

**DRAFT - REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, June 6, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – NOVI CIVIC CENTER – 45175 TEN MILE ROAD**

Mayor Gatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt (absent, excused), Council Members Burke, Casey, Markham, Mutch, Wrobel,

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Auger, City Manager
Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

CM 16-06-63 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Mutch; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve the Agenda as presented.

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-63

**Yeas: Burke, Casey, Markham, Mutch,
Wrobel, Gatt**

Nays: None

Absent: Staudt

INTERVIEW FOR CITY ASSESSOR

1. Michael R. Lohmeier – City Assessor

Member Mutch thanked the Mayor and Mr. Lohmeier for coming and being considered for this position. He asked Mr. Lohmeier how long he has had his Level 4 Certification. Mr. Lohmeier said he received his Level 4 Certification in 2012. He noted he was the first Michigan Master Assessing Certified Officer to receive it under the 2 year State Tax Commission Program. He said he was the Valedictorian of the Class. Member Mutch mentioned one of the things that stood out on the list of previous jobs he has held to his current position he had served some time as a Judge with the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Mr. Lohmeier said he did and at the time he was working at the City of Auburn Hills as a Deputy Assessor in 2005. Governor Granholm asked if he would serve as the Appraiser Member on the Tribunal as one of the 7 Judges on the Vacancy Position which was for the rest of 2005 and 2006. Member Mutch said he was interested about the time he served and how did that inform the work he did as a City Assessor. Mr. Lohmeier said it gave him a very unique perspective on the way the Michigan Tax Tribunal works. He said it is not only a law utilizing agency, but the reality of how the appeals are handled; prior to serving there he would put the Tribunal on a podium about the quality of the work. He said when you get in there it is really about moving everything from the in box to the out box and as an Assessor recognizing that he was trying to make sure and give

them enough information to make it a smooth process. He said it also allowed him to learn the rules extremely well and one of things he has been doing the last 4 months is working with the House of Representatives in putting together Bill 5578 which goes before the House on June 7th to correct what people are calling the dark store theory or the big box loop hole. He said that experience on the Tribunal has not only made him a better Assessor, but also a contributor to his profession and helping redesign the Tribunal Act. Member Mutch was wondering what Legislation was trying to accomplish with Bill 5578. Mr. Lohmeier said the Tribunal had always been one to say they follow appraisal theories and practices just as Assessors and Appraisers that bring valuation appeals in front of them, if you look at the Bill it is very simply written that the Tribunal would have to write their opinions according to proper generally accepted appraisal principals, meaning they would have to determine highest use of the property and select something comparable. He said if you are appraising an operating functional store or any type of facility then you should look at it highest and best use. He said if the highest and best use and if it is continued use then look for comparable sales or valuation approaches that would mirror that. Mr. Lohmeier said in since 2009, the Tribunal has skipped over the highest and best use and decided to go some self-imposed deep restricted store sales, where you couldn't use these stores for the continued use of a big box retail environment; you would have to use it as a warehouse, etc. He said with Bill 5578 it would hold them accountable to writing their opinions to the appraisal process. Member Mutch said that would benefit Novi along with other communities and hopes that it does move forward. Member Mutch thanked Mr. Lohmeier again for putting his name up for consideration. Mr. Lohmeier said it was an honor.

Member Wrobel asked Mr. Lohmeier why he wanted to come to Novi. Mr. Lohmeier said there were two reasons; one is that he has a long career left and wants to spend it in an area where he thinks he will be challenged and enjoy the environment. He said it is a great community with great people. Mr. Lohmeier said his experience is commercial and industrial and personal property and he liked the fact that we have a lot of complex residential properties here. He said he believed it would be a challenge that would keep him interested the rest of his career. Member Wrobel asked Mr. Lohmeier what his experience was with land splits, and said we have quite a few site condos that come through and wondered what his background was with that type of property. Mr. Lohmeier said they process those like most Assessors process all land split combinations and exchanges in their office, they work directly with their City Planner for addresses and to make sure that they provide them with legal descriptions that they need and then they process them with Oakland County. Member Wrobel thanked Mr. Lohmeier.

Member Burke thanked Mr. Lohmeier for coming in and said he wondered if the drive from Clarkston to Novi would be a problem. He said he did the similar distance drive when he was going to Lansing every day and that he still does go to Lansing quite a bit. Mr. Lohmeier said it is a pretty easy commute and it should work out well. Member Burke asked how he could assure the accuracy of information regarding the transfers of property. Mr. Lohmeier said it was part of a class that he teaches with the State Tax Commission; data processing includes a lot of verification and qualification. He said it also goes back to the dark store problem. He said they do a lot of work before they

enter that information into their sales records as qualified sales. He said it was the same thing with rental properties, whether their rents cap rates, expense comparable, a lot of direct communication with Brokers, with property owners and leasing managers. He said they try to get as much information from people when they come to the counter. It really becomes creating a relationship with the professionals in the area to make sure we have the highest quality of information, as well as the stake holders and the residents in the area. He said they do subscribe to things like Costar, Apex, Real Comp, which helps insure some information for leads. He said that hitting the pavement and talking to people is the best way to assure that we get the best data.

Member Casey thanked Mr. Lohmeier for interviewing. She asked Mr. Lohmeier what he thought his first ninety days would look like. Mr. Lohmeier said he would learn the lay of the land; learn the personalities of the people that he'll be working on a team with. He said he would learn about the other department heads that he would be working and interacting with. He noted the former Assessor had a great reputation here in the city. Assessment practices have a great reputation; he is not one for fixing a tire that is not flat so he would want to see how the process has been doing. He said over time he would see how he could improve the department. Member Casey asked what he thought would be one of his greatest challenges is that faces the City as it relates to the various developmental opportunities or properties that we currently have. Mr. Lohmeier said what challenges most communities is Proposal A, this year our consumer price index was 1.6%, as long as properties are not transferring ownership or there is no development on a property, the taxable value is only going up 1.6%. He said that our costs and expenses are going up much greater their infrastructure cost might be going up 20% to 30% from what they were 6 years ago. He said our insurances are going up, so the biggest challenge that we have is trying to maintain the resources we have and spend them properly. He noted that he has always been due diligent, cognizant professional when it comes to managing the budget and making sure he doesn't spend on things that he doesn't need to. He said the taxable value and the cap that we have on those increases are going to be a big challenge.

