

City of Huntington Woods
Long Range Budget & Planning Committee
Monday, May 20, 2019
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Library.

Present: Kim Bateman, Shelley Gach-Droz, Lisa Momblanco, Fred Fechheimer, Joseph Falik, Nick Gruber, Joel Kellman, Jeff Samoray, Susan Klein, Sharon Abramsky, Kris Vigliotti, Tim Rowland.

Absent: Frank Mioni, Molly Trip, Seth Kritzman, Melanie Wiegand, Zac Andreoni, Adam Kaplan, Amit Bhagwan, Chuck Batcheller, John Nantais, Mike Egnotovitch, Tony Lehmann.

Public: None

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of agenda: Moved by F. Fechheimer and seconded by S. Gach-Droz to approve the agenda. Approved unanimously.
3. Approval of April 15, 2019 minutes: Moved by F. Fechheimer and seconded J. Samoray to approve the minutes. Approved unanimously.
4. Update from subcommittees:
 - a. Roads and Sewer: J.Samoray informed the committee that they have received a revised report from the consultants that breaks out the maintenance work that is not a 20-year fix from the reconstruction work to be funded by the bond. The roads and sewer committee will be meeting on May 21st to review the new recommendations and will be finalizing their report for the June meeting.
 - b. Revenue Sources: K. Bateman stated that they have received the Valuation Report from the actuary for the Act 345 millage. They are looking for ideas from the group on how to promote this to the City. N. Gruber said the Communications subcommittee should handle that.

J. Kellman recommended that a real estate committee be organized outside of this committee to study development opportunities that could enhance the community. It would be an ongoing committee after the Long-Range Budget Committee ends. K. Bateman and S.

Klein stated that the Revenue Committee did not study this in detail because it would not be a sustainable revenue source to the city.

- c. City Hall, Public Safety & DPW: N.Gruber stated that the committees report is substantially complete and there have been no updates since the last meeting.
- d. Recreation and Library: L. Momblanco stated that the committee looked further into pool rates based on the suggestions at the last meeting. They found that the Huntington Woods rates are much lower than other pools in the area. They are suggesting that the pool rate be increased to \$600 per year and the level of service offered be upgraded to include a towel service, better food options, and improved locker rooms. It was suggested that the pool could open earlier in the morning to families by consolidating swim lessons to a shorter time period.

S. Gach-Droz indicated that they have added a paragraph to the draft report about the Gallery in the lower level of the library. The gallery coordinator is paid \$10,000 per year and the gallery only brings in less than \$2,000. They are recommending that the gallery should break even or consider elimination the coordinator position.

N.Gruber suggested that subcommittees report be edited to break out how much of the annual loss is due to pension and legacy costs. T.Rowland will create a chart for the committee to include in the report.

K. Bateman questioned why it is being recommended to study a district library over a five-year period. S. Gach-Droz stated we need to find a partner in order to form a district library and this will take time. K. Vigliotti asked why Pleasant Ridge could not be our partner. S. Gach-Droz indicated that this is a contractual arrangement with Pleasant Ridge. It was suggested to put the definition of a district library be added to the report.

- e. Communication: J. Samoray stated that the committee drafted talking points for the Mayor and that the next Commissioners Corner in the Hometown Herald will be about this committee. He explained that the timing of the full report was discussed and working backwards from a Spring Act 345 vote they would need six months to educate and inform the community. It is requested that the subcommittees all submit their final drafts at the June meeting. The Communication subcommittee will complete an executive summary and submit a final report back to

the group for approval at the July Meeting. The report would then be sent to the City Commission in August.

S. Gach-Droz asked when we would be able to have a one on one with the City Commission. T. Rowland indicated that he expected there would be a joint meeting most likely before the August Commission meeting to go over the report and answer any questions the Commission may have.

J. Samoray passed out a picture of a sandwich board that Birmingham has all over town to inform the public of a master plan update they are doing. He asked if this is something we should do and what other ways we can get the word out to the public.

5. Public Participation: None

6. Other Committee member business: F. Fechheimer passed out a memo regarding unfunded OPEB benefits. He questioned if the City will be able to continue to fund retiree benefits on a pay as you go basis, or if the future annual costs would be too high. J. Falik asked if this is something we need to hold off on our report for to make recommendations on.

T. Rowland informed the committee that a new OPEB Valuation is done every two years and one is being worked on currently. He is hopeful that the report will be available by the June meeting but if not, it will definitely be available for the July meeting

8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m. and the next meeting is Monday, June 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.