

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2017 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, Council Members Burke, Casey, Markham, Mutch, Wrobel

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Auger, City Manager
Carl Johnson, Finance Director
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Gatt announced he would like to add Item 3 to the Agenda – Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America announcement.

CM 17-04-045 Moved by Burke, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve the Agenda as amended.

Roll call vote on CM 17-04-045 **Yeas: Staudt, Burke, Casey, Markham, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt**
Nays: None

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING – 2017-2018 CITY OF NOVI BUDGET

1. Overview
 - a. Introduction: Goals - Projects
 - b. 2017-2018 Budget Overview – Highlights
 - c. Multi-Year Budget
 - d. Capital Improvement Program

City Manager Auger stated he would have a brief PowerPoint presentation. Finance Director Johnson will give an overview of the budget in a moment, but there are a couple of large projects he wanted to address because they are spending taxpayer money. City Manager Auger mentioned the first project is not on the PowerPoint and that would be the ITC Trail continuation. He said there would be \$2.6 million dollars in this budget from CIP millage going towards that. He mentioned the second large project is Lakeshore Park. He showed the concept plan which is different than what was presented before. The building is on the north end. He said it has a smaller footprint. Parking configuration had been an issue, but now there is more parking closer to the building. He also mentioned a bike path along the side to take them to the back. He noted they are moving the volleyball courts away from the homes. He explained that they will be putting in a new maintenance garage so they will not have to haul equipment back and forth from the Department of Public Services. He described the

inside of the building as having a smaller footprint, but it was still large enough for kids programs and to host a voting precinct. He said it will have room for the library component; they want to be able to distribute books in the northern end of the City.

City Manager Auger said the DPS building is a conceptual site plan. He noted they have been talking and Council has been shown a \$7 million dollar plan. He revealed this one is a \$5 million dollar plan. He stated the difference was a large garage on north end of this site plan was included in the \$7 million dollar plan to keep all large equipment indoors. The \$5 million dollar plan doesn't have every vehicle inside, but would function better. Key components are getting work groups together because they are spread out in the garage. He explained they would be utilizing the same building, but renovating it. He said they would be adding a large garage there with proper locker rooms. He mentioned that currently they have to bring portable restrooms in the summer. This will have locker rooms for men and women.

Finance Director Johnson gave a quick overview of the highlights. He mentioned this is a 3-year budget. In a perfect world they would bring last year's budget before you and have them adopt the 2nd year of that plan. He mentioned that life happens and there are some changes. In general the budget last year is what they are being presented. One large piece is on revenue side. Property taxes are the largest revenue stream. He explained that we had tripled the amount of property taxes. He recalled that last year was the 2nd lowest property tax increase in the last 20 years. This year is only the 3rd lowest in the last 20 years. He indicated that with the .9% increase, coupled with new development, it came out to approximately 3.6% overall. He said the good news was that in last year's budget his estimate was 3.65%, so they are right on target with that. He mentioned the bad news, which was inflation. Inflation averages about 2.4%, so we would have gotten an additional \$300,000 in the General Fund. Good news is they are right on track, but we were hoping for a lot more. He highlighted that we had a \$600,000 increase in property taxes. Other revenues are up around \$850,000 between property tax and other miscellaneous revenues. Overall revenue budget is down \$150,000 from last year. They were utilizing surplus from Police and Fire Millage Fund, which was \$1 million a year for the last 4 or 5 years. That money was used up this fiscal year. He said we are starting next year with the budget is \$150,000 less than what we had before.

Finance Director Johnson detailed some items they have had to adjust for. The MERS contribution changed their assumptions, which increased liability and contributions. The MERS contribution went up \$400,000 a year, but that change meant that contribution went up to \$800,000 this past year. He noted the good news on health care; they negotiated less than a 2% increase for our largest health care provider. He presented a balanced budget. Given the growth of Novi, we will see another millage rollback, permanently reducing the ability to levy, including our new one mill CIP millage will be rolled back. He reported the Fund Balance is projected to be 33% each of next 3 years. He mentioned the Street Funds in which they plan to use every single dime. They are at the minimum. The State has allocated additional monies towards the Street Funds and that has been used up. He said the new CIP Fund captured \$3.419 million. He said they