Member Markham thanked the Mayor and Mr. Lohmeier for coming out. Member Markham said he had a very interesting and impressive resume and she looked forward to hearing from him. Member Markham asked in his current job what process innovations he brought to his current department. She wondered where he made improvements that he could apply here if he came. Mr. Lohmeier said what he brought that the other Assessor didn't have was that he had worked in private practice, he has a MAI and SAR Designation from the Appraisal Institute, he is a Certified General Real Estate Appraiser Licensed in the State of Michigan and also dually Designated with the American Society of Appraisers. He said he has a lot of private valuation experience that he brought in. He mentioned when they had a lot of appeals, the City of Auburn Hills had everything under appeal at one time. He said they did a lot of those appraisals in house and did their own settlement conferences, their own negotiations because when you are negotiating value you want to maintain uniformity moving forward. He said he was always trained that you don't settle on cost or expense that you settle on value. He said if the value is wrong then there is a basis for settlement, you don't just

settle to avoid going to Lansing. He said he brought a big strength that he could talk the talk with the other Appraisers and often they would get other Appraisers that did the Petitioners Appraisal in the room and we would just talk about value and what they used for comps and cap rates, etc. He said that helped settled a lot of cases. He said one of the things he would bring to the City of Novi is his strong valuation background and his sense of professionalism.

Mayor Gatt wanted to thank Mr. Lohmeier on behalf of everyone. He said if Mr. Lohmeier noticed he was the only one there to interview and that we had another strong candidate that dropped out just prior to this part of the process. Mayor Gatt asked Mr. Lohmeier to provide an example of when his ethics were tested. Mr. Lohmeier said he was not sure if it was a challenge of ethics or a challenge of how much work he thought would be involved. He said he really believed when you put an opinion out with your name on it you better believe everything that goes in that opinion. He said he used to write his own opinions. He said they did have clerks and law students that would assist some of the members there, but he still believed that in his own work that he needed to write everything that had his name on it. He said he could have probably been more productive if he relied on 6 or 7 different law students to sit in on the hearings and draft opinions for him where he could just sign off on them. He said that it was really to his benefit to understand what he was writing an opinion about. He said he doesn't know if that would be considered as a challenge on his ethics, or more of a challenge of what his due diligence for what he wanted to commit his name to. Mr. Lohmeier mentioned that there are two things that you sell in his profession and that would be time and integrity. He said if you lose your integrity nobody wants your time, so he tries to maintain integrity to the highest level. Mayor Gatt wanted an example of when Mr. Lohmeier thought his patience was being tested. Mr. Lohmeier said patience gets tested from the moment you wake up in the morning and answered by saying he was a pretty calm and easy going person. He said he understands that people come from a lot of different perspectives and when they call us on the phone we are not the person they wanted to call, when they come to the counter it is usually because there are nine other things going on that day. He said you have to approach people different ways, you have to be sensitive with what you are faced with really isn't who the person is. He said he has met a lot of tax agents and tax payers over the appeal process and it's a business.

CM 16-06-64 Moved by Burke, seconded by Casey; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve the hiring of Michael R. Lohmeier as the City Assessor and to instruct the City Attorney and Mayor to negotiate an employment agreement with him. This appointment is conditioned upon approval of the contract by Council at the June 27th meeting.

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-64

**Yeas: Casey, Markham, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt,
Burke
Nays: None
Absent: Staudt**

INTERVIEW FOR CITY CLERK

2. Cortney Hanson – City Clerk

Member Wrobel mentioned that Ms. Hanson has worked under a great City Clerk and said she has learned a lot. He asked what she would take away from that time period of working with Maryanne. Cortney replied that he was absolutely correct and she owes a great deal of her career to Maryanne. She said Maryanne has taught her a lot of information, not just the basics, but how to deal with people and how to treat people in order to run a successful Clerk's Office. Member Wrobel said that down the road the role of the City Clerk is going to change. He wondered where the change would be coming from in the next 10 years. Cortney said she hopes the changes will come along election laws that may help the voters such as no reason absentee which would have a huge impact on how we run elections. She added there is also potential change for FOIA laws and any ordinances that may come or go.

Member Burke said Member Wrobel was right and she did have some big shoes to fill, but he thinks that they have all worked with her quite some time and Council is very comfortable with her. He wondered what her greatest achievement was while she has been the Deputy Clerk. Ms. Hanson said that her greatest achievement, although it may seem small, was the Do Not Knock registry. She said she had seen in other communities and thought it would benefit Novi so she brought it forward to the Ordinance Review Committee which was supported. She said that it has been up and running since February and as of today there are over 1,100 homes on the registry and it is growing daily. She said she has had the opportunity to talk to the residents and they appreciate the registry and she was happy to have that impact and felt it was a great achievement for her. Member Burke wondered what the next level above her level would be in which Ms. Hanson replied that it would be a Master Municipal Clerk. She said currently she is a Certified Municipal Clerk. He wondered what her time line was on the next level. Ms. Hanson replied that she is about 1/3 of the way through the process. Ms. Hanson said she has been working hard this year so she should be about the half-way point by the end of the year. She thought reasonably she could reach the Master Municipal Clerk level in three-years.

Member Casey wondered what her biggest challenge would be stepping into the role of City Clerk. Ms. Hanson said her biggest challenge would be maintaining what Maryanne has put into place. She said she has done a phenomenal job putting out what the Clerk's should be doing. She said she will need to maintain the office on a day to day basis, keeping those relationships and try to make minor improvements. Although she felt the Clerk's Office didn't need major improvements, there is always room for some improvement along the way. Member Casey agreed and said Maryanne was excellent, but it is good for new eyes to come in and try things a different way. Member Casey said she didn't have any other questions, and mentioned she and others have had the pleasure of working with her so she was well aware of her skills and capabilities. Member Casey thanked Ms. Hanson for stepping forward.

Member Markham thanked the Mayor and said she was glad Ms. Hanson was applying for the job. Member Markham said she is interested in voter participation and said she had a desire for the absentee ballot registration made to be more open. She wondered if Ms. Hanson had any other ideas to encouraging participation, via voter registration or access to polls. Ms. Hanson replied that there are actually quite a few things that she would love to see and mentioned they try to be active and they just had a voter registration at the High School. She added they also have one scheduled in two weeks at one of the Senior Facilities. She said she sent a mailer out to all of residents over the age of 60 who qualify to vote by absentee ballot. They sent out a mailing to over 6,000 voters to get the word out that they have the option to vote by absentee ballot and make sure they know they have that option. Ms. Hanson said just that day they received over 500 responses which exceeded her expectations. Member Markham thanked Ms. Hanson for thinking ahead and she appreciated that.

