

A Study Session of the Sylvan Lake City Council was held on Thursday, August 28, 2008; opening at 7:02 p.m. Mayor Hungerman presided.

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

Yes: All  
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

#### Approval of Agenda

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

Yes: All  
No: None

MOTION CARRIED

#### Update on Valero Property and Brick Above Fuel Pumps    **C4-010-08**

Martin reported the Planner and Engineer looked at Valero again. They still have a few things to fix. A lot of bushes will need to be replaced. The new planter island that was required to be put in did not have the concrete removed. They just cut a small hole to plant the tree and covered the rest with soil to fix it. The “as built plans” show the detention basin is not big enough. The curb between the detention basin and the neighboring property still needs to be cut and patched. A new photometric plan was provided and lighting is about 5-times what was approved .

Shepp inquired as to how long they have to fix these items. Martin stated they have one week left.

Weigand stated he does not like the City logo that was proposed to go above the gas pumps. He questioned why brick hasn't been installed. Martin stated that someone from the MDEQ had stated they couldn't put brick above the pumps. Weigand said there are gas stations all over that have them. Council agreed. City Council concurred that the original plan must be followed to put the brick above the pumps.

Hungerman asked Martin to continue with what he is doing with Valero.

Discussion of Parks and Recreation Dates and Events

**PR-006-08 FR-003-08**

The parks and recreation committee's proposed events were discussed. Council agreed the dates were ok as long as the center wasn't rented already. No fee would be charged if they are just using the bathrooms, but if there is inside use then the group will need to pay the cleaning fees.

Council approved the use of the Community Center for the Home and Garden Tour meetings on Monday evenings.

Discussion of Handling Request for Community Center Use

**FR-004-08 CC-007-08**

Martin asked council how they wanted to handle fundraiser's and charging a fee. Council agreed to charge a \$50 cleaning fee for renting the Community Center for a City fund raising event. Martin inquired how council wanted to handle approvals for Girl Scouts and such. Council agreed Martin could make this decision. They appreciated Mitch's event calendar and requested he submit this every quarter.

Discussion of Play Structures

Martin stated this will be on the Planning Commission's agenda.

Discussion of Tree Dedication

Martin stated they don't need to discuss this at this time.

Discussion of Millage Proposal Presentation

**E-005-08**

Council reviewed and discussed the millage proposal presentation which Shepp, Martin and Clippert have been working on. The presentation included charts for revenue sources broken down, cost vs. income, and fundbalance without the millage and with the millage. Bullet point explanations will need to go with each chart. Also provided was a spreadsheet showing expenses by department from 2003-2013. Martin would like to pull out a couple of these departments and show them i.e. police, fire, park and rec and benefits to show how we have been saving money. A sheet on benefits was provided showing in 2001/2002 the cost was \$119,533 and at 2007/2008 it was only at \$120,443. It also included benefit changes which have been made since 2000 to reduce costs and what the cost would be at if no benefit changes were made. The current savings was over \$150,000 per year. A millage rate comparison and wage survey with other communities was also provided and discussed. Martin explained how Sylvan Lake is staffed with only a minimum number of employees doing many different job duties, while all the other communities are fully staffed and paying much more. Sylvan Lake's millage rate is one of the lowest in Oakland County. The presentation will include a tax bill explanation highlighting

City Operating (CVT) which only accounts for 21% of the tax bill.

Council discussed all the documents. Martin will provide another budget including items which are new and required to be budgeted for but haven't been in the past, items which need ongoing maintenance but haven't been budgeted for and add in some capital projects. Martin would like to have all of council participating in this presentation. He will work on which part each will cover.

Wiegand asked if they could discuss the "time" for study sessions. Council agreed they could start at 5:00 p.m. It will be announced at the City Council meeting.

Adjournment

Moved by Wiegand seconded Shepp, to adjourn the study session.

Yes: All

No: None

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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Dennise Clippert, City Clerk