



CITY MANAGER
Elaine Leven
CITY CLERK
Cynthia Greenia

City of Fraser

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY

MAYOR
Michael Lesich
MAYOR PRO-TEM
Dana Sutherland
COUNCIL
Amy Baranski
Patrick O'Dell
Kenny Perry
Patrice Schornak
Sherry Stein

**FRASER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.
33000 GARFIELD, FRASER, MI 48026
AS Approved June 13, 2024**

A special budget workshop meeting of the Fraser City Council was held on Monday, April 29, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 33000 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lesich called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lesich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following members were present:

PRESENT: Baranski, Lesich, O'Dell, Perry, Schornak, Stein, Sutherland
ABSENT: None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by O'Dell supported by Stein to approve the agenda for the April 29, 2024 City of Fraser Special City Council Meeting as approved/amended.

AYES: Baranski, Lesich, O'Dell, Perry, Schornak, Stein, Sutherland
NAYS: None

Motion Carried

5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

There was no citizen participation at this time.

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6. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

7. RETURNING BUSINESS

a. Public Safety Presentation – Proposed FY 2024-2025 Budget

City Manager Leven briefly reviewed the proposed FY 2024-2025 Department of Public Safety Budget with the City Council.

Director Kretzschmar was present to review her budget in greater detail. She indicated the large purchases that her department was asking for in this budget. They were looking to get two new vehicles - preferably Tahoes. They needed a new COP (Community Outreach Policing/Program) vehicle as the one they were using was a 2010 and showing its age. Discussion was had on consideration of getting electric cars in the future.

They needed to update the technology in all of the patrol cars. They were looking at getting two radar units – the current ones were 18 years old. They were also hoping to purchase an Intoxilyzer. Currently they have to take drivers to the Roseville Police Department to get a Blood Alcohol Test.

She was looking for bunker gear, 16 SCBAs (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) and 24 masks so each member of the PSD would have their own mask. She reviewed the additional cost of equipping the second ALS squad. She is also requesting a ring rescue. Our current equipment is very old. She indicated the chairs in the DPS were old and some were in very poor condition and they would like new ones.

She addressed that she would like to see salary increases for the part-time PSA as well as paid on call firefighters. This completed the presentation.

At this time Council Member Schornak brought up the question of leaf collection. Were they going to decide to leave it as it was, purchase a new piece of equipment, which would reduce the number of employees it would require to complete the task or were they going to change things up and have residents bag their leaves and pay GFL to pick them up. DPW Supervisor Barret had provided the Council with some information from GFL but they did not feel they had nearly enough information to make a good decision on this tonight. They requested the numbers on how much the program costs as is – current equipment and man hours; how much the program would cost with the new equipment – including man hours; and how much it would cost to change to GFL for this service.

**At 7:31 p.m. City Council took a brief break
The City Council reconvened at 7:37 p.m.**

City Manager Leven reviewed that the Department Heads were at the last meeting and she knew that the City Council had the opportunity to ask questions as needed. She went over some of the more costly issues that the City currently faced- their OPEB, pension and roads. She then went over some of the larger items that the Department Heads had requested and added that there were many items in the budget that the City Council did not have discretion over – wages, contracted items, utilities, and that type of expense. According to the City

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Charter the budget must be approved by the third Monday in May. This year was May 20, 2024. The budget must be approved by five of the seven Council Members.

Discussion was had of the current fund balance. We have a very healthy fund balance at this time. Council Member Schornak indicated that if the fund balance was above \$10,000,000 she would like to see the PA33 mills at zero. A very lengthy discussion ensued at this time. Each Council member had an opportunity to share their thoughts and reasons behind their views.

Discussion of what to do with Reindel Park was had. City Manager Leven indicated that she did reach out to the School District, and they were not interested in purchasing the property. Perhaps the City could sell it to one of the property owners around it – it was landlocked with no access to it for the City.

Other Park improvements were discussed. The City Council agreed they needed additional information on the budget for the park plans before they could make a good decision.

The City Council took a break at 9:03 p.m.
The City Council reconvened at 9:08 p.m.

Upon returning the discussion turned again to PA33 and whether to keep the current rate of 2 mills on the tax roll or remove it. Discussion was had about keeping the mills on the roll and agreeing to allocate the same amount of funds out of the General Fund as would be generated from those 2 mills to help pay down our OPEB or allocate towards the roads.

Mayor Lesich then went through the items in the Capital purchases list that City Manager Leven had prepared for the initial budget workshop. The Council gave their opinions on which items they felt comfortable leaving in the proposed budget and which they needed more information on.

8. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Nothing at this time.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lesich supported by Schornak to adjourn at 9:46 p.m.

AYES: Baranski, Lesich, O'Dell, Perry, Schornak, Stein, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted:

Cindi Greenia, Clerk
City of Fraser

Michael Lesich, Mayor
City of Fraser