commission – November 19, 2013

### 7b. Motion – Approve an Inter-local Agreement between the City and Oakland County for the purpose of joining the County Narcotic Enforcement Team

**RESOLVED: To approve the Narcotic Enforcement Team Inter local Agreement between the City of Auburn Hills and the County and authorize the Director of Emergency Services to sign the agreement on behalf of the City.**

Moved by Kittle; Seconded by Hammond.

**RESOLVED: To approve the Consent Agenda.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.007**

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

8a. Motion – Approve 2014 Fee Schedule

Mr. Auger noted there are very few changes to the 2014 fee schedule; however, once the EMS transport changes there will need to be amendments to the fee schedule.

Mr. Burmeister noticed the fees for gravesites and asked if there were any graves available.

Ms. Kowal explained there are no gravesites for sale, but many are still vacant.

Mr. Knight is concerned with the golf course and recreation fees, noting the differential between residents and non-residents is not enough. As tax payers, he believes the residents should receive a better financial advantage than non-residents.

Mr. Kittle agrees with Mr. Knight, there should be a larger spread between residential and non-residential fees. In 2004/2005 a 20% discount was discussed for residents playing at Fieldstone. Continuing, Mr. Kittle asked for clarification for the water rates, indicating a proposed rate and TBD after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Auger explained the TBD will reflect the Detroit Water and Sewer Department rate increase that will be forwarded to City residents.

Ms. Mitchell noted some of the fees were effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, however, Council is just now approving them, asking how those fees will be affected.

Mr. Auger explained the new rates are not charged until approved by Council, and the water rates for the January bills remained the same.

Mr. Knight stated he will support approving this Fee Schedule; however, he would like both departments, golf and recreation, to re-examine the fees and see if there is a possibility of expanding the differential.

**Moved by Knight; Seconded by Kittle.**

**RESOLVED: To approve the 2014 Fee Schedule for the City of Auburn Hills as presented, with the understanding that Fieldstone Golf Club and the Recreation Department will review their fees with the possibility of expanding the differential between residential and non-residential fees.**

Mr. Auger noted the Fee Schedule can be amended at any time.

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.008**

8b. Motion – Approve Redraft of Grant Application for Clinton River Trail Improvements.

Mr. Marzolf explained the City was unsuccessful in receiving the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund grant for trail improvements. He is proposing to repackage the grant application and submit to SEMCOG/TAP grant program for the same amount of match money, with sooner implementation.

**Moved by Mitchell; Seconded by Burmeister.**

**RESOLVED: To approve the submittal of a grant application to the SEMCOG/Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for Clinton River Trail improvements as presented.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.009**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

9a. Public Hearing/Motion – Request to Approve Forgiveness of City Taxes Pertaining to IFEC 2008-304 for Gibbs Technologies Inc.

Mr. Lohmeier explained a request for a forgiveness of City property taxes for IFEC 2008-304 for Gibbs Technologies Inc. The IFEC was granted 2008 for an eight year abatement, for personal and real property. The old facility was located at 2046 Brown Road, Auburn Hills and the new facility is located at 50 Corporate Drive, Auburn Hills. Gibbs occupies approximately 54,000 square feet at the new location with a lease beginning April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2015.

To the best of staff's knowledge, the applicant is not delinquent in any of its property taxes for any of its parcels within the City of Auburn Hills, nor are there any tax appeals.

Mr. Lohmeier confirmed for Ms. Hammond the City has granted forgiveness in the past.

Mayor McDaniel opened the public hearing at 8:35 p.m.

Jan Apple, Company Secretary and General Counsel for Gibbs Technologies, Inc., explained the City graciously granted a tax abatement; a term of the agreement was when and if the company moved the City would be notified. The company did not notify the City and he apologized for that error. Gibbs moved from a 38,000 square foot facility to a 54,000 square foot facility.

Mr. Apple explained Gibbs is not seeking an abatement for this new facility, but is seeking forgiveness of the \$6,400.

