

ON THE AGENDA

Below are highlights from the agendas of meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
Farmington Hills City Hall,
474-0115
7:50 p.m. Monday, July 11, 1994

Council chambers
Agenda items include:

- Request from Sharon Stein of Brookhill subdivision for presentation from local residents regarding Timbercreek, a planned unit development proposed for the southeast corner of 12 Mile and Middlebelt roads.
- Consideration of approval of resolution approving reward policy for city-owned buildings, grounds and parks.
- Consideration of Heritage Park pond.
- Consideration of ordinance to repeal regulations for maintenance of sidewalks.
- Consideration of introduction of ordinance to sell property on Hugo Street.
- Consideration of approval of appointments to boards and commissions.
- Consideration of purchase of Ashley Sports Park at the west end of Rhoadswood.
- Consideration of approval of Oakland County Act 641, solid waste plan.

Report on Woodland Hills Park

Farmington Board of Education
Lewis Schulman Center, 489-3300
8 p.m. Monday, July 11

Agenda items include:

- Oath of office for newly re-elected board members R. Jack Inch and Catherine Webb.
- Recognition of employees: Jamil Metti, teacher at Harrison High; and Nancy Handelman, adult education teacher at Farmington Community School.
- Item from superintendent regarding legal representation for the district.
- Update on compliance with new state mandates.
- Awarding of bids.

Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission
Farmington City Hall, 473-7266
4 p.m. Tuesday, July 12

Agenda items include:

- Recommendation regarding Form 393 from SWOCC attorney Neil Lehto.
- MetroVision report from Tom Bjorklund and Bob McCann.
- Farmington Public Schools' report from Peggy Schmidt.
- Executive director's report from Karen Collins.

Ice arena forum answers questions

By BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Asked and answered.

That's what proponents of an Aug. 2 ballot proposal to build a multi-use ice arena in Farmington Hills are hoping they've done well enough with questions about the cost, use and need of the \$6 million project.

Hills city manager Bill Costick along with Say Yes to the Ice Arena campaign members Susan McKendrick, Jerry Ellis and Dennis Fitzgerald answered call-in questions about the proposal on cable TV from 7-8 p.m. July 6.

The forum was sponsored by the Committee to Increase Voter Participation and the Oakland Area League of Women Voters. Debbie Mason of the League moderated the informal presentation.

Costick traced the history of the city's most recent study, which resulted in a report recommending the city build an ice arena to meet recreation demands. The report also found that the city could make money on such a venture.

Fitzgerald, who chairs the campaign, recounted an even lengthier history that included studies from 1977, 1986 and 1991 calling for an indoor ice arena.

"The master plan from May 1977 said the city should have an artificial ice arena per 30,000 residents," Fitzgerald said, adding that other studies also recommended building an ice arena and that at 77,000 population, the city could easily supply the patrons. Fitzgerald said the Say Yes

'The master plan from May 1977 said the city should have an artificial ice arena per 30,000 residents.'

Dennis Fitzgerald

committee is giving residents a "crash course" on ice arena that he and others have studied for about two years. Fitzgerald, who chairs the committee and was parks and recreation commission chairman for 12 years before Ellis took over this spring, said he had been skeptical of the project at first.

Ellis said he too had been opposed at the outset, but found the prospect of an ice arena one that would bring people into Farmington Hills to spend money at the arena and other businesses. It would add to the city's recreation program, not only in the area of ice sports, but in support of soccer, baseball, basketball and other facilities at Founders Sports Park on Eight Mile — the proposed building site.

McKendrick said she was initially motivated for selfish reasons. She and her son are both active skaters.

"I have to drive a long way at all kinds of hours to find ice time," she said.

But as part of the design committee, she had seen the benefits for the community, she said.

Costick showed an architect's drawing of the brick and aluminum-sided structure and its location, and said a detailed floor plan of the arena will be available

at the library on 12 Mile starting Tuesday.

Questions answered included:
■ The location: Founders Sports Park on Eight Mile. Costick said that location provides access from I-275, the property is relatively flat and is owned by the city.

■ Why couldn't a private developer build it? Ellis said the lower interest rate the city would pay to borrow, owning the building site and not having to pay taxes all made it more practical for the city to own and profit from it.

■ When would it open? If voters

approved the bond proposal, the arena would be open for the September 1996 skating season.

Councilwoman Joanne Smith, who was in the audience at the council chambers during the presentation, said residents were still asking her about the arena, but weren't cloaking it in negative terms.

"I tell them I supported it as a member of the council," she said. "Prior to the public hearing I heard a lot of negative comments. But since then people have asked me, 'what do you think?'" she said.

If everyone who has said they support the arena votes that way in the primary, it will pass, Smith said.

Video tapes of the program are available at city hall.

Bereavement support offered

Angela Hospice of Livonia will offer bereavement support groups and a new series on coping with grief. The groups will allow family members to find some solace during difficult times.

The sessions are free.

The groups meet every second Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. and every fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. All groups

meet at the hospice center, 14100 Newburgh Road.

Hospice is a type of care designed to provide support for people who suffer from an incurable illness. Hospice allows patients to live with dignity, alert and pain free, while involving loved ones in providing the actual patient care. For more information, call Jackie Speen at 464-7810.

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Sunday Television 8:00 a.m. - WKBD Channel 50



OPA! FEST
ST. NICHOLAS GREEK FESTIVAL
JULY 15, 16, 17, 1994
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
760 West Wattles Road, Troy, Michigan
Friday & Saturday - 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Sunday - 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Cultural Exhibits • Ethnic Dancing
Cooking Demonstrations • Greek Food & Pastries
Children's Activities
Admission \$1.00 • Children 12 and under free
Free additional parking with shuttle service provided at Walsh College
(480) Livonia between Big Beaver & Wattles

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Including The Tank Engine & Friends
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21 7:30 PM
The Charlie Daniels Band
w/ John Berry
Lawn seats Just \$10

22 7:30 PM
Emmylou Harris
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Lawn seats Just \$10

23 1:30 & 5:30 PM
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27 7:30 PM
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