

MEETING MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Edward Hirsch at 7:03 PM.

Board members present: Ed Hirsch, Ken Kendall, Jennifer Janson, Gayle Hanes and past president, Terry West.

President: Attendees were welcomed and urged to make sure their COHA dues are paid. There are openings on the COHA Board of Directors which need to be filled; a trustee position and President.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: As of 1/1/18; \$493.69 in checking, \$7649.25 in savings, \$8123.14 total assets. So far, only 5 associations have paid their dues this year. Dues notices will be e-mailed out as soon as the list is updated.

Committee Reports: None

Guest Speaker: Dr. Ken Massey, Mayor of Farmington Hills and Dave Boyer, Farmington Hills City Manager. The Mayor is the former President of COHA. Dave Boyer has been with the City for 20 years as Director of Parks and Recreation, then Assistant City Manager and now City Manager. They work closely together. The State requires more transparency in cities' funding of pensions and Farmington Hills is in great shape (107% funded for retiree healthcare and 84% funded for pensions). We still have a pension plan for police and fire to attract higher quality people to those positions. Farmington Hills is the second safest city in Michigan (behind Troy). All of our firefighters are paramedics and all of our police carry Narcan to immediately treat overdoses. It was administered 53 times last year and many lives were saved. Planning: Our city's goal is a 65/35 split and our current tax base is supported 68% by commercial with 32% residential. City planning includes improvements to Beaumont Medical Center, new hotels, and attracting companies to vacant office space. The Soccer field has attracted a Japanese firm to build an automotive research facility with treehouse office space. Farmington Hills is in expansion mode. Harrison High School is closing in 2019 and the City has paid for a consultant to come up with a plan for the first two floors of the building to be converted to a Community Recreation Center. The Mayor showed slides of the concept to preserve the Harrison legacy and provide the community with bigger/better facilities than the Costick Center which we've outgrown. The City would like the Costick Center to become a regional senior center. The Harrison property is 14 acres which is worth about \$4 million as land and with its current zoning, could only serve to build about 500 apartments. The City feels it's best to renovate the building to utilize the 700-seat theater, pool, gymnasium, track, football field, soccer field, tennis courts, and meeting room and office space. The school board would use the third floor for office space. Road projects for 2018: finish 13 Mile Road between Drake and Farmington and between Middlebelt and Inkster. Also a new gas line between Farmington and Middlebelt. The City is working to change our charter to move from a Special Assessment District to a Village system which will allow us to all share in the cost of residential road repairs and construction. (Special Assessment District means 20% is paid by the City and 80% is funded by the residents on the streets being repaired and is too cost prohibitive for some.) The City has 30 miles of roads to be improved once our funding source is approved.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 20, 2017
Adjournment at 8:34 PM
Submitted by Secretary Jennifer Janson