Confirming for Mayor McDaniel, Mr. Apple noted the new facility is larger and Gibbs is also leasing on a month-to-month basis an 18,000 square foot facility next door to the current location.

Mr. Apple agreed the growth is a good sign, but when working in private industry and starting a business, everything is based on sales.

Mr. Kittle asked how sales were doing, the product is seen everywhere.

Mr. Apple stated marketing is good and approximately 180 units have been sold to date, with many of those sales outside of the U.S. This product is a product that no one else has. The marketing plan indicates many more units will be sold and 2014 will be the break-even year. There are 135 employees, and there are challenges, but the company is doing fine.

Mr. Knight stated the provision was included in the agreement to notify the City when moving, because if the dead-beats left the City, the City could collect those taxes. However, the City has always encouraged and happily accepted businesses moving to larger facilities within the City.

Mayor McDaniel agreed, the intent of the provision is to make sure businesses stay in Auburn Hills. The City appreciates Gibbs remaining in the City.

Mayor McDaniel closed the public hearing at 8:39 p.m.

**Moved by Knight; Seconded by Hammond.**

**RESOLVED: To approve the request to waive the tax liability for Gibbs Technologies Inc. as it pertains to IFEC 2008-304.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.010**

9b. Motion – Purchase of Police Vehicles

Ms. Skinner explained there are four Dodge Chargers that are pushing the limit, and will be replaced with two Dodge Chargers, one Dodge Ram and one Chevy Tahoe.

Mr. Knight was concerned with purchasing a 2014 Tahoe; however, he understood pricing may change.

Mr. Kittle asked why the vehicle is being purchased from Illinois.

Ms. Skinner explained there is only one white Tahoe with a police package available in Michigan.

Mr. Auger stated that Chicago dealership is honoring the Michigan bid pricing for the vehicle and will be transporting.

Mr. Knight asked why a Tahoe is wanted as opposed to another Dodge truck.

Director Olko explained the two Dodge Chargers will be used as unmarked traffic cars. The Department has had good luck with the Tahoe, and is very well liked. The Dodge Durango can't be used because they are too narrow and the equipment doesn't fit. The Tahoe is larger to accommodate the equipment as well as not having a center console. The Ram pickup will be used as a command car, which can carry a lot of equipment; the current pickup is used frequently and well liked.

Director Olko confirmed for Mayor McDaniel there is another Tahoe in the fleet and it is a two-wheel drive vehicle.

Mayor McDaniel asked if all the Charger patrol vehicles are rear-wheel drive or are some all-wheel drive.

Ms. Skinner stated the vehicles are all rear-wheel drive; however, the Ram truck is four wheel drive and the van is all wheel drive.

Director Olko noted two of the *dollar* vehicles from Chrysler, or mule cars are all-wheel drive. Continuing, Director Olko noted snow tires are put on the cars making driving much easier in the snow, even the two-wheel drive vehicles.

Mayor McDaniel asked if there has been consideration for some of the vehicles to be four-wheel drive, even though they cost more.

Ms. Skinner stated cost was not a factor; Police Sgt. Miarka and Deputy Director/Police Hardesty decided the two-wheel drive vehicles were the preferred vehicles.

Mayor McDaniel noted two-wheel vehicles are more efficient, but with the snow emergencies he thought there may be a need for more options. Emergency services must report to work, whether the City is closed or not and it may be beneficial for some to have the four-wheel drive option. .

Director Olko believes the two- wheel drive was chose, because the cost is much less to operate year round. During the recent snow emergency, the officers opted to stay in their vehicles as opposed to using other vehicles.

Mr. Auger noted that is a testament to how well the DPW keeps the City roads cleared.

Mr. Kittle suggested periodically comparing the pricing of vehicles elsewhere against the State and County purchasing cooperative bidding.