Member Mutch thanked Ms. Hanson for stepping forward to take on this responsibility and also said that Maryanne left big expectations. Member Mutch said he really appreciated the integrity and independence of the Clerk's Office which Maryanne had maintained with such a high standard over the years. He said his expectation for anyone who would fill that position would be that they do the same. He also mentioned the City was fortunate to have someone who was willing to work their way up through the Clerk's Office. He said he had a conversation with Cortney and she said she has done just about every job in the Clerk's Office which he thought was great experience. He said they could have advertised for this position and had others apply with more years' experience, but he felt they wouldn't have the range of experience that Ms. Hanson has. Member Mutch asked in her viewpoint, after the elections process, what she thought was the most important duty of the Clerk's Office. Ms. Hanson replied saying the Clerk's Office is first point of contact for people. It is important to be familiar with what the other departments do so they can get people where they need to go and ensure they feel valued and recognized. She said on a more specific note they take care of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and receive anywhere from 10 to 20 a month. She said they also offer passport services which have become substantial, from processing around 200 a year to presently processing over 1,000 in a year. Passports have become a vital service the Clerk's Office provides the residents. Member Mutch said Council really appreciates the fact that when Maryanne is out of the office, the process is seamless and the office keeps humming along. He said one of the things Maryanne has been good at is making sure there was continuity of operation while she was out of the office. He wondered what Ms. Hanson would do to make sure the same level of service continues on a daily basis. Ms. Hanson said she believed that starts from the top down in a situation like that, simple things like having your Out of Office on letting people know that if she couldn't respond there will be someone that can. The Clerk's Office knows if someone calls with a question or emails that it needs to be taken care of promptly. She said they value themselves on being able to provide those answers as quickly and efficiently as possible. She said Maryanne made sure the office understood that and she would keep that moving forward. Member Mutch mentioned that Maryanne has always spoke highly of her and said she couldn't get a better endorsement than that. He thanked her again for stepping forward and that she

was willing to take on this responsibility. Member Mutch said he looked forward to providing the opportunity for her to do that.

Mayor Gatt commented that Ms. Hanson knows that City Council appoints three people and the City Clerk is one of those. He asked Ms. Hanson, assuming she was appointed, to describe her relationship with the City Manager. Ms. Hanson replied saying the City Clerk reports to City Council, but it would be vital to keep a good working relationship with the City Manager to keep that collaboration open. Mayor Gatt asked what the plans are for a Deputy Clerk and wondered if they would be hiring from within. Ms. Hanson said a Deputy Clerk is vital to the office with an upcoming Presidential Election cycle, the influx of passport applications, and processing permit applications, that we will be looking to fill that position from the outside.

CM 16-06-65 Moved by Burke, seconded by Markham; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve the hiring of Cortney Hanson as the City Clerk and to instruct the City Attorney and Mayor to negotiate an employment agreement with her. This appointment is conditioned upon approval of the contract by Council at the June 27th meeting.

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-65

**Yeas: Markham, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt
Burke, Casey**

Nays: None

Absent: Staudt

INTERVIEWS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. David Greco – Planning Commission

David Greco he is currently a member of the Planning Commission and has been a resident of Novi since 2003 and believes he has been on the Planning Commission a few terms. He said he would like to remain on the Planning Commission and felt they play a very important role in the City. He said his experience of both sitting on the Planning Commission, living in Novi for several years and being a lawyer that practices in the area of employment and municipal law and he believes he would be a good fit and would like to continue.

Member Burke thanked Mr. Greco for re-applying and he said he knows what he has done on the Planning Commission and his is familiar with his past and ethics. He said Mr. Greco has his support.

Member Casey said she also has had the opportunity to interview Mr. Greco a couple of times over the years. She said she wanted some insight on what he thought were some

of the City's challenges we face in the next 5 years or so. He replied saying he thought it would be density and that is being reviewed with the new Master Plan Review. He said the review for the Master Plan was critical to decide what the City should do.

Member Markham thanked Mr. Greco for wanting to commit to being on the Planning Commission another 3 years. She asked Mr. Greco about traffic and wondered if he has reviewed that latest proposal from the Regional Transit Authority and what solutions he supports to alleviate congestion along Novi Road, Grand River and Twelve Mile? Mr. Greco said he has not studied the Regional Transit Authority but acknowledged it is an issue out there. He said it was not just an issue that involves Novi, but the community as a whole. He said if we could have a system that provides a benefit to individuals that makes them more mobile, that maybe gets them out of cars it would be good. Novi is already doing Walkable Novi in order to get people out of cars, walking and on bikes. He said as far as mobility on Grand River we have to take into account what is there, what we are looking for the future and what is going to be available because the infrastructure which we don't have total control over on Grand River is a big issue as regard to that. He said he is from New York where they had a regional transit system so he is in favor of that, but we are in a different community. Member Markham said there will be talk about this in the next few months because it is on the ballot. She said we need to know how this will work for us because we will not be able necessary be able to determine our own, we are part of a bigger plan. It will either rise or fall with all of the local communities. Member Markham said she is grateful for his service.

Member Mutch thanked Mr. Greco for being able to serve again. He said he appreciated Mr. Greco taking the time out of his busy schedule to volunteer. He said he was at a recent Planning Commission meeting where they were getting public input on the Master Plan and one of the issues he raised was getting developments in with higher density. He wondered where in the City he thinks it should be appropriate for that type of development to be located. Mr. Greco said higher density with smaller lots seemed to be what the market is dictating. Mr. Greco said where we have retail near the mall or more to the west, we cannot ignore the fact that it looks like the market is dictating what people want. We have set aside certain areas such as the southwest quadrant, and on the western section of Novi where we have indicated we wanted a certain type of residential, and there are certain things that need to be done or are done with proposals. Some areas in Novi near the mall or Suburban Collection Showplace, they are commercial areas, and it wouldn't be attractive to homes on a one acre lot. He said maybe we need to rezone or accept the plans that are there, but carefully look at them because some may not make sense. Member Mutch said that part of the discussion is that if the Planning Commission felt there is an unmet need that it is incumbent on the Planning Commission to be proactive to decide where the appropriate places in the City for that to occur. He said he doesn't want it to seem like we are reacting to development proposals without having some guidance dictating where they should go.

Member Wrobel thanked Mr. Greco for stepping forward, and said he knows the work that is involved in the Planning Commission. He said he had no questions and that he has his full support.

Mayor Gatt mentioned that in the last year or so several issues have been raised at the table and some members are against it, but the majority have been for it. He said he would ask Mr. Greco and the Planning Commission to keep doing their job and that he gave him his full support.

2. David Baratta – Planning Commission

Mr. Baratta thanked the Mayor and Council and said he had been a resident since 2002. He said he has been on the Planning Commission for a least 2 ½ terms. He has been in the real estate business, his said he is also an attorney; he was a V.P. of real estate at a Builders Square, a home improvement chain. V.P. of real estate and construction of La-Z-Boy, and currently is V.P. of real estate construction design for Learning Care Group. He noted that Novi is a great city and he has enjoyed being on the Planning Commission.

