

CITY OF SYLVAN LAKE
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 24, 2008

A Special Meeting of the Sylvan Lake City Council was held on Thursday, April 24, 2008; opening at 6:33 p.m. Mayor Hungerman presided.

Present: Maurina, Wiegand, Hungerman, Shepp
Absent: Lorenz
Also Present: City Manager Martin and Clerk Clippert

Yes: All
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Wiegand, seconded Maurina, to approve the agenda as presented.

Yes: All
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion of Tennis Courts

PR-003-08

Martin explained money was budgeted prior to doing the tennis courts. They were hoping to do them after the Community Center was done. Rob Galacz looked at them and thought there was no base underneath. Martin reviewed how the courts have been there for 30 years and if there was no base under there, they would have only lasted two-three years. The DPW has dug out a section in the corner and in the center and there is a significant limestone base, very well compacted.

Martin is contacting Rochester, Rochester Hills and Auburn Hills to see who they used. Martin estimated it will cost around \$40,000 to remove the old asphalt and put in new. He will get quotes soon. In the meantime the DPW has chained and locked the gate. Martin asked for approval to keep them locked until the courts are fixed and safe to use.

Wiegand feels the asphalt needs to be removed. He stated it is wavy.

Hungerman questioned the fence and if it would have to be removed. Martin stated it will be up to the company who does it. He is hoping they can remove a section and pave up to the rest. He stated some of the posts are heaving a little bit. The fencing is good; it was just repainted.

Maurina questioned how thick the base is and if it is level. Martin estimated 6 inches. He explained they will bring in a roller and compact it again.

Martin stated he would like to pull the asphalt out now while there is construction down there. They wouldn't be out anything because they either replace it or tear it out completely.

Shepp asked how much the courts are used. Wiegand feels they are used quite a bit.

Hungerman would like to look into using it as a dual purpose, by adding basketball hoops. Martin stated that is his thought too. He suggested two boards, playing half court basketball. Wiegand asked if a pad of cement could go on Pontiac Drive side. Martin stated it could. He will have to find out how much that would be. Martin will also check with the insurance company for using the parking lot.

Moved by Wiegand, seconded Shepp, to keep the tennis courts locked because of safety reasons and to remove the asphalt if necessary, also to look into the cost for a concrete pad on the side.

Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation

L2-005-08

Moved by Maurina, seconded Wiegand, to adjourn into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

Yes: All
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

At 6:50 City Council adjourned into Executive Session.

At 8:00 City Council reconvened the regular City Council meeting.

Moved by Maurina, seconded Shepp, to regrettably accept the recommendation of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority to resolve the matter of Sherrod vs. the City of Sylvan Lake with the understanding that there is no admission of guilt whatsoever by the City of Sylvan Lake and any other defendants in this lawsuit.

Yes: Shepp, Wiegand, Hungerman, Maurina
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting Open to the Public for Brief Comment

Russ Meskin expressed his displeasure with this lawsuit. He feels the comments that were written in the paper stating the Chief said inappropriate things are an embarrassment to the city. He also feels the Chief's credibility is diminished and he should seek employment elsewhere.

There were no other comments.

Discussion of Boat Dock Committee's Policy Recommendations

BD-007-08

Shepp doesn't believe the city has the right to require residents to share their dock space. He believes the committee's intent was to get people to give up their space if they are not really using it. He feels it shouldn't matter what kind of boat they have. Just because one can't afford a speed boat doesn't mean they should be forced to share their dock space. Wiegand agreed with him. Martin also feels the city can't require this. The docks are residents' personal property.

Martin stated the DEQ is looking at how many docks and how many boats are at each dock. It wouldn't be wise to increase the number of boats at this time.

Maurina asked if Martin has spoken with the DEQ lately. Martin stated he has not. Maurina is concerned if this was to pass and people across Sylvan Lake hear about it and provide it to the DEQ, then it could turn on the city to not allow two boats at any dock space.