estimated it would be around \$3.3 million. With that money, the budget shows projects of about \$27 million. He said they planned on internal borrowings from cash surplus to fund projects as they come due. They will come forward with formal loan agreements. He said they paid off the 2002 Street Bonds a year early so we are down to one Debt Service Fund, which is the Library Debt Service Fund. That fund has a dedicated millage for that. Three years ago Council directed administration to use money from the Drain Fund for those purposes that they are supposed to. In three years the entire Drain Fund Balance of \$6 million dollars has been spent. That is now at a zero as of June 30, 2017 as well as Perpetual Drain Fund will be by the year June 30, 2020. They are spending on the much needed drain projects. The Drain Fund millage is .7 mills that are available. They are only levying about .2 mills because the cap is 9.95 this year. He thanked Budget Analyst Jessica Dorey for all of her help. He mentioned the budget process started in October and she does an outstanding job. The budget process couldn't run any smoother, thanks to all the cooperation of the department heads and the entire city staff.

City Manager Auger said staff is ready for Council input, changes and tweaks on the budget.

Mayor Gatt questioned how our revenue can go down. Finance Director, Johnson explained that overall our net revenues went up, property taxes went up \$600,000, but our two largest sources only went up from the State about 1% on property taxes and are capped. We were utilizing surplus millage funds from the Police and Fire Fund for the last couple of years. He said those surplus funds are now gone. The net of those two is why we have less money.

Mayor Gatt informed Council that they will be given an opportunity to say what they want to say about the budget. He reminded them that there will be no motions on the first round. After the first round, he said they move into the motions. He also reminded Council that it will take four affirmative votes to put something in a budget or take something out. It will take five votes to pass the Budget when that day comes. Mayor Gatt stated this is his 14th year of being on Council. They have seen budgets go from arguing about how to spend, to having little money and having to lay people off. He mentioned we are on the rebound now and knows many municipalities would love to have these numbers and have this debate. He thanked city staff, department heads and line staff. The budget books are succinct and very clear. He felt the budget was something to embrace, with very little change. It addressed public safety and goes back to the goal setting session when a majority of Council said we need more Police and Fire. He said there was some debate that we have enough cops but the crime rates are going down, clearance rates are going up and that is because the Police and Fire Departments respond to emergency service calls in a professional manner. The City is growing so we have to continue growing our Public Safety Department. This budget addresses that and he appreciates it. He mentioned the budget also addresses some major CIP projects. There was a time when they didn't maintain buildings, but now we are getting to do routine maintenance in city buildings. We are poised, thanks to voters and staff, to improve DPS yard and make it something it should've been when it

started. He said there should be garages for the expensive equipment and locker rooms. He said we are also addressing a need at Lakeshore Park. They will do it in such a manner that will be agreeable to people who were initially against it. Some people said it was too big among other things. He believed the revamped building is going to serve its purpose, and also provide a voting precinct in that area. He thought that it will serve the public well. One thing he hoped would change in the budget was something he mentioned in his State of the City address. He said that we were going to do 1,000 concrete panels a year. He noted the budget has a reduced number and he hopes that someone changes that. He mentioned that the voters gave us a CIP Millage and they also given us a Road Millage. They expect that the roads in their subdivisions be what they should be in this city. He thought a 1,000 panel replacements a year would be achievable and it should happen. In closing, he commented that he thought there would be only a few tweaks in the budget that it was a budget that we could embrace.

Member Markham expressed this budget was a comprehensive and explanatory budget with a lot of detail. She really appreciated the level of work, information, and patience in providing a Budget this strong. She mentioned the roads first and she also agreed with the Mayor on more panel replacements. She felt the residents expect it. She noted her street wasn't scheduled, but it looks terrible. We have a long way to go to bring roads up to what the residents want. Also if there is extra money and Fund Balance is healthy, she wants to continue to be aggressive in pulling ahead sidewalks segments. The sidewalks are scheduled far into the future. Residents want sidewalks connected. One of the things that is in our demographic data is our population in the next 15 -20 years will go from 11% seniors over 65 to projected well over 22%. That means about a quarter of population will be 65 or older but the infrastructure doesn't support that. She mentioned the Senior Transit Van Program which we are in the middle of trying to upgrade. She thought we need to think outside the box longer term. We need to think about what is needed in this community to help transport those people. She expressed that she wants to see more future planning on that subject. She didn't see any specific recommendations of the Transportation Master Plan for I-96 and Novi Road. She said that was one of their goals. She did see that one of the City Managers strategies for the next year was that he wants to take a look at the mall circulator and see if we can incorporate that. She definitely wants that to proceed with that. She noted there was one little item, a small \$4,000 revenue item and wondered why do we charge for State of the City. The event is nice, with a breakfast, but the public at large doesn't have a free event to see State of the City. Rather than charge and make \$4,000 they should think about providing this to the citizens for free. She supported both the expansion at DPS and said they should do the job right. She does not want to skimp on that. Have a good solid plan and spend the right amount of money. She also said the same is true for Lakeshore Park. The plan they were just shown is closer to what they've been looking for. She said she is in support of both items moving forward. Something she continues to ask for, but doesn't see, is what tax abatements we have granted, what revenue we are getting from the companies that we have granted tax abatements. What revenue we are getting, and how long the run out? She thinks about future Councils and potential downturns. If we have a huge amount of tax relief for