Member Casey asked Mr. Baratta what were the biggest challenges that Novi will be facing in the next 5 years. Mr. Baratta said he thinks Novi is transitioning from a high growth market to a market that is growing, but it is starting to become more mature. He said we have areas that are in the growth stage and some that are a little older. The older areas will need to be remodeled to be successful places for people to live and to work.

Member Markham mentioned that we have had a couple of big developments that the Mayor alluded to that recently changed the face of parts of Novi, especially at Ten Mile and Beck. She said that had an effect on the wildlife habitat. She wondered if the Planning Commission considers the natural features uniqueness with natural beauty and good development. Mr. Baratta said he lives in Island Lake and abuts a wetland by a wooded area and he said they moved there for the trees. He said they have to look at the Master Plan which tells you what you can and cannot do. He said he personally thought we should maintain as much as that natural foliage that we possibly can. Member Markham said it is always a hard balance and she appreciated his thoughtfulness.

Member Mutch thanked Mr. Baratta for stepping forward again. He said he had an opportunity to serve on the Walkable Novi Committee and he has always appreciated his insights that he had provided in that forum. Member Mutch said he comes to the Planning Commission with an interesting background. He wondered what Mr. Baratta's perspective was on the changing of the commercial and retail development that will impact what Novi will look like in 10 to 20 years down the road. Mr. Baratta said he thinks they will see a concentration of retail and other development, and he felt they will have to do that in order to maintain the health of that retail. He said retail historically has been spread out and you don't get that concentration. He felt with having more

concentration it would create a healthier retail environment. Member Mutch said he looked forward to seeing some of those ideas being reflected in the Master Plan update.

Member Wrobel also thanked Mr. Baratta for stepping forward again and said he had the skill set that was needed to be on the Planning Commission and said he has his full support.

Member Burke said he applauded Mr. Baratta's service up to this point and he mentioned with the previous applicant that he follows the meeting minutes and read his input to hear what he had to say when those projects came through and appreciated his dedication to making sure that the developers follow through on certain demands. He appreciated that. Member Burke said he supports Mr. Baratta in his reappointment.

Mayor Gatt said he had no questions and gave his full support for Mr. Baratta.

3. Charles A. Staab – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Mr. Staab said he has lived in Novi since the 1980's and raised three children here. He said he has been on the Parks and Recreation & Cultural Services Commission for many years. He mentioned he didn't think his work was completed yet and that Novi continues to need more adequate parkland and identify properties in that arena. He also mentioned we need to keep our parks clean and the best in class. He believed our parks are a major attraction for development, and for those that are residing here with our many facilities and services.

Member Markham said she met Mr. Staab right after she moved here and she appreciates all the service he has brought to the community over the years. She said that Mr. Staab talked about how he is interested in acquiring the parkland and doing more with the parkland and wondered what he would do with the David Barr property. He said that property is a jewel that we have been able to acquire as we proceed down the road he said he thinks we need to find funds to continually upgrade it. He said we need to look at the vision of having that available for an artist in training or resident. Member Markham thanked him very much.

Member Mutch thanked Mr. Staab and said he is well acquainted with his service to the City, not only on the Commission, but with all of the other activities that he is involved with and that was much appreciated. Member Mutch wondered what the City's most pressing need is currently that we need to address. Mr. Staab said we need to be continually vigilant for opportunities for land acquisition at reasonable pricing and take advantage of it through grants and different means of financing. Member Mutch said that Mr. Staab had a lot of history on the Commission and that it is important to have that knowledge and to also have a vision of the future and he appreciated that.

Member Wrobel also thanked Mr. Staab for coming forward again and mentioned that Mr. Staab has seen a lot of changes with all of the years he has served on the Commission. Member Wrobel wondered what City Council could do to help assist the

Commission to help them provide the best services to the residents. Mr. Staab said to continually allocate proper funding for capital improvements which they have done in the past so we allow ourselves to maintain our pristine parks and make world class facilities to attract businesses and residents to our community.

Member Burke said that he has sat together on the Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission and recently they sat on the Park Foundation together. He said he was familiar with his work and the term artist and residents relative to the David Barr property. Member Burke wondered what the number one project that he would like to accomplish before he was done with the Parks would be. Mr. Staab said his number one is ITC Community Sports Park. He said there is still opportunity out there to make it better. Member Burke thanked Mr. Staab for all his good work.

Member Casey thanked Mr. Staab for coming forward again and said he has her full support.

Mayor Gatt said that Mr. Staab has been here for a long time and he has done wonders. He agreed with Mr. Staab that his job is not done yet and he had his full support.

4. Karen Katinas – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Ms. Katinas said she has been a sixteen year resident of Novi, originally from the East Coast, and she has 3 daughters ranging from elementary school to high school age. She said they have been involved with many areas of the parks and recreation, whether it is going to cultural events, Spring Into Novi, and involved in coaching through Parks and Recreation. They enjoy all of the Parks, especially Power Park because they live close by. She said she spent the last few years overseas in China because of her husband's job. There were not a lot of sports available in that part of China. She said they really appreciate coming back to the open spaces and she would like to get back into Novi.

Member Mutch thanked Ms. Katinas for stepping forward and being willing to volunteer and serve the City. He mentioned it sounded like she had quite a bit of knowledge about our park system. He wondered what she would like to accomplish if she were on a three-year term. Ms. Katinas said she has seen the parks change over time. She said that ITC is a great park, but there is room to develop there. She also mentioned Wild Life Woods is a great area and that the middle school uses it for softball and cross country. It is a great piece of land, but there really isn't anything in that park and said she would like to see that park developed. Ms. Katinas said she has heard there has been a drop in some of the activities for the younger children. She said having children in different age groups she hears from other parents what the children are interested in and can bring that to information to see if we can make the program better. Member Mutch said she had some great ideas.

Member Wrobel thanked Ms. Katinas for coming forward and it was nice to see new people that are interested. He said she mentioned that had been involved as a coach and programs with her family, and he wondered what would be the one thing that the department needs to provide its residents that we don't provide now. She said she thinks the marketing is very good and she knows they have a survey at the end which she said she didn't know how many we receive back. She said she thought we needed a little bit more outreach and more development of the parks. The playscapes are great, although she thought the fields could use a little work.

Member Burke thanked Ms. Katinas for submitting her application, based on what they see so far they would certainly like to see her involved in the City in some capacity if it wasn't Parks and Recreation, he wanted to know if there was anything else she would consider. She said she would have to think on that. Member Burke wondered what she thought would be the best thing that she could bring to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission. She responded by saying some of her experience she has working in the community, such as planning events when she was working as a financial planner, drawing people in with the marketing. She said she was on the parent's organization while they were in China which was at an international school and they had children from all over the world. She said they were able to bring all of the cultures together under one parent organization. She mentioned that Novi is very diverse and she felt she could make sure we were meeting the needs of all of the residents.

