



City Manager
Elaine Leven
CITY CLERK
Cynthia Greenia

City of Fraser

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY

MAYOR
Michael Carnegie
MAYOR PRO-TEM
Patrice M. Schornak
COUNCIL
Amy Baranski
Kathy Blanke
Suzanne Kalka
Patrick O'Dell
Dana Sutherland

**FRASER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
33000 GARFIELD, FRASER, MI 48026
THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
As Approved May 11, 2023**

A regular meeting of the City of Fraser City Council was held on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 33000 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carnegie called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Carnegie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Present: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

Absent: None

Others: City Manager Leven, City Attorney DeNault, Director of Public Safety Kretzschmar, City Engineer Scott Lockwood, City Clerk Greenia

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Baranski supported by O'Dell to amend the agenda by moving Item 7f up to make it Item 7b and moving Item 7g up to make it Item 7h and move the remainder of the agenda down accordingly.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Carnegie supported by Baranski to add Item 12b – Closed Session Strategy Session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement COAM.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

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Motion by Sutherland supported by Baranski to approve the agenda for the April 13, 2023 Fraser City Council meeting as amended.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment at this time.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were on the Consent Agenda for the April 13, 2023 City Council Meeting:

- a. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes March 9, 2023
- b. Civil Service Commission Meeting Minutes November 30, 2023
- c. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes February 1, 2023
- d. Historical Commission Meeting Minutes February 6, 2023
- e. Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes February 7, 2023
- f. Historical Commission April Report
- g. ADM Banking Resolution
- h. Arbor Day Resolution
- i. Check Disbursements
- j. Revenue and Expenditure Reports

Motion by Sutherland supported by Baranski to approve the Consent Agenda for the April 13, 2023 Fraser City Council Meeting as presented.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Public Hearings

1) FY 2023-2024 Budgets/Millage Rates

Mayor Carnagie opened up the Public Hearing for the FY 2023-2024 Budget and Millage Rates at 6:35 p.m.

Michael Lesich, 15201 Fairview, spoke regarding his concerns with the proposed budget and millage rates.

Laura Lesich, 15201 Fairview shared her concerns with the public noticing of the budget Public Hearings. She shared other concerns as well.

Dana Freers, 34610 Cristini Court, shared her concerns with the funding being budgeted for the parks.

Mayor Carnagie closed the Public Hearing at 6:48 p.m.

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2) PA 33 Public Safety Special Assessment

Mayor Carnegie opened the Public Hearing on the FY 23/24 Special Assessment District for Police and Fire at 6:49 p.m.

There was no comments heard.

Mayor Carnegie closed the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m.

3) Water and Sewer Rates

Mayor Carnegie opened the Public Hearing on the FY 23/24 Water and Sewer Rates at 6:50 p.m.

Michael Lesich, 15201 Fairview addressed his concerns with the City Council, noting he would like to see a Water and Sewer rate study completed for the City.

Mayor Carnegie closed the Public Hearing at 6:54 p.m.

b. Industrial Park Special Assessment District

Council Member Baranski reviewed that the Street Committee had put together a two (2) phase project; the Industrial Sub was going to be its own project with a Special Assessment District. City Manager Leven explained to City Council that the Street Committee had been meeting and decided that they would like to form a Special Assessment District for road reconstruction in the Industrial Sub. She stated that tonight at the meeting what they were looking for was direction from Council as to whether or not there was an amount from General or Street Fund that City Council was willing to commit to this project.

They would be going through the Special Assessment process as outlined in Charter working with City Attorney DeNault. The process will take quite a bit of time, and may not take place until the Fiscal Year 24/25.

Council Members Baranski and O'Dell agreed that they felt the City could contribute \$1,500,000 over the course of multiple years. The project itself was going to cost \$18,000,000. The taxpayers in the Industrial Sub have paid in quite a bit of taxes over the years.

Motion by O'Dell supported by Baranski that the City of Fraser commits \$500,000 each year for the next three (3) years to offset the bonding of the Special Assessment District for the Industrial Sub Roads.

