

4% raises eyed for Hills employees

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff writer

Personnel — wages and fringe benefits — will cost Farmington Hills about \$17.5 million in 1991-1992.

Full-time wages account for 60 percent or \$10.4 million of the total costs for personnel. The remainder is for overtime, health care, pension and Social Security and wages for on-call employees, such as firefighters.

In the proposed 1991-92 \$28.7 million budget, salaries for both union and non-union employees, such as heads of the various city departments, are targeted for a 4 percent increase.

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crease in 1991-92. "I didn't ask for one," he said, adding he's done the same in the past.

"In these times when we're being careful with the budget... the city council has always been fair with me in the past."

Though not yet approved by the city council, the following are proposed salaries for department heads

In the new budget year, which begins July 1.

- City manager, \$80,000.
- Assistant city manager, \$65,000.
- Finance director, \$63,900.
- Assessor, \$57,824.
- City clerk, \$57,824.
- Police chief, \$65,000.
- Deputy police chief, \$55,099.
- Fire chief, \$61,880.

- Deputy fire chief, \$52,586.
- Community development and planning director, \$57,824.
- Public services director, \$63,960.
- Public works supervisor, \$55,092.
- City engineer, \$60,320.
- Special services director, \$57,824.

The city will have 314 employees in 1991-92. That's three less than the current year. "I told all department heads, do not request additional personnel," Costick said at a budget study session.

Four positions have been dropped, including three that were not filled when vacancies occurred and one employee who will retire and that position also will not be filled. One employee, however, will be added in the street maintenance department.

Budget meetings, hearings set

The proposed Farmington Hills 1991-92 \$28.7 million budget is a bit away from adoption, which is scheduled for June 17. The budget year begins July 1.

The following is a schedule of public meetings when the city council will discuss the budget and when public hearings are planned:

- 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 18, at the Department of Public Works building on Halsted Road, just south of 12 Mile. The public services, road, capital improvement and administrative budgets will be reviewed.

council chambers at city hall, 31555 11 Mile. The council is expected to adopt a resolution announcing its intention to increase taxes 1.8 percent.

- 7:30 p.m., Monday, June 3, in council chambers. The council will review the special services budget and present a budget for the first year of the eight-year parks and recreation plan. Voters approved a half-mill levy for eight years May 7.

- 7:30 p.m., Monday, June 10, in council chambers. This is the public hearing on the proposed budget and the city's plan to raise taxes 1.8 percent.

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4th phase of downtown project approved

The second largest part of Farmington's \$1.5 million downtown redevelopment project will get under way this summer.

The fourth phase of the Downtown Development Authority project will cost about \$300,000, with about \$240,000 using DDA funds and remaining \$60,000 private money. Proposed projects will include:

- Major work in the municipal parking lot along State Street and behind the downtown branch of the Farmington Community Library, including burying utility lines.
- Pedestrian lighting and

landscaping along State Street, plus the addition of a short brick wall along State Street.

- Patching, striping and sealing the large municipal lot near the Downtown Farmington Center. Plans also include redoing a landscaping strip with grass on Grand River on the north side of the same lot.

- Negotiating with three property owners along Farmington Road to add planting strips and walkways behind the businesses in the building which includes Real Estate One.

The timeline for the work will be coordinated with the on-going city sewer improvement project, said DDA director Wendy Strip-Sittsamer. Adjoining property owners may also be able to tie in improvements on private parking lots and walkways, she said.

"This is probably the largest of the remaining projects," she said. Remaining projects include additional work on Grover Street, some on Grand River, some on and around Thomas Street, and coordination of signage throughout the downtown. The timeline includes approval of working drawings by June 4, going

out for bid on June 12 with bids due by June 28, and awarding of bids at the July 9 meeting. All will depend on the sewer project and weather, Strip-Sittsamer said. Traditionally, the DDA plans downtown work so it does not interfere with the annual summer Founders Festival.

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FHS all-night party slated

Parents of Farmington High School seniors are hard at work planning the school's all-night graduation party, scheduled for Sunday, June 9, after graduation ceremonies.

It will begin at 11 p.m., and run until 5 a.m. the next morning at the school. The party provides one last fun-filled evening for graduates, in an atmosphere where no drinking or drugs are allowed.

"Farmington High parents are proud to put together this party for our seniors," said parent Frances Miller, who is co-chairing the event with Margie Smith. "It has been a tremendous success in previous years and we plan for an even greater party this year."

The theme of this year's party is "America! America '91!" Many activities are planned, including a casino, hypnotist, videos, moonwalk, recording studio, time capsule, psychic, card reader, hair stylist and a surprise end-of-the-party send-off. The school will be transformed into exciting cities and areas from across America.

Doors will be closed at midnight and any student leaving before 5 a.m. will not be readmitted. Parents will also be called if a student wishes to leave early, according to Chuck and Donna Childress who are handling security for the event.

Organizers are seeking merchandise and gift certificates for door prizes and money to help defray costs for the party. Anyone interested in making a tax-deductible contribution can contact Chuck or Janet Kopel at 473-5883 or 353-7779.

on the agenda

To provide as much notice as possible to interested residents, the Farmington Hills City Council releases its preliminary agenda for the following week. Full agendas also will be published prior to the scheduled Monday meetings. All meetings are open to the public. Regular meetings are cablecast live on Metrovision Channel 18.

Farmington Hills City Council
Council chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m., Monday, May 20

Public hearings are scheduled on road improvements for Greening Street, from 12 Mile to Barlow, Burbank to 13 Mile, and between Barlow and Burbank, and portions of Barlow and Burbank. A public hearing is scheduled on amending definitions for housing for the elderly. The council also will consider enactment of an ordinance on solid waste, composting and recycling. An administrative enforcement policy for curbside recycling will be adopted, as will a resolution setting fees and billing services to the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County.

The council will consider appointment to the ethics committee, arts commission and planning commission.

The council also will consider adoption of a resolution of intent to raise taxes 1.8 percent and scheduled a public hearing June 10 on levying additional taxes on the proposed 1991-92 city budget.

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