biggest corporations, are we aware of that impact? We should be getting this much but are only actually getting this much. She wants to be more transparent about tax abatements and what they are overall.

Member Casey thanked everyone who had a role in building out the budget. They have done an amazing job and their stewardship and making sure that the recommendations are realistic and necessary. She thought it was interesting to see what her colleagues pull out and what is on their minds. She said she appreciated the balance of activities; they were not too heavy in any one particular place. She did agree with the previous speakers about roads. She felt we can do a lot with the roads. We have the money the residents have trusted us with. She commented that we start this process in January. We set goals they are asking staff to achieve. She felt they were giving themselves extra credit in a couple of places. One of the goals was improving safety in two intersections. One won't cost any money, but looking at Napier and Ten Mile that we can qualify this year. She questioned what else was out there. That's been talked about for so long. It was already in process. She followed up on the senior transportation; they set a goal to expand on senior transportation. They have the new technology coming, but that is just fixing current issues. She doesn't see a real big vision on what comes next.

Member Burke congratulated everyone on the work they've done. He agreed with the previous speakers about need for roads. He also agreed with the Mayor to increase concrete panel replacement. There are several terrible areas that need to be taken care of. He wanted to do a little house cleaning, for lack of a better term, relative to the DPS. They have option #1 at \$7.2 million which includes a .5 mill from the Drain Fund and 2.2 mills from Water and Sewer. Also there is option #2 at \$6.9 million. He said the second item was the \$4 million earmarked for land acquisition and ITC. He thought it was too premature to discuss that. He thought if that ever comes to fruition it would be a budget adjustment that they would make at City Council. He said he looked forward to any of the individuals that are going to make a motion to have that removed from this document.

Member Mutch commented this was his 12th budget. He feels like every time they go through this process as a Council he learns something. He wanted to start off first by thanking the voters and taxpayers who approved the CIP millage. He noted this was the first budget operating with proceeds of that millage and it has made a huge difference in the budget. They are able to do projects like DPS, Lakeshore Park, and ITC Trail that have histories going back years and decades. Those are real needs that the community wanted to address, but didn't have resources to make that happen. Approving the millage has given us the opportunity to move forward. There was some controversy in the community about the millage and some of the projects. As they continue forward, he hopes voters and taxpayers will feel they are doing due diligence, and that they are doing quality projects that meet real needs in a financially responsible way. He also thanked administration for putting this budget together. A lot of work went into it. He said going through the budget there are a lot of good elements. Their role as City Council is to ensure the short and long term fiscal financial