**Moved by Knight; Seconded by Hammond.**

**RESOLVED: To approve the purchase of two (2) 2014 Dodge Charger Police Packages & one (1) 2014 Dodge Ram 1500 Crew Cab 4 x 4 Special Service Group be awarded to Bill Snethkamp Dodge, 6131 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing, MI 48911 at total cost of \$74,914.18. Also, one (1) 2014 Chevy Tahoe 2WD Police Package SUV be awarded to Currie Motors Fleet, 9423 W. Lincoln Hwy, Frankfort, IL 60423 at a total cost of \$28,826.00, unless competitive local bids are less.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.011**

9c. Motion – Appropriation to Pontiac School District Youth Assistance Program

Ms. Adcock noted this is a follow-up to the CDBG motion, of which the Youth Assistance program was to be funded with 2015 funds. Council decided to fund the Avondale Youth Assistance with the CDBG funding and to possibly fund the Pontiac Youth Assistance program with City funds.

Mike Kazyak, Pontiac Youth Assistance representative provided a breakdown of how the money was spent for the Auburn Hills children receiving support from the Pontiac Youth Assistance in 2013. As of July 1, when the fiscal year begins, a little over \$500 has been spent through the Pontiac Youth Assistance. Part of the challenge is getting the kids from Will Rogers Elementary to register for aid; many parents won't submit financial information to receive the assistance. As a Chairperson for the Avondale Youth Assistance program, the money is always spent. He doesn't see Pontiac spending \$2,500, as demonstrated with the past year's expenditures, but if needed, he believes with proper documentation the City could always reimburse Pontiac Youth Assistance.

Mr. Knight understands Mr. Kazyak that the money likely will not be spent, but would still like Council to approve the appropriation. The money could always be reallocated if not used. Mr. Knight explained a few years the City opted out of block grant money and made contributions from the general fund to the Youth Assistance programs. The City has always supported the Youth Assistance programs and has encouraged the programs to continue.

Mr. Auger confirmed the \$2,500 contribution is taken from the General Fund. The motion includes the funds are only available for those qualified expenditures, following the CDBG guidelines.

Mr. Kittle doesn't agree with using tax payer's money for charitable causes; funds should not be taken from the General Fund for the Youth Assistance programs.

Ms. Adcock confirmed for Mayor McDaniel this motion would allow an appropriation of up to \$2,500 for the Pontiac Youth Assistance program; however, there are still unspent funds, approximately \$1,900.

Mayor McDaniel stated postponing action would not hinder the program, since there is still a substantial amount of money in the fund.

Ms. Adcock stated that is correct, this discussion is for the 2015 funding. It is possible to extend Pontiac Youth Assistance contract if all the funds are not spent.

Mayor McDaniel suggested postponing any action to a later date.

**Moved by Knight; Seconded by Kittle.**

**RESOLVED: To POSTPONE action on the expenditure for the Pontiac Youth Assistance Program.**

Ms. Mitchell asked if there is any reason the parents don't want to provide financial information.

Mr. Kazyak explained parents don't want to divulge any financial information, and he doesn't know why. This program is promoted extensively at Will Rogers Elementary. The principal and teachers are always being asked if there are specific children that could benefit from the program; there is the same difficulty with the south end of the Avondale School District.



**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell  
No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.012**

**10. COMMENTS AND MOTIONS FROM COUNCIL**

Mr. Burmeister:

- He was asked about the barriers behind Duffy's, downtown in the parking lot.  
Mr. Auger stated that is a private parking lot belonging to Mr. Lancaster and after construction was completed he put up the barriers. There was a review done by the Deputy Directors of Public Safety to make sure there is sufficient room for emergency vehicles.
- Noted he had seen information that cities are exempt from providing paid on-call firefighters health care if they work over 29 hours.  
Mr. Tanghe stated he had just seen the legislation, and hasn't read it in its entirety, but it suggests that the rules that apply under the Affordable Care Act, that this group may be exempt from those regulations which require an employer to provide full health care benefits for employees who work regularly 30 or more hours.