Attorney DeNault had some concerns regarding the verbiage in the motion.

Council Member O'Dell withdrew his motion, Council Member Baranski withdrew her support.

Motion by O'Dell supported by Baranski that the City's proportionate share or contribution to the Special Assessment District for the Industrial Sub Road Project is going to be

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\$1,500,000 to be spread out in installment. As recommended by the Assessor and Engineer spread out over at least three (3) years

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

c. Road Bond Proposal

Steven Hayduk, Benzinski & Company, explained that they had met with the Road Committee to discuss options for bonding for road funding in the future. He had put together some schedules that show the different costs of the options. The objective for this meeting was to discuss the options and chose what the City Council feels will be the best choice.

Council Member O'Dell then stated that the Road Committee had been meeting so that they could figure out a way to get the City's infrastructure updated. The decisions would come down to a vote of the residents. The money raised by selling the bonds could not be used for any other purpose other than road projects. If this money was obtained there would be many grant opportunities that could open up for the City as well. Looking at the schedules his feeling is that choosing the 15 Million Dollar option for 12 years or the 13 Million Dollars over 10 years would be best for the residents overall.

Mr. Hayduk reviewed the process with City Council.

Council Member Baranski stated she was in favor of the 15 Million Dollars for 12 years option as well. Council Member Sutherland agreed with the 15 Million Dollars for 12 years choice.

Council Member Kalka agreed with 15 Million Dollars for 12 years.

Council Member O'Dell stated that if the market gets to unpredictable they did not have to issue any additional bonds at all. Again he stated that having that funding available would open up many grant opportunities.

Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak stated that all those that are emailing her about the condition of the roads should get behind this proposal. She stated she is in favor if planning for the future.

Council Member Kalka indicated that over the past four (4) years Council has put things in motion to get future plans in place and roads had been neglected. She believed this bond proposal was very important to the City.

Motion by O'Dell supported by Baranski to select the term of 12 years for Fifteen Million for the bond proposal and to direct our Bond Counsel to prepare language to that effect for the upcoming election.

Deanna Reiner, 15569 Luxemburg stated she was concerned as to which tax bill this would be placed on – the Summer or Winter. Currently the Summer was very high in comparison to the Winter and she would like to see it be put on the Winter tax bill. She added that road conditions did effect the value of your property.

Laura Lesich, 15201 Fairview had questions about the two (2) road issues. She stated she would like to get more information on these two (2) proposals. She was looking for some details that would be shared with the public.

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City Council then discussed the best manner to reach the residents prior to the vote to review what they were voting on. City administration would get the information to the Street Committee and they would collectively put together a packet of information that would be available to the public for review. There was also some concern that the ballot language be VERY CLEAR so that there is no misunderstanding as to what the question was that was posed to the voters. Council Member Sutherland stated how important she felt it was to get all the information out to the public that they could.

Discussion was also had on how the roads to be repaired would be chosen. Council Member Baranski assured everyone that the roads chosen would be based strictly on scientific data and math. No one would have any influence over which streets were picked. City Manager Leven then shared that the PASER rating was one of many factors that would help determine which streets would be repaired.

Vote on Motion:

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Baranski supported by Schornak to put the question of Bonding for Road Improvements on the August 8, 2023 Election Date due to her concerns with saving money for the residents rather than waiting until the November Election.

Council Members Kalka and Sutherland stated their concerns that having this in August rather than November would not give us enough time to get the information out. Further discussion was had on this.

Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak suggested that we could put the information on the water bills when they went out.

Laura Lesich, 15201 Fairview, was concerned with the cost of holding
An election.

Vote on Motion:

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak

NAYS: Kalka, Sutherland

Motion Carried

d. Cambridge Courts

Scott Lockwood, of Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick was present to review this item with City Council. This item was reviewed by Scott Lockwood, presented his item. He stated this item was in regards to a paving maintenance project on Cambridge Courts. Low bidder is Al's Asphalt paving. He was familiar with their work and was satisfied that they would do a good job. Their recommendation was to award the contract to Al's Asphalt.