sustainability of City of Novi. He said to make sure they are maintaining and improving the quality of life for the Novi residents and businesses. This budget process is the most important work they do. This sets the stage for the next year and the life of this city and its operations. His focus is looking at some of those services already touched on. Areas such as capital improvements, including roads, intersections, pathways and facilities that he thinks are important. They as a City Council have a responsibility to make suggestions for adjustments where they think will provide a better quality of life. He thought while the documents are great there is always room for improvement. He touched on a couple highlights and echoed some of the comments from previous speakers. He said the roads are a huge area and they need to put additional work into in this budget. He said one of the challenges with the roads, even though they have voter approval, is bumping up funding from ACT 51 dollars. He said if we look at how much we spend and how we fund it, there is a fiscal capacity gap there in terms of needs on an ongoing basis. The panel program relies on a \$550,000 contribution from Drain Fund. The reason was that some panels are where there are drains so there is a tie in there. He wasn't sure if that was accurate, but the fact remains without that contribution, they would not be able to do half of the panel work that they are proposing to do. As a Council they are hearing they have to do even more which he agrees with. They have to figure out as a Council what the funding source is to supplement the existing road millage and the money we get from the State to ensure over multiple years they we have a stable source of funding to do this. He looked at the general fund and they have fund balance so he looked there first for additional road funding. He specifically targeted the franchise fee revenue that is around \$1 million that we are paid for use of public right-of-ways for public utilities. He said we should look at that as another funding source for roads, sidewalks and pathways. He said we do not have to use the entire amount, but it's a start. They need to look beyond this year and maybe next year. There are areas they simply aren't funding projects that we traditionally have because we don't have the money. He said if you go to 2020 and 2021 and look at the list of CIP Projects, there are \$20 million in projects that are pushed out that can't be funded right now. If you go out to 2022 there are \$27 million in road projects in that single year because of the proposed Beck Road improvements. He said a previous speaker touched on the intersections which they were given a report from a few years ago that highlight the most dangerous intersections in the City. That should be the starting point. Many suggestions are low cost. One of the challenges we have is that many intersections aren't under our jurisdiction, but residents don't care that it's the Road Commissions responsibility. They look to us to figure out how to fix it. He believed it would be worth putting money towards to save lives. He also mentioned the Tree Fund and how they are using Tree Fund dollars to pay for personnel costs and a truck this year. He said they have to understand the trees will not come down forever. We will reach a point of diminishing returns. We will get less and less revenue and it needs to be addressed. In regard to the Drain Fund it took the City 30 plus years to build that Perpetual Care Fund and it was intended to provide income to the Drain Fund and help the City reduce millage demand. It's been challenging because of interest income, but he didn't think it was intended to be spent the way they are looking at it. He questioned where they would be if they spend it. They will have to do a serious millage increase on the Drain Fund to offset that. He commented on the fund balance

in the Library Building Debt Fund. There is more than \$300,000 fund balance due to another debt being paid off and being rolled into that fund. We could use that excess fund balance to reduce the amount of levy this year from that fund. Otherwise we are sitting on money that is sitting in an account that can't be used on anything else. He said he would rather use it towards debt obligations and reduce millage.

Member Wrobel thanked the staff. He said this was a first class document and easy to understand. He said many of his items have been discussed already. He echoed the previous speakers and also said he would like an increase in the concrete panel program. They hear from resident that the roads are bad so they should do what they can to fix them. He also mentioned the CIP and was glad to see major projects planned. He liked the new Lakeshore Park, it is more agreeable to everyone concerned. He would have loved to see it in the back, but given the infrastructure cost it doesn't make sense. He would also like to see the ITC Trail completed as much as possible. One other area he mentioned was the staff additions and they all agree Public Safety is a priority. He said he has no issue with additional Police Officers being added. He questioned whether they will be adding a Fire Protection Officer. He said they have to add it because they can't get Paid-On-Call and Part-Time people. He said they really didn't have a choice but to add it. He also noticed that they are adding two Service Dispatchers which was a good idea. He said they've picked up work from other communities and that helps. He noted it will save \$70,000 in overtime. His final remarks were on the senior transportation. He has always been a champion for senior transportation. He knows with the new system they are experiencing bumps, but he wants to see it expanded.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt noted this was his 10th budget. It has changed dramatically because of the decisions that were made in 2008-2010. They were there today and had a balanced budget. He spoke about the CIP Program and how it has a huge effect on us. He mentioned not only is it \$3.4 million generated annually, because of the 10-year term of that program they are able to internally borrow and make improvements now with that cost spread over the 10-year term of the millage. Some of the projects can't wait to accumulate money to make those fixes. He stated they have some outstanding projects on horizon. The Mayor mentioned a couple of them, but the DPS yard will have a huge return on investment. They are taking vehicles out of the elements; there are so many benefits to the community. He also mentioned Lakeshore Park and he said it is time they bring up to standards of our other facilities in the City and have a world class park. He said the additions will be acceptable to residents nearby. He said there has been some discussion about the senior needs. He said one thing about the increase of the senior population is that they will move into large assisted living centers. He said they are talking about hundreds of new people moving into the City. Senior transportation will be more important. Seniors make long term investments in the community and they have to take care of them. He mentioned that tax abatements are always controversial. They aren't necessarily a budget topic, but he would like to have an ongoing document. Ten years ago he was told these are the important things that we provide: public safety, roads, water and sewer. He said we provide outstanding public safety and the DPS yard will help with public safety. They

