

A. CALL TO ORDER:

A Special Meeting of the Troy City Council was held on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, at City Hall, 500 W. Big Beaver Rd. Mayor Slater called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

B. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Dane Slater
Jim Campbell - Absent
Wade Fleming
Dave Henderson
Ellen Hodorek
Ed Pennington - Absent
Doug Tietz - Absent

Suggested Resolution

Resolution #2014-04-036

Moved by Slater

Seconded by Fleming

RESOLVED, That Troy City Council hereby **EXCUSES** the absence of Council Member Campbell and Council Member Pennington at the City Council Special Study Meeting of Tuesday, April 1, 2014, due to being absent from the state.

Yes: Slater, Fleming, Henderson, Hodorek

No: None

Absent: Campbell, Pennington, Tietz

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

C-1 Results of City of Troy Focus Groups

Mayor Slater opened the meeting by thanking City Manager Kischnick for putting together these Focus Groups.

City Manager Kischnick thanked all the participants of the Focus Groups for their hard work. He thanked Cindy Stewart for coordinating the groups. City Manager Kischnick described the groups as being made up of a diverse cross-section of community members.

City Manager Kischnick introduced the PowerPoint presentation called Troy Story Focus Groups. He commented that the Focus Groups all saw the presentation on The Troy Story that had been shown to City Council in 2013. City Manager Kischnick discussed the presentation slides.

Mayor Slater asked if there was discussion about what would be a good level of fund balance. City Manager Kischnick replied that he never gave that answer to the groups, but, at every meeting, that topic came up. He did make the general comment that the bond adviser had said 20%-30% was a good percentage. City Manager Kischnick continued that some members of

the groups agreed and some disagreed with that percentage range. He then continued the presentation.

City Manager Kischnick called on representatives from the Citizen Representatives Focus Group. Robin Beltramini, presented the Scenario 1 slide from her Citizen Representatives group. City Manager Kischnick called on Mark Calice to present the Scenario 2 slide from his Citizen Representative group. City Manager Kischnick called on John Ballantine to present Scenario 3 from his Citizen Representative group.

City Manager Kischnick resumed the presentation. He explained that this is part of the citizen engagement project. He turned the conversation back to City Council for discussion. Mayor Slater indicated he is not surprised to hear that roads were such a priority among the groups considering the winter we've had this year. He was surprised by the results from the groups saying that the City should be financially responsible for maintaining County roads. City Manager Kischnick said that topic came up in every group but 99.9% of the participants would say that they don't know who owns what roads, but, that we need to fix the roads regardless of who owns those roads. Mayor Slater said that three years ago, we would have not agreed with putting City money toward County roads. But today, it is a different time and if the County isn't willing to pay for repairs on County roads, then the City will have to make that decision to fix them instead. City Manager Kischnick replied that the City has been willing to partner with the County to share the cost of fixing roads. Council Member Fleming said we need to take advantage of matching funds for road projects. He continued that he hears from residents that we need to do a better job of fixing roads than we are doing currently, for example slab replacement and patch work. Council Member Fleming questioned if the City needs to ask the State to reduce weight limits for large trucks on the roads. He said he is not surprised to see the groups all talk about the roads. He wondered if we should also be putting aside funds to address the future of water infrastructure considering what is going on with the Detroit Water & Sewer Department. Mayor Slater said he also shares the frustration with slab replacement projects. He said the County and State need to stop putting band-aids on the problem roads and start doing what Troy does, which is replace entire segments. Mayor Slater said he will sign the agreement to fix pot holes in 48 hours, but believes that we need to do more than patch pot holes.

Council Member Hodorek agreed. She believes that the State needs to put a higher priority on roads. Council Member Hodorek encourages everyone to express their opinions to the State officials. She commented that the Traffic Safety Unit is very important for deterring crime and that unit needs to be in place. City Manager Kischnick commented that everyone in the focus groups who wanted Traffic Safety thought the police presence in the community was very important.

Mayor Pro Tem Henderson thanked City Manager Kischnick for putting the Focus Groups together. He agreed with what had been said already about the roads. He commented that \$10 million will make a big difference in the roads. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson commended the Mayor for signing the 48 hour promise. Mayor Slater stated that the City now has a 24 hour policy for pot holes and that Troy will always respond quickly.

Mayor Slater said we are not over the financial crisis yet, and we need to not spend down all the fund balance.

Council Member Fleming said we need to tell the County and State that we want the money that we pay to fix their roads back after we spend it. City Manager Kischnick said he is convinced that Oakland County is doing what they can with engineering services etc. to help Troy because we are willing to fix all the roads in Troy. He continued that the State Representative and State Senator need to get to work and help Troy get the funding from the State for road repairs. Council Member Hodorek asked City Manager Kischnick to pass along to Oakland County Troy's appreciation for all the assistance that the County has given to us. Mayor Slater said that other communities around us are not as safe as Troy, so we have an obligation to maintain that safety. It's the same with the road conditions. We need to put money toward all the roads in Troy.

City Manager Kischnick summarized that in the upcoming budget, there are some items included but not everything so that we maintain a good level of fund balance.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Ballantine	Spoke about road conditions and repairs.
Mark Calice	Spoke about road conditions and fund balance.

Council Member Fleming asked if the DWSD issue is being considered for the future. City Manager Kischnick said yes, the City is paying very close attention to that situation.

City Manager Kischnick commented that both presentations will be available on the website along with the poster of the Focus Groups.

Council Member Hodorek said the more we educate the community, the more we come together as a smart community.

E. ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 7:11 PM.

Mayor Dane Slater

M. Aileen Bittner, CMC
City Clerk