Motion by Baranski supported by Carnagie to award a contract for the Cambridge Courts Pavement Maintenance Project to Al's Asphalt Paving Co. in the amount of \$150,020.00

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and authorize Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. to provide construction engineering services in the amount of \$22,500.00 for a total estimated project cost of \$172,520.00.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

e. Meadows/Mulvey Farms Joint Repairs

Scott Lockwood, Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick reviewed that this item was regarding a Joint Repair Project for the Meadows/Mulvey Farms area. Low bidder was James P. Contracting at a cost of \$513,030.00. They had worked with James P. Contracting and were satisfied that they would do a good job for the City.

Motion by O'Dell supported by Kalka to award a contract for the Meadows/Mulvey Farms Joint Repair Project to James P. Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$513,030.00 and authorize Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. to provide construction engineering services in the amount of \$55,000 for a total estimated project cost of \$568,030.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

f. HD Camera Nozzle

City Manager Leven reviewed this item for City Council. DPW Superintendent was asking for authorization to purchase and HD Camera Nozzle. This would give the DPW the ability to see underground problems without tearing up the road. If they had to rent one of these it would cost upwards of \$1,500 each time. The cost of the nozzle was \$12,994.00. It would pay for itself in approximately eight (8) uses.

Motion by Schornak supported by Baranski to waive the competitive bidding process due to Bell Equipment being awarded MiDeal contract and allow the purchase of the Envirosight Jet Scan HD Video Nozzle Camera in the amount of \$12,994.00

AYES: Baranski, Blanke Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

g. Zoning Text Amendment

City Manager Leven reviewed this item for City Council. If adopted it would allow City Council to appoint two (2) alternates to the ZBA in case of absence or conflict of interest by a regular member. Discussion was had.

Motion by O'Dell supported by Sutherland to adopt the proposed text amendment to the zoning ordinance as proposed.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

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8. RETURNING BUSINESS:

a. Library Building Future Plan

Marlene Hoeft, 18546 Davidson, President of the City of Fraser Library Board and Kyle Burley, 15950 Luxemburg were present to represent the Library Board. Mr. Burley explained that he was aware of communication between their attorney and Mr. DeNault. He expressed that their attorney did not necessarily represent the wishes of the entire Library Board, in fact most of the Library Board in regards to the purchase of the library building.

He shared there were a couple of concerns that needed to be ironed out – basically the repairs of the building – who was responsible for that, and the inventory at the building – how many items did the City own and how many did the Library own (definition of property). They were present to ask City Council for another 30 days before they explored other options for the building.

Discussion was had on the best way to get this process completed.

Motion by Baranski supported by O'Dell to present the Library Board with a purchase agreement that has modifications to the previously presented agreement consistent with the representations made by the two (2) Library Board members at this meeting to them by their next meeting; giving them until April 30, 2023 to sign and return to City Council for ratification at the next regular City Council meeting on May 11, 2023

City Attorney DeNault noted when he felt the modified contract was ready he would circulate to everyone as well.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Council Member Baranski wanted to be clear that this City Council was not against helping with the question of bonds, however they need to be prepared when and if they do.

9. REPORT OF CITY ADMINISTRATION

City Manager Leven stated she has received a lot of good resumes for the job openings.

The Finance Director – she will be coming to Council to see if the Committee would be willing to sit in on interviews for this position. The three (3) Council members were Council Member Baranski, Council Member Sutherland and Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak. She was wondering if they would be willing to set in again on interviews. They agreed they would still be willing to help.

She met with school representative about the Garfield Road project.

There have been 2,000 absent voter ballots issued for the May 2, 2023 election.

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10. REPORT OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Baranski asked if we wanted to set a special meeting for a workshop for the budget.