Maurina questioned how many boat spaces they are talking about. Russ Meskin thought it was about 12. Maurina asked Martin if he knew what the goal of this was with the committee. Martin stated, one was the fee with the wait list. They felt people were moving into the city and told to get on the waiting list and this way they will know if they are really serious about it or not. Also four out of the six committee members felt it is not fair that somebody with only a canoe or paddle boat is taking up a space, that a motor boat can use, when there are other avenues for that person to use their water craft.

Hungerman stated his feelings on each change, stating he has no problem with the \$100 fee, he feels notifying the top 25 people on the wait list is to much, he needs clarification on licensee's immediate family, he is not in favor of telling residents what kind of boat they can keep in their space, ok with extending the dock to 70 feet, ok with installing dock by June 1st, he is not sure if 10 days is enough time for a new licensee and he is not in favor of charging \$40 to use the rack storage.

Council agreed to discuss this policy with the committee at the next Council meeting.

2008/2009 Budget

B-002-08

Martin reviewed council needs to discuss capital projects and present their goals and objectives.

Wiegand stated he would like to see the City Hall sign replaced. He would like to see it in brick. He also would like to see a City sign on Orchard Lake Road. Martin stated the Planning Commission didn't agree on it and felt the cost was too much. Wiegand added he would like to see the point cleaned up and some money set aside for the nature trail.

Hungerman submitted, basketball court with the tennis court, security system for the Community Center with cameras on the inside and outside of the building. Martin stated, if they have funding for it they are going to. Maurina added, there is wiring already in place. Also they are wiring for the swipe security cards.

Martin stated there is \$2,500 in the proposed budget for trail maintenance. He stated the Home and Garden Tour fundraising money needs to be added as a transfer out of the General Fund and added as a revenue (transfer in) to the Community Center Capital Project Fund. Martin feels the City Hall improvement should be taken out. Shepp asked if some should be left in and accrued. Martin stated he has been doing that. It is not earmarked specifically, but funds are there.

Wiegand suggested putting in the newsletter, donations from landscapers for the Community Center. Martin stated it is estimated to cost \$30,000 for landscaping. Maurina asked if \$30,000 was planned for the first year. Her understanding was to start with X and go forward and add when we can. Martin stated that estimate is only from Mike Grasser. He will be getting more. The plan is for grading, topsoil and seed, moving a few trees and planting a few new trees. Wiegand stated that doesn't include an irrigation system. Martin stated they will be getting quotes for that also and having the water come from the canal. Shepp feels budget for minimal and improve over the years; hold fund raisers. Maurina agrees a landscape plan is a must.

Hungerman asked if there is a date for opening the center. Martin stated he is saying August 1st.

Wiegand would like to see in the newsletter a statement saying the lawsuit is settlement not coming out of city funds.

Maurina said she had a lot of little questions about the budget and she would like to meet with Martin, but she can't do that for a couple of weeks. Martin asked her to call and set a time.

Shepp stated he was taken aback by the City Hall proposal, but he feels something needs to be done.

Martin reminded council they need to address putting a question on the ballot in November, whether it is Community Center, public safety, parks or combination of them.

Martin will work on getting figures for the tennis/basketball courts and implement the changes discussed with the capital projects. He reminded council the budget needs to be adopted at the May meeting.

Consideration to Move May City Council Meeting Date

Moved by Maurina, seconded Wiegand, to change the May City Council meeting date to May 21st.

Yes: All
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion of Foreclosures and Cleanup of Property

Wiegand asked for this to be discussed at the next study session.

He asked if council would be interested in holding a Halloween Fund raising Party. Council thought it was a good idea.

Wiegand addressed having a dance floor for the Community Center and if putting one over the carpet would ruin the carpet. Maurina stated there are companies out there that know how to do it right and not ruin the carpet.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Wiegand seconded Shepp, to adjourn the regular City Council Meeting.

Yes: All
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Dennise Clippert, City Clerk