

A. CALL TO ORDER:

A Special Meeting of the Troy City Council was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2014, at City Hall, 500 W. Big Beaver Rd. Mayor Slater called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

B. ROLL CALL:

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

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

C-1 Proposed Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Annual Budget and Three-Year Budget

(Budget is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, Troy Public Library.)

Mayor Slater opened the meeting and thanked City Manager Kischnick and Staff for their hard work in putting together this budget. He turned the conversation over to City Manager Brian Kischnick. Mr. Kischnick announced that tomorrow, April 22nd, road work will begin on Long Lake Road. He also announced the website TroyRoadsRock.com so the public can track all the road work throughout Troy. Mr. Kischnick began discussing the PowerPoint presentation titled, "Major Budget Changes," and gave an overview of the discussion items for tonight and also the Special Budget Study Session on Wednesday, April 23, 2014.

Mr. Kischnick discussed the Management Letter located on pages 4-12 of the Budget document. He then discussed highlights of the Introductory Section of the Budget. Mr. Kischnick concluded the overview by discussing the New Positions chart on page 63 and the General Fund chart on page 67.

Mr. Nino Licari, City Assessor, discussed Taxable Value using the PowerPoint presentation. Council Member Fleming asked if commercial property values will rebound. Mr. Licari answered that in the next year, the values will flatten out and we should see increases after that.

Mr. Tom Darling, Director of Finance and Administrative Services, presented slides and discussed the Millage Summary.

Mr. Mark Miller, Director of Economic and Community Development Services, discussed economic development activity. He introduced Mr. Paul Featherston of SAFEbuilt. Mr. Featherston discussed the presentation slides regarding Building Activity.

Mr. Darling discussed the presentation slides regarding the General Fund Summary. Council Member Hodorek asked if there are any indications from Lansing to verify the numbers in the

Budget. Mr. Kischnick answered that the State provides these numbers on the State's website, and will be updated every six months.

Chief Gary Mayer, Captain Robert Redmond, Captain Keith Frye, Lieutenant Tom Gordon and Lieutenant Chris Stout discussed the presentation slides regarding the Police Department Budget. Council Member Fleming asked if Somerset Collection is the only mall that pays for Police Department special detail. Chief Mayer said that Oakland Mall pays for Christmas Season detail. Council Member Tietz asked if the forfeiture trend decrease is due to criminals' financial hardship. Captain Frye answered that the decrease is due to criminals' utilizing more electronic funds than actual currency. Chief Mayer said most of the forfeiture money comes from Troy Police Department's involvement with the federal task force.

Mr. Tim Richnak, Director of Public Works, discussed the presentation slides regarding the Department of Public Works Budget. Mr. Rick Shepler, Water and Sewer Superintendent, discussed the slides regarding water and sewer rates. Mr. Darling discussed the status of the Water Fund and the Sewer Fund. Mr. Kurt Bovensiep, Parks, Streets and Drains Superintendent, discussed the presentation slides regarding the Streets and Drains Division Budget.

Mayor Slater asked Mr. Bovensiep if there is an opportunity to bring back employees who were laid off. Mr. Bovensiep answered that all the staff reductions were done through attrition, so there are no laid off employees to bring back. Council Member Hodorek commented that the efficiencies and operations are very obvious in the numbers in the DPW Budget.

Chief Bill Nelson discussed the presentation slides regarding the Fire Department Budget. Council Member Fleming asked what kind of timetable is there for the proposed changes to be in place. Chief Nelson answered that negotiations are ongoing. Mr. Darling commented that the actuary numbers should be available soon. Mr. Kischnick commented that City Management has been working on this issue for quite some time with the actuaries and the committee, and that a Study Session will be scheduled once the numbers are confirmed. He said that the current budget is what Council will be deciding, and changes for the future plan will be presented to Council before future budgets are decided.

Mr. Miller discussed presentation slides regarding the Recreation Budget. He pointed out that Ms. Elaine Bo is the current Recreation Director, and Brian Goul is the current Assistant Recreation Director.

Mr. Steve Vandette, City Engineer, discussed slides regarding the Engineering Budget. Mrs. Gert Paraskevin discussed the presentation slides regarding the Information Technology Budget. Mrs. Paraskevin and Mr. Bovensiep also discussed the partnership of Information Technology with the Streets Division throughout the winter of 2013/2014. Mrs. Paraskevin and Ms. Cathy Russ, Library Director, discussed the partnership of Information Technology with the Troy Public Library. Council Member Pennington complimented the updated online snow removal map. Council Member Fleming asked if there is payback for the electronic time and attendance system. Mrs. Paraskevin answered that there isn't really a payback, but it will free up employees who do the entry and maintenance on the existing program to work on other tasks. Mr. Richnak commented that the Supervisors in DPW have become reactive due to staff reductions. With the proposed new system, Supervisors will have easier access to work log records and will make the current staff more efficient. Ms. Russ added that she has a staff

member that spends 10% of her time working on timesheets. This proposed new system will free up that employee to work on other tasks. The proposed new system will also free up staff members who work on scheduling. Mr. Richnak added that the current time clock in DPW is obsolete and cannot be serviced any longer. The proposed new system will also free up staff in DPW who work on timesheets and scheduling so they can work on other tasks. Mr. Darling commented that the proposed new system will reduce redundancy in the Finance Department, add internal controls, and free up Finance staff to work on other tasks.