Motion by Baranski supported Carnegie by to hold a Special Meeting/Workshop to discussion the 2023/2024 City of Fraser Budget for May 4, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Fraser City Hall.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Council Member Baranski reviewed that she has received a candidate filing packet for the City Council and Mayor election that would be held in November of 2023. The seat of Mayor, three (3) four (4) year terms on City Council and one partial two (2) year term on City Council were open. She encouraged everyone to participate in making the City a better place.

Finally she added she wished everyone to enjoy spring and a Happy Mother's Day.

Council Member Sutherland noted her concern with conditions of the parks. She was very excited to work on interviewing for open positions with the City Manager.

She added that she was very disappointed with the Eggstravaganza event. Her daughter was very disappointed. She noted her concern regarding the upcoming parade in July. She further discussed her concerns with Recreation moving forward.

Council Member O'Dell shared that Fraser First Booster Club was holding a fund raiser on April 20, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Road Rally was a great success – kudos to Echo Hunt and Chris Koch. He was hoping the City might be able to sponsor some small, low cost activities this summer for the youth in the City. He wished everyone to enjoy the beautiful weather. He added he appreciated everyone up at the dais. He looked forward to working with everyone moving forward to make Fraser a better place to live.

Council Member Kalka noted that there had been a lot of discussion in her subdivision about the traffic on Utica Road. With all the new businesses traffic has picked up tremendously. She would like to see if we could find out if it would be possible to get a traffic light in this location.

Council Member Blanke told everyone that last week at the VFW there was a presentation for a 100 year old WWII Veteran Mike Aleo. There was also a fundraiser with the donations being made to St. Jude in his name. She congratulated him and his family on reaching this milestone. She wished everyone a good month – God love us.

Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak stated she attended the Historical Commission last week and had several concerns and announcements regarding the meeting. She also attended the Recreation Commission meeting. There would be a Fraser Garden Club – anyone who would like to be in Fraser Garden Club - there was a Facebook Page or you could contact them at frasergardenclub@gmail.com.

Fraser First received a grant for a Communication Board at McKinley Park. Roseville City offered to let our youth play baseball for their resident cost.

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Finally she commented that we have a new Recreation Coordinator and everyone has to start managing their expectations. She went on to say that we have many Boards and Commissions that we cannot fill the membership because nobody wants to volunteer anymore. People need to get involved – volunteer – take an interest in the City to make it a better place. Finally, she had a question on the sign in front of CVS.

Mayor Carnagie had a question regarding PA 33 and the amendment that was made to that act with PA228 – he wondered if the City needed to worry that the amendment would affect us. He wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

11. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

A representative of the Autism Society of Greater Detroit was present. She wanted to introduce their organization to City Council. She shared some history of this body and some upcoming events. Anyone wishing more information could visit their website at www.autismsocietyofgreaterdetroit.org.

Laura Lesich, 15201 Fairview spoke regarding the traffic at French Creek and why she felt there was so much congestion there. She thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak for attending the Recreation Commission meeting and had comments about their history. She added other concerns regarding parks, the website, job openings and opening the Senior Activity Center in the afternoon as well as the morning. She thanked the Fraser DPS for their CPR offering. It was well attended.

12. CLOSED SESSION

a. Strategy Session Connected with the Negotiation of a Collective Bargaining Agreement POAM

Motion by Carnagie supported by Schornak to enter into Closed Session for the purposes of a strategy session connected with the negotiation of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with POAM at 9:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Council Member Blanke left the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

City Council reconvened into open session at 9:13 p.m.

Motion by Schornak supported by Baranski to ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the POAM

AYES: Baranski, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

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b. Strategy Session Connected with the Negotiation of a Collective Bargaining Agreement COAM

Motion by Schornak supported by Baranski to enter into Closed Session for the purposes of a strategy session connected with the negotiation of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with COAM at 9:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Baranski, Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

City Council reconvened at 10:02 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kalka supported by Schornak to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 p.m.

AYES: Baranski Carnagie, Kalka, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Cindi Greenia, Clerk
City of Fraser

Michael Carnagie, Mayor
City of Fraser