Member Casey thanked Ms. Katinas for stepping forward. Member Casey asked Ms. Katinas if she had been hearing from other parents or children that we were not offering certain programs. She replied that it wasn't about programs that we didn't offer, but more so about the programs that were not as robust as they were 5 years ago, such as girl's softball which has dropped considerably. She said she is interested in building the programs back up that had dropped off in enrollment. Member Casey thanked Ms. Katinas again for stepping forward.

Member Markham thanked Ms. Katinas for coming forward and volunteering. She wondered about the cultural arts and how important she thought they were to the community and what she thought the Parks and Recreation role was in that. Ms. Katinas said she thought it was very important and said that the Parks and Cultural Services go hand and hand. She said a lot of events can be held at the parks and she commented that the City does display art from various artists or hold we could hold classes for any age group.

Mayor Gatt thanked Ms. Katinas for coming out.

5. Douglas Bauss – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Mr. Bauss was not present.

6. Shelley Thomopoulos – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Ms. Thomopoulos said she is a Novi resident for fifteen years on South Lake Drive between Lakeshore and Pavilion Park. She said she is interested in giving back to the community, and mentioned she is very active walking her dogs and hiking the parks. She said she likes to visit all of the parks in the City. She said she thought the parks were a huge asset of the City and she would like to give back and support the parks for the community.

Member Wrobel thanked Ms. Thomopoulos for stepping forward. He wondered what program the City did not offer currently that she would like to see instituted. Ms. Thomopoulos said that she talked about this last year when she interviewed and she thought she read something in the Master Plan. She said there was input from the residents if they like to see regarding an off-weather indoor recreation facility. She read in the Master Plan that the City would investigate with the adjacent communities for a regional indoor facility which she said would be a great way to approach it.

Member Burke thanked Ms. Thomopoulos for applying for the commission. He asked her what she would bring to the commission that might not be there right now. She said her concerns right now are the maintenance of the parks and she is not someone who is participating in the sports, she is a passive user of the parks. She said what she is seeing is that some of the trails and trees are not being maintained which is an area she is interested in. She said she is very concerned about the phragmites invasion in the protected wetlands and she thought they were not protected anymore because of the phragmites species. She believe it has resulted in coyotes going into residents yards that because there is not a protected environment anymore to supply the wildlife. She said she would bring an emphasis to the parks on that issue.

Member Casey thanked Ms. Thomopoulos for stepping forward again this year and she remembered their conversation well. Member Casey said she believed last year that Ms. Thomopoulos said she was not interested in serving on any other Board or Commission last year and asked if that was the same this year. Member Casey asked that if she were open to others, if there were another opportunity for the City to give her a place to serve the community differently. Ms. Thomopoulos thanked Member Casey for thinking of her that way and said it could possibly be a discussion. Her interaction was primarily through the parks so she said she feels that passion. She said she is not as familiar as to what the other Boards and Commissions do so she said she would leave that open.

Member Markham thanked Ms. Thomopoulos for coming out and volunteering and said she had a very interesting background. She said it was interesting to her that Ms. Thomopoulos lived on the north end of the City and she wondered if there was anything specific to that part of the City that she and her neighbors talk about saying they would like to see in the north end. Ms. Thomopoulos said the Pavilion Shore Park has become a community gathering place where as in the past you didn't see people spending a lot of time there because the shoreline was not safe. She said she felt Pavilion Shore Park was a huge asset to the north end of the City.

Member Mutch thanked Ms. Thomopoulos for coming out and volunteering to serve in this position. He asked if she were appointed to serve on the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission what would she like to see accomplished during her 3-year term on the Commission. She said first she would be concerned about maintenance of the environmental aspects of the parks, the wildlife and wetlands, trees and the trails. The services the City already provides need to be maintained. She said we need to consider what input we have from the residents, so if that indoor recreation facility is something they are telling us they would like to see, then that would be something to pursue. She said she has another idea about the young children's mountain bike trail, she mentioned that people don't usually bring their bikes. She said maybe we could have bikes for adults and children at the park so they could experience that. Member Mutch said that was interesting and said she appreciated her willingness to volunteer and giving thought to the needs of our parks system.

Mayor Gatt also thanked Ms. Thomopoulos for coming out and volunteering. He said it is people like her that make Novi a great City.

7. Harold "Butch" Wingfield - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Mr. Wingfield thanked everyone for having him there that evening and said he has lived in Novi for twenty-three years, and spent eighteen years on the Commission. He said while driving back from Lansing this afternoon he decided to withdrawal his application. He said it has been a pleasure to serve on the Commission for eighteen years, but he decided to pass the torch to some new people that may be interested. Mayor Gatt thanked him for all his service to Novi.

8. Robert J. Giacometti – Planning Commission

Mr. Giacometti said he has had the privilege to work with all of Council on sub-committees or in the last 3 years as a Planning Commissioner. He said he chose to make Novi his home in 2008 and has been happy ever since. He said he currently works at the Wayne County Airport Authority in Financial Planning and Analysis. He said he thought the value that he has added to the Planning Commission would be his experience in government and capital planning.

Member Burke thanked Mr. Giacometti for submitting an application for re-appointment and he mentioned to the other Planning Commission applicants he has seen his work and he has read the notes and follow him. He appreciated his service and gave him his support.

Member Casey asked Mr. Giacometti what he thought the biggest challenges would be in the next 5 years or so. Mr. Giacometti said infrastructure and redevelopment; we are running out of space to develop. He noted Novi is a great community and developers want to develop here and the next step is redeveloping property that is currently that is underutilized, but still attractive. Member Casey thanked him for stepping forward again.

Member Markham asked Mr. Giacometti what he thought the Regional Transport Authority Proposal and what did he think could be done to alleviate the congestion in the Mall area. He said he is familiar with it and he said the Commission is also working on a thoroughfare plan for Grand River. He said he thought between what the City will do and what the region will do for transportation should be matched. He believed there is definitely a need for transportation and he thinks the nuance is that the need is primarily from local businesses to get members of the community areas such as the Showplace or the mall or as an employee to an area hotel. He felt transportation was not generally needed by most citizens, but he thinks we need to accommodate the businesses along the thoroughfare and give it some serious consideration. Member Markham said it will be interesting how this will transpire this fall and thanked Mr. Giacometti.