made the significant investment in the water facility that turned out to be a great return on investment. He said he is not a big line item person and it's not their business to go line by line. He said they look at the big picture and large dollar amounts. Things work out over time if they pay attention. He said he is a big proponent of increasing the minimum Fund Balance and would like to see it increase from 18%-22% to 22%-25%. His reason is not because he is trying to hoard money, but rather they are saving consistently, it's time to up the ante and save more. If something major happens, they can change it but it provides guidance to staff. They need to be far more selective on how they will fund those. He expressed it is important to know where dollars come from long term.

Mayor Gatt stated that everyone had an opportunity to speak and now they can make motions. He reminded everyone that it takes four votes to put something in or take something out of the budget. It will take five votes to pass the budget when that day comes.

2. City Council discussion and decisions regarding the plan priorities

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said he had several individual motions so that they can discuss them individually.

CM 17-04-046 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Wrobel; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To increase the allocation in the Concrete Panel Replacement Program from \$750,000 to \$1 million by an allocation from the General Fund balance.

Member Wrobel asked approximately how many more panels will it allow for if they increase it. City Manager Auger responded with approximately 250 more and it would bring to total to 1,000 panels.

Roll call vote on CM 17-04-046

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

CM 17-04-047 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Wrobel; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To increase the allocation for the ITC Trail that is currently budgeted for \$2.6 million to \$3.5 million, with the additional funds coming from the CIP Millage. The additional money will allow the City to complete Phase III which will be the completion of the entire trail from 8 Mile Road to the end point at Providence Hospital.

Member Mutch said he is in full support of this motion. He said he was on the Walkable Novi Committee with Mayor Pro Tem Staudt when this concept started with the ITC Trail. He said that it was one of those projects that had smaller segments completed by

developers or the City when they had some funding, but they didn't have the financial capacity to do it all. The CIP Millage has enabled them to do that. The pathways were one of the elements that they promised voters they would do and being able to complete the remaining segments that Mayor Pro Tem Staudt discussed is keeping that promise to the voters. He believed it will be a great amenity for the Novi residents.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt commented that the allocation is intended to allow them to take the ITC Trail up the ITC Corridor as opposed to one other option which was Wixom Road. He said this will allow them to go all the way the ITC Corridor.

Roll call vote on CM 17-04-047 **Yeas: Casey, Markham, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt, Staudt, Burke**
Nays: None

CM 17-04-048 **Moved by Staudt, seconded by Burke; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:**
To remove the \$4 million CIP item from the budget for acquisition of parkland.

Mayor Gatt wondered where that money would go. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said the way the CIP is structured it wouldn't be allocated from the loan proceeds that they are going to have. However, those funds may be reallocated to some other opportunities that they are working on relative to green space and active parkland.

Member Mutch said he agreed with Member Burke's earlier comment that the time is not right for this project to go forward. Instead of having these funds tied up in this manner without a clear plan to move that forward this is the right move at the right time.

Roll call vote on CM 17-04-048 **Yeas: Markham, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt, Staudt, Burke, Casey**
Nays: None

CM 17-04-049 **Moved by Staudt, seconded by Mutch; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:**
To remove the allocation from the Special Assessment Fund to the CIP which is roughly \$3.9 million plus an additional line item of \$1.2 million for a total of \$5.1 million.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt explained that the Special Assessment District is money that they have had available for multiple years and they have chosen not to spend it. Even in the most difficult times they protected it. That money down the road could potentially be used for the Ring Road. He noted the vehicle for doing that is the Corridor Improvement Authority that is currently in the formation in the discussion side. They are not intending to use CIP millage for road purposes. This is a road project; therefore they would allocate those funds a little differently at the time. Whether it would be through

the Capital Improvement Authority or whether it is through a road project they just don't want it to be in the CIP that is why they are pulling it out.

City Manager Auger said there is an additional \$1.2 million in that line item and asked if they wanted to remove that at the same time. It was for the same project and they can always put it back. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt added that to his motion.