The meeting **RECESSED** at 9:00 PM.

The meeting **RECONVENED** at 9:10 PM.

Ms. Aileen Bittner, City Clerk, discussed the presentation slides regarding the Elections Budget.

Ms. Loraine Campbell, Director of the Troy Historic Village, discussed the presentation slides regarding the Historic Village Budget and the City's investment in the Historic Village.

Mr. Tom Lakocy, Acting President of the Troy Nature Society, discussed the presentation slides regarding the Nature Center Budget and the City's investment in the Nature Center. Mayor Slater asked if City Management is recommending the \$75,000 request of the Nature Center. Mr. Kischnick answered that City Management is recommending status quo of \$50,000. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson asked if the additional staffing will be to find new funding sources. Mr. Lakocy replied the additional funding will pay for the Executive Director to be full-time. Council Member Hodorek said she understands the predicament that the Nature Center is in while trying to obtain grants. She asked that Council consider what the extra \$25,000 would mean to the Nature Center and, that this money would mean the ability to fundraise. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson asked when the Nature Center will be able to stand on its own. Mr. Lakocy answered he anticipates that this would be a one-time request for additional funds. Council Member Tietz asked if the Nature Society has a plan to obtain grants and funding from other sources. Mr. Lakocy answered that the young age of the Nature Society was a hinderence in fundraising but is not an issue as much now that they have been in existence more than two years. Mayor Slater said he understands the difficulties that the Nature Society has in fundraising, but Council would like to see a strategic plan. Council Member Fleming commented that the budgeted amounts for wages and payroll are projected to be a lot more than the donations and grants revenue projections. He would like to see how the Nature Society will be increasing the revenue from donations and grants in future budget years, and the correlation between City funds and how the funds are used by the Society.

Mayor Slater said he is willing to give \$75,000 to both the Nature Society and the Historic Village, and would like to see a strategic plan from the Nature Society. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson said he agrees with Mayor Slater, but, he would like to see the correlation between the funds from the City and the use of those funds by the Nature Society. Council Member Hodorek said she supports giving both the Nature Society and the Historic Village each \$75,000. Council Member Campbell would like to wait until Wednesday to take a consensus of Council. He agrees with giving both organizations each \$75,000, but would like to see the strategic plan from the Nature Society. Council Member Pennington agreed that he also supports giving both organizations each \$75,000, but would like to see the strategic plan from the Nature Society. Council Member Tietz said he would like to see a strategic plan from the Nature Society. Mayor Slater asked if there is a consensus to approve the request for funds

from both organizations and to also ask the Nature Society to provide a strategic plan to Council by September, 2014. Council Member Fleming agrees and thinks the strategic plan is very important. Mr. Kischnick asked for clarification regarding the three-year budget. Mayor Slater provided clarification that the additional \$25,000 be given to the Nature Society for one budget year with the understanding that the strategic plan be provided in September, 2014. The remaining years of the three-year budget for both organizations will remain status quo. The Historic Village will receive \$75,000 per year. The Nature Society will receive \$75,000 this year, and \$50,000 the remaining two years. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson commented it is tougher to say no to increases when there is a budget surplus.

Chief Mayer introduced Nancy Morrison, Executive Director of the Troy Community Coalition. Mrs. Morrison discussed the presentation slides regarding the Troy Community Coalition Budget. She also discussed partnerships with the Troy Police Department and the City of Troy. Council Member Fleming asked how much in funding the Troy Community Coalition is requesting. Ms. Morrison answered \$25,000. Council Member Tietz requested that Ms. Morrison provide Council with the budget for the Troy Community Coalition prior to the meeting on Wednesday evening. Ms. Morrison commented that the organization had a grant with matching funds that sustained them, but the grant ended and the City wasn't able to provide funding during the recession. Chief Mayer commented that the partnership with Troy Community Coalition is very valuable to the work of the Police Department. Council Member Hodorek said she attended a workshop that discussed the partnership between Troy Police and Troy Community Coalition. She said that the partnership is appreciated by many people.

Chief Mayer introduced Leonette Ciepielowski, Advisor for Troy Youth Assistance, and Police Officer Kristine Shuler. Ms. Ciepielowski discussed the budget of Troy Youth Assistance and the partnership with Troy Police and Oakland County. She said that when the City's funding was eliminated, Troy Youth Assistance sought funds through many fundraising campaigns. Ms. Ciepielowski requested that City Council approve the request for \$10,000. Officer Shuler commented that Troy Youth Assistance provides many services to the Police Department in prevention but also during court proceedings and referrals. Mayor Pro Tem Henderson commented that he knows many parents who wish they had Troy Youth Assistance available to them when their children were growing up.

Council Member Tietz requested to see the budgets from TYA and TCC. There was a consensus of Council to approve all the requests of funding from the nonprofit organizations who presented tonight.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Roger Kowalski	Spoke about the value of the City's investment in the Nature Center and thanked Council for approving the request
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E. ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 10:56 PM.

Mayor Dane Slater

M. Aileen Bittner, CMC
City Clerk