Member Mutch thanked Mr. Giacometti for being willing to serve again. Member Mutch said he reads the minutes and catches some of the Planning Commission meetings. He appreciates the input that he provides to the process and he thinks it is very helpful. He also mentioned sometimes he brings up points that haven't necessarily been part of the discussion and he said he thinks it helps guide the conversation. Member Mutch said that going through some of the projects he thought Mr. Giacometti felt a little frustrated that as a Planning Commissioner he didn't always have the right set of tools to get the outcome that they would like to see from a project and wondered if he could address that aspect of it. Member Mutch wondered if there were areas in some of our ordinances or the planning process that he felt could do a better job or have a better outcome to create a more win-win situations. Mr. Giacometti replied saying that was what he learned in his first term being a Planning Commissioner that he would always seek the win-win scenario. He said the City has various tools to shape the way the community looks and he thinks those tools are satisfactory. Member Mutch said he looked forward to Mr. Giacometti serve another term.

Member Wrobel said he thanked Mr. Giacometti for coming forward again and he had no questions for him at this time.

Mayor Gatt thanked Mr. Giacometti for his job on the Planning Commission and stepping forward to serve another term. Mayor Gatt said he had his full support.

PUBLIC HEARING - None

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclamation in recognition of Maryanne Cornelius for years of service

Mayor Gatt presented the Proclamation to City Clerk, Maryanne Cornelius for her sixteen years of service.

Maryanne Cornelius said she was honored to have the opportunity to serve the City of Novi and the Novi residents. She said that it has been a great experience to be the City Clerk. She commented that she has been truly blessed to work with such wonderful colleagues, and last but not least, with the best team ever.

REPORTS:

1. MANAGER/STAFF – None
2. ATTORNEY – None

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Phil Thompson, Midway Dr. in Dunbarton Pines voiced his concern with the inadequate system for our Fire Department. He said he has done some research and found that there are no part time police officers in Novi, which he is thankful for, but the majority of the Fire Department is on call and responds from their homes. He thanked the City for the 24 hour police protection. He said Fire Station #4 is the station closest to his home and that station is closed on nights and weekends. He wondered if that may be the reason that two homes burned in January. He said that one fire had occurred just two streets away from Fire Station #4 and it was closed at that time. He said the first fire engine arrived 8 minutes after the 911 call came in, however it took 35 minutes for enough firefighters to show up to fully man the engine to help them at that time. This is troubling considering the abundance of tax income that Novi enjoys and that other cities of similar size such as Livonia and Sterling Heights have a 24 hour Fire Department. He wondered how the City expects to attract and retain quality businesses and residents if we do not provide a basic and vital service as 24 hour fire protection. The Preamble of the United States Constitution has two requirements for government; one is to preserve and protect individual liberty, the other one is to provide for the common defense. He felt the City has an obligation to provide 24 hour police and fire protection. Novi is a great City, let's make it better.

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:

CM 16-06-66 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Burke; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approve Minutes of:
 1. May 23, 2016 – Regular meeting
- B. Approval to purchase a tax-foreclosed property from Oakland County, under Act 123 of 1999, parcel number 50-22-11-177-042, located in the City of Novi Section 11, for the amount of \$3,731.04 plus additional fees, charges, or other costs as determined by the County and as required by law for the property.

- C. Approval of two Quit Claim Deeds for parcels located on the south side of Twelve Mile Road, west of Meadowbrook Road to dedicate the 90-foot master planned right-of-way along Twelve Mile Road to the Road Commission for Oakland County (parcels 22-14-200-025 and 22-14-200-031, formerly 22-14-200-026).
- D. Acceptance of two pathway easements as a donation from Novi Ten Associates, LLC in connection with the Ridgeview Villas of Novi development for two portions of pathway within the development.
- E. Approval to award an amendment to the engineering services agreement with URS Corporation for additional design engineering services for the 2016 Neighborhood Road Program in the amount of \$62,740.
- F. Approval to award an amendment to the engineering services agreement with OHM Advisors for construction engineering services for Karim Boulevard Reconstruction project in the amount of \$87,131.
- G. Approval to award an amendment to the engineering services agreement with URS Corporation for construction engineering services for the 2016 Neighborhood Road Program—Contract 1 (Concrete) in the amount of \$60,724.
- H. Approval of a Municipal Vector Dumping and Removal Agreement with the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner to allow the ability to unload sanitary sewage collected by the City's vector equipment.
- I. Approval of the final payment to Pavex Corporation for the 2014 Neighborhood Road Program—Contract 1 (Haverhill Farms) in the amount of \$25,326.13, plus interest earned on retainage.
- J. Approval of the final payment to Pavex Corporation for the Town Center Drive Reconstruction—Phase 1 project in the amount of \$216.78, plus interest earned on retainage.
- K. Approval of Resolution to close Ten Mile Road from the Civic Center to Taft Road for the Festival of Chariots from 11:30am to 12:30pm on Sunday, July 24, 2016.
- L. Approval to award the Ice Arena rubber flooring replacement project to City Carpet and Flooring, Inc., the low bidder, in the amount of \$18,650 and both Alternate 1 and 2 for \$11,350.
- M. Approval of the request of Learning Care Academy (aka Everbrook Academy), JSP15-57, for a revised Planned Suburban Low-Rise (PSLR) Overlay Development Agreement and revised Concept Plan. The subject property is 4.15 acres of vacant land located on the west side of Beck Road, north of Eleven Mile Road, in Section 17. The applicant is proposing a child care facility to serve up to 138 children.

- N. Adoption of Resolution seeking reimbursement from Oakland County for expenses associated with the City of Novi's annual Mosquito Control Program.
- O. Approval of Claims and Accounts – Warrant No. 965

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-66

**Yeas: Markham, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt ,
Burke, Casey**
Nays: None
Absent: Staudt

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Adoption of Resolution authorizing cost participation under a Federal Surface Transportation Program grant, and approval of a cost share agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation (with an estimated allocation of \$689,300 paid by Federal grant funds and \$1,032,900 to be paid by the City of Novi) for the Novi Road (12 Mile to 13 Mile) Rehabilitation project.

City Manager Auger said this has been before City Council a couple of times, and now it is ready to pull the trigger and get it built in this construction season. He said City staff has worked to leverage the \$300,000 plus from the road funds and is also using funds from our drainage funds to bring in the federal funds to be supervised by MDOT. He said it is a different project than we have ever done. It is actually removing part of the center turn lane where it is not needed along Twelve Mile Road; there is a cemetery, wetlands, and some development done. He said right now it is 5 lanes and you can see a lot of gravel in the middle of those. He said the middle lane is an additional lane that has to be maintained during the winter. He noted that DPS has been very creative and came up with a swale there that will create and treat the water. He believed it would be better for the environment. Most people don't realize what a huge job it is getting the water off the road because the water damages the road, and we put that water and oil right into the storm drain system without any treatment. He said here we will try to surface treat it with natural habitat, give it a better obeisance as you drive down that road to soften the look a little bit. He said staff did a good job of being creative and he knew when it came before Council before there was some talk about just curbing the islands. He said curbing the islands would add significant cost to all of the projects and he thought we could get the same effect with what is proposed right now. He said tonight was the night to get the state and federal funding, we have to obligate it this construction season to get that funding.