Ms. Mitchell:

- Appreciates Staff for organizing this evening's informative workshop.
- There is a draft for a five year MDOT transportation plan, on the MDOT web site, that is very informative.
- The five year Parks and Recreation Master Plan draft will be discussed Thursday, 7:00 p.m. at the Planning Commission meeting. The Plan is available on line or hard copies are available at the Community Center and the library.
- Congratulated Staff and the TIFA Board on the opening of the DEN; the facility looks fabulous.
- Noted today being MLK day, the Council meeting seems fitting, since MLK's teachings were about service as well as diversity.

Ms. Hammond:

- Asked Mr. Melchert if he had driven south of the bridge on Squirrel Road and noticed all of the pot holes, as well as S. Squirrel Road and all the pot holes.  
Mr. Melchert stated he will look into the situation.

Mr. Knight:

- Appreciated the presentation made this evening regarding the oil drilling and appreciated the Rochester Hills resident who noted how well prepared Westbay was with their information.
- Noted not all residents were able to attend the presentation this evening and asked if there is a summary available.  
Mayor McDaniel stated the workshop was video-taped and will be available on the City's television channel.  
Mr. Auger stated the video will also be streamed on the City's website.
- Noted the firefighter fitness report showed no activity at Fire Stations 1 and 3, and asked if the on-call firefighters didn't have the same opportunity or equipment as those at Fire Station 2 have available.  
Director Olko stated she has not looked at the workout facilities at Stations 1 and 3, and will talk with the paid on-call firefighters to see if that is one of the barriers.
- Attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting where Mr. Cohen and Mr. Tanghe spoke of ways to keep the young people in the community; both did an excellent job on their presentations.
- Hopes Mr. Griemel will be able to get some action going on constructing a new University Drive / I-75 bridge and asked the City and be kept apprised of the situation.

Mr. Kittle:

- Found a state wide asset management data base for roads and bridges and until recently Auburn Hills was not on the radar at the state level. He hopes this gives some leverage on what the City has been trying to accomplish over the last several years.
- He received his calendar and news letter in the mail today, and he believes it is the best he has ever seen and is pleased with the outcome. It was very professionally done and the content was great.

- Asked what the correct time is for the Retiree Health Care/Pension meeting will be held, 1:00 or 3:00.

Ms. Kowal stated the meetings will be held at 3:00 p.m. and she will change the meeting schedule to reflect the correct time.

Mayor McDaniel:

- Asked that the sight-line at Squirrel Road and Squirrel Court, at the clock tower be checked; between the snow and the height of the bushes it is very difficult to see traffic.
- It is time to interview the landfill consultants and he would like to appoint a Council Member to the team, which will require availability for an entire day of interviews in February. Please send him an e-mail noting your interest.

**11. CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT – none.**

**12. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

- Distributed a new brochure of branding and volunteering opportunities; noting some of the opportunities for City residents as well as business people in the City to get more involved.
- As soon as the City was notified of the University bridge closing, Council was notified as were partners of the City - O.U and the Chamber, as well as businesses. All social media resources were used to notify the public, with very good responses.
- He tips his hat to OHM, who predicted the bridge would need to be closed in 2015. MDOT disagreed and stated the City’s engineers were exaggerating the stability of the bridge. Contact has been made with all the State representatives and MDOT representatives, trying to take advantage of this situation and change it into an opportunity to get something done right.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Annual City Manager Accountability Review**

**Moved by Hammond; Seconded by Knight.**

**RESOLVED: Adjourn to Executive Session.**

**VOTE: Yes: Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, McDaniel, Mitchell**

**No: None**

**Motion Carried (6-0)**

**Resolution No. 14.01.013**

*Adjourned to Executive Session at 9:13 p.m. Resumed regular meeting at 10:48 p.m.*

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned 10:49 pm.