Roll call vote on CM 17-04-049

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

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said this would be his final motion. He said this was a discussion on an increase in the minimum Fund Balance from 18%-22% to 22%-25%. He said anyone that has been watching knows they approved the Fund Balance increase in 2011 originally. He said that was after a couple of years of discussion and they were in a very tough time back then. He said we are in a good time now. The increase in the Fund Balance isn't intended to change anything. The projected Fund Balance for the next 3 years is 31%. He stated they were still well above the 25% maximum number in 22% minimum number that he would propose. He said it sends a message that they are going to continue to be thrifty with money and they will use it when appropriate, but they will control the spending. Second, it tells the voters and the taxpayers that they are a healthy community and they can afford to put more money aside. He said he is hoping that some point down the road whether he is here or not, somebody on a future Council says they are in a position to move that to 30%, 35% and 40%. If they have those funds available as a City we will be extraordinarily healthy. He said this slight change shows that we are a healthy City and fiscally conservative. He mentioned that at some point they will have to borrow some money, sooner than later if we tackle the Beck Road Project. This all looks good to those agencies out there that set the interest rates.

CM 17-04-050

Moved by Staudt, seconded by Wrobel; MOTION CARRIED: 5-2

To change the City Council Fund Balance Policy for the General Fund to increase the range from 18%-22% to 22%-25% effective with this budget.

Member Wrobel wondered if this passes how this would be looked at by the financial institutions. Finance Director Johnson said they have been able to increase the rating from S & P, when he talked to Moody's we got a bump up to the second highest rating. One of the items they recommended was Fund Balance and their target is 43%-45%, so any increase looks well to the rating agencies.

Mayor Gatt said he learned from the best, Mr. Brooks Patterson. Mayor Gatt insisted on a 3 year budget when he became Mayor and was told it couldn't be done. Mr. Patterson has had an AAA Bond Rating for years and his Fund Balance is about 40%.

Roll call vote on CM 17-04-050

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

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said he remembered the days when they were fighting to get votes to get the budget done. He commented he thought they had a healthy budget here.

Member Markham mentioned that in the CIP they have expensive roundabouts. They are not planned for this year but planned in 2019/2020 and 2020/2021. One is at 9 Mile and Taft Road and other is 11 Mile and Wixom Road. She expressed that she could not see the need for roundabout there. She thought it could be a problem and doesn't think they should spend money on those. Mayor Gatt said it was not in this year's budget.

Member Mutch stated he wanted to follow up on Member Markham's item because he said he took a slightly different view on it. They were approving a 3 year budget and although the second and third year weren't binding in terms of moving forward, he believed the roundabout project was in the third year. Perhaps city administration will take look at that before it comes to them in final form and recommend that it be removed. He echoed Member Markham and said he doesn't see the need for a roundabout at that location. He expressed that he is not against roundabouts, but they are not appropriate for all locations. He mentioned it is what he calls zombie projects. These are projects that made their way into the CIP or some other plan, even the person that wanted to see it happen may no longer be there. These projects live on, even though they do not get funded because no one wants it and it just keeps getting pushed back. He said because of the way they do 3 year budgeting that they have to set aside that money regardless of whether it will actually happen. It's a clean-up item, but he would love to see it gone.

Member Mutch questioned city administration in terms of the pension contributions for this year. They have had an increase due to MERS making adjustments because of poor returns the last couple of years. In past years they have made an effort to tackle pension contribution by making additional payments towards that. He asked if they were doing that in this year's budget. City Manager Auger said yes, the additional money is going in anyway and they will look at that in the future. Finance Director Johnson is looking at ways to speed up funding on that. Member Mutch said they should always be looking at that. It is a longtime liability; it is not expected to be addressed in one year. He wanted clarification when Mayor Pro Tem Staudt removed the SAD contribution to CIP millage, where was the other \$1.2 million from. Finance Director Johnson said the extension of the Ring Road is estimated to be \$5.1 million dollars. It is proposed to be financed through a SAD. The proceeds to make the loan would have been approximately \$3.9 million for the SAD Fund and the rest of the loan (funding mechanism for the cost) would come from the CIP Fund. Member Mutch clarified that administration was looking at using dollars out of the CIP Funds which includes a variety of sources.

may call (248) 476-9000, ext. 06. Mayor Gatt urged anybody that is available on Friday to attend, it is a wonderful event.

AUDIENCE COMMENT - None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS FOR COUNCIL ACTION: Consent Agenda items which have been removed for discussion and/or action.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 P.M.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

Transcribed by Deborah S. Aubry

Date approved: April 24, 2017