Member Wrobel thanked the Mayor and said they had been talking about this for a while and the bottom line is that this piece of road needs to be fixed now. He said initially he looked at this and he was hoping for a little more scenic piece of road, but based on what he saw from the City Manager, he said he could live with the idea of looking at new ways to treat the water coming off the roads and make it more eco-friendly. He said if we make any changes on this now, we would have to start at square

one again and we could lose that close to \$700,000 to do this road. He said that is a lot of money and based upon that and the need to get it done now.

CM 16-06-67 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Burke; MOTION FAILED: 3-3

To approve a resolution authorizing cost participation under a Federal Surface Transportation Program grant, and approval of a cost share agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation (with an estimated allocation of \$689,300 paid by Federal grant funds and \$1,032,900 to be paid by the City of Novi) for the Novi Road (12 Mile to 13 Mile) Rehabilitation project.

Member Mutch mentioned to City Engineer, Rob Hayes that Council was previously presented an agenda item in September 2015. He said Council was presented the engineering portion of this project which was to proceed with the design so we could reach the construction stage. Member Mutch wondered what was previously presented to what is going to be constructed under this proposal were there any significant changes made to that or is this essentially the same. Mr. Hayes responded by saying this project was originally scoped a resurfacing project with some deep base repairs. He said there was going to be milling and overlay over the existing section that was out there. Mr. Hays said that following the meeting in September based on Councils guidance they went ahead and looked at the center swale concept to handle some of the storm water to make it more aesthetically pleasing and that is how we came up with the current design concept. Member Mutch said he thought they have different recollections of the original proposal. He said he thought when they saw the initial project that it did have a center swale concept. Mr. Hayes said originally what was budgeted for was a simple resurfacing. Mr. Hayes said the last time they talked about the project they did have the swale concept in front of Council. Member Mutch said he wanted to be clear on that, because at the time he did raise concerns. Member Mutch asked if that design, the basic parameters of that design are to repave most of the existing roadway and have a six foot swale down the middle of what would currently be the center turn lane. Mr. Hayes said that was correct, with a gutter pan within that sixteen foot swath that currently takes up the center lane. Member Mutch said one of the concerns he had at that time was how they were being addressed. The idea of having a center ditch with the center turn lane is, in winter conditions when obviously the roadway is covered with snow and that swale may not be immediately obvious to drivers and he wondered how we were addressing that issue. Mr. Hayes replied saying our field crews would have to put in some markers so that we know and drivers know where the limits of the swale are and also assists our plow drivers they will be pushing snow from the inside out and so there will be now snow deposited inside the swale. Member Mutch asked if we anticipated that being a single line of markers or if that going to be on the edges of that swale area. Mr. Hayes said that will be on the both edges of the swale, a double line of markers. Member Mutch said when asked previously that the design of swale, there was no room to incorporate trees and that is just how it was designed because the potential of road hazard. Mr. Hayes said there are none currently planned, the landscape plan is in final design which are primarily low

profile bushes and grasses. Mr. Hayes said they are still trying to figure out with our Forrester as well as with our Landscaping Consultant whether there is any variety of trees that would be safe. Member Mutch said the City Manager touched on this being a different concept that we are doing here and wondered if this is something that they would be doing across different locations in the City. Member Mutch wondered if they would be looking in the future at areas with no need for the center turn lane or maybe down the road look at Beck Road widening we would have this design in place. Mr. Hayes said that is always possible. He said ideally they would like a raised median rather than a traditional boulevard, but in this case there wasn't a budget available. He also mentioned this would be a good test case for us to see how well it works and it is quite possible we could use it elsewhere in the City. Member Mutch confirmed with Mr. Hayes that was the key consideration was that there wasn't a budget in place to finance the kind of project they were looking at with curbs and more of a landscape island effect. Mr. Hayes said they would prefer a more depressed median, taking that the next step further is for safety is ideal. He said they have seen the curbed depressed median concept at a couple locations in the state, personally they visited the sites and our colleagues said they were great. Member Mutch said he has a real problem with this and that it originally came to Council in September and he was the most vocal about it. He said other Council Members expressed interest in seeing something different than the swale concept. He said for a number of reasons, he has concerns of the safety of the design and said he believed the markers would help in winter conditions, but he felt it would not stop someone whose car goes into a slide towards that swale. He said they will end up in that ditch. He also mentioned he didn't think it would be attractive, he said he believed Council wanted to see it curbed. He said he personally would have preferred something that would accommodate some street trees as well and that would provide a buffer. He wasn't expecting initially or on the return visit to see something that wouldn't accommodate that. He said the design, based on a budget consideration, should have been a decision made by City Council knowing they had interest in that project. He said it should have come back to them and informed them that the design project we are talking about without some additional funding. He said then they could have had a discussion to see if it was important to City Council or not. Member Mutch said what stood from a budget perspective is the next item on the Agenda is repaving Karim Boulevard for \$741,000 which essentially is the same amount of money that would have covered the cost of doing the project along the line they talked about. He said that is a street that ninety-nine percent of Novi residents have never heard of. He said he recognizes that street needs to be repaved, just like Novi Road needs to be repaved. Member Mutch said of the two, Novi Road is a major corridor in the City. He said it goes through a residential area where there are existing and likely new developments. He said what he thinks we are doing is going with the low cost solution when Councils expectations were much higher. Member Mutch noted that now they are being told that it is too late to make any changes. He wondered how we got to this point months later without any discussion in between. He felt something should have come forward to Council to give them the opportunity to have that conversation about the budget. He felt they were being put in a position of essentially accept this design or forego this federal grant money. He said he cannot support this as presented without at least asking the question from MDOT is there an opportunity to go back and redesign this

project and still get the funding. He said if the answer is no, then he might be willing to vote for it, but not until they ask that question.

Member Casey said she wanted to echo the comments of the previous speaker and she also went back and looked at the minutes back in September. What was asked of Council was really just looking at the engineering design services. She said she voted for that motion with that expectation that we would have more conversation and that we would see additional designs and that was reported very well in the minutes. She said it is likely they will come back in a year or two to revisit the conversation for a safety factor. She also commented there is nothing to stop vehicles from sliding into the swale or depression or simply not seeing it. She said she has significant safety concerns about this and she said she doesn't want to hold up the repaving of Twelve Mile Road, but she doesn't want to be here in a year and a half trying to explain why at that point in time adding money to a budget to make changes to a design we should fixed before we approved it. She said she will not be able to support this. City Engineer Hayes said he wanted to clarify a couple of things. He said this swale has been described as a ditch by some; it is a minor depression to hold water to allow the vegetation that will be planted to flourish. He said the total depth was nine inches, maybe twelve inches in spots. He said he did not see it as a hazard if vehicles would go into a shallow swale. He also mentioned they didn't blindly go down this path and say this is what we are going to do. He said they shared a memo back in December that had different alternatives and they made a recommendation that we stick with this, but we didn't hear anything else from Council as far as which way to go. Member Casey said she appreciated the clarification, she said when she looks at the design that Council had seen in September it looks like it was much more significant than nine to twelve inches. She said that it does seem to be a very big significant difference and mentioned they did not get an update in this packet in terms of what the design was. She said they received the budget and the contract; there was not updated design in the packet. She said that makes a difference knowing that it is limited and much narrower and shallow depression than first been shown.

Mayor Gatt asked Mr. Hayes how deep the depression was. City Engineer Hayes replied it is designed to be nine inches, but may go as deep as twelve inches in some spots. Mayor Gatt confirmed with Mr. Hayes that it will not be a three foot hole that a car can fall into.

Member Markham said this thoroughfare is one of the major entrances into the City and they have letters from the residents letting them know that their guests and businesses say it does not present a good opening to our community and it doesn't represent us well. Member Markham said she appreciates that they are trying to improve it, but she also has concerns with not having curbs with perforation in them, she understands they want to get the water into the swale. She also said she does not like the markers, aesthetically they don't look good and she said she doesn't want this along the swale on a major thoroughfare in the City. City Engineer Hayes said that would only be in the winter. Member Markham said she thinks they look cheap. She wondered if there are other monies available that they can use. She said she wants the City to do this right

and is conflicted because she does want to get this done. She understands the financial issue and the timing with the grant; but she didn't like the design. She said the road was so wide, if they configure protected bike lanes along the perimeter of this road. Mr. Hayes responded saying one of the options they looked at included on street bike lanes, he said it kicked the price up a bit. He said the reason it was not recommended was because it was the priciest alternative. Member Markham said it seemed like they are making this decision based on the cost and they are talking about a lot of money. This design is not what Council thought it would be and she is disappointed and would not support it tonight. She said if he could look at some of the issues such as the curbing and financial ideas to look for more money to do it right. Mr. Hayes said it was a fast moving train whether or not involving MDOT, but they are in cue for June, if we miss that it will kick it into July and federal funding at the end of the fiscal year, they are in the last quarter and it will then be first come first serve. Mr. Hayes noted there may not be any money left if we obligate in July, August or September. Member Markham thanked Mr. Hayes.

Mayor Gatt asked City Manager Auger if the proposal failed or was tabled what would the ramifications would be. Mr. Auger said there is a good chance they will lose out on the federal funding which is approximately \$700,000. He said Mr. Hayes referred to two alternatives and there are two alternatives that they looked at and presented at Council which had bike lanes, Option 3 and Option 4. He said Option 3 at one point added \$1.4 million to the project and Option 4 added \$1.2 million to the project. He said they did look at the holistic whole streets, complete streets package as we looked at these designs.

Member Mutch wanted to clarify a couple of points, one of which was the memo from Mr. Hayes last year and he did share his feedback with City Administration, he didn't want anyone to get the impression that this popped up on the Agenda tonight and suddenly this is the first City staff is hearing about the concerns that he personally had, he could not speak for the rest of Council if they shared their concerns. He also mentioned in the aspect of the funding issue he thought we should have a conversation with MDOT about this particular project. Member Markham touched on the issue that it is a lot of money either way, over \$1 million of city dollars and quite a bit from the drain fund which otherwise this project wouldn't happen at all. He said without the drain fund dollars they wouldn't be having this conversation without dipping into money from other projects. The question isn't how much we are going to spend, it is whether it will work well and be attractive and be something that we can drive through the community and show off to visitors and residents and say it is something we are proud of.

Mayor Gatt said we have been talking about this for over 1 ½ years and there have been several suggestions in the course of that time to do this or that. He said he recalled that every time there were suggestions, it was answered with let's see how much money that would cost. He said the City has done their due diligence and has come up with a plan that is still going to cost the taxpayers over 1 million dollars to correct a road that needs to be corrected. He said the federal government is going to kick in approximately \$700,000. Mayor Gatt said if we do not move forward tonight, the

chances are very great we will lose out on the \$700,000 and therefore the taxpayers will be on the hook, the road needs to be fixed.

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-67

Yeas: Wrobel, Gatt, Burke
Nays: Mutch, Casey, Markham
Absent: Staudt

2. Approval to award a construction contract for Karim Boulevard Reconstruction project to Cadillac Asphalt, LLC, the low bidder, in the amount of \$741,419.80, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by City Manager's office and the City Attorney.

CM 16-06-68 Moved by Burke, seconded by Gatt ; MOTION FAILED: 3-3

To approve an award of a construction contract for Karim Boulevard Reconstruction project to Cadillac Asphalt, LLC, the low bidder, in the amount of \$741,419.80, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by City Manager's office and the City Attorney.

Member Mutch thanked Mayor Gatt and said he would normally support this project, but he said until they get the Item #1 resolved. This was a huge amount of money for a street, although it needs to be paved, only serves a small amount of businesses and residents who use it. It is about prioritizing the limited tax dollars that they have for these roads and he said he is not ready to make this commitment.

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-68

Yeas: Wrobel, Gatt, Burke
Nays: Casey, Markham, Mutch
Absent: Staudt

3. Approval to award a construction contract for 2016 Neighborhood Road Program—Contract 1 (Concrete) to Mattioli Cement, the low bidder, in the amount of \$548,818, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by City Manager's office and the City Attorney.

CM 16-06-69 Moved by Mutch, seconded by Wrobel; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve a construction contract for 2016 Neighborhood Road Program—Contract 1 (Concrete) to Mattioli Cement, the low bidder, in the amount of \$548,818, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by City Manager's office and the City Attorney.

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-69

Yeas: Gatt, Burke, Casey, Markham , Mutch
Wrobel
Nays: None
Absent: Staudt

4. Approval to renew the City's 2016-17 Property and Liability Insurance coverage with the Stevenson Company in the amount of \$317,444.

CM 16-06-70 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Mutch; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve the renewal of the City's 2016-17 Property and Liability Insurance coverage with the Stevenson Company in the amount of \$317,444.

Roll call vote on CM 16-06-70

**Yeas: Burke, Casey, Markham, Mutch,
Wrobel, Gatt
Nays: None
Absent: Staudt**

AUDIENCE COMMENT - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES - None

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS FOR COUNCIL ACTION - None

COMMUNICATIONS - None

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 P.M.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

Transcribed by Deborah S. Aubry

Date approved June 27, 2016