Textron asks for postponement of hearing for tax abatement

TAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills city officials coived notice late Monday that roy-based Textron Automotive ould need a little more time ith their request for a tax

blatement.
In a letter faxed to City Manlager Steve Brock, Francene
Newbury asked that two public
fearings be postponed until the
touncil's July 10 meeting. The
tompany didn't provide a reason
for the request.

r the request. "I think they were surprised at ow quickly we moved." Brock aid. "That's one for the public do - we're ready, they're not."

Textron representative Kirk ubrey said Tuesday the compahad some issues with lease ms that needed to be final-

Before we proposed it to council, we wanted to have everything nailed down, so we're ready to start right away if we're given approval.

Kirk Aubrey

the facility, Aubrey replied "yesterday." Dotailed plans are already drawn, and a construction schedule depends only on site approvals.

A division of a multi-astional company headquartered in Rhode Island, Textron Automotive is seeking the tax break to build on property in the 12 MileOprake/Haggerty Road area. The city's contribution is required to leverage an application to the Michigan Economic Growth Association (MEGA), which provides even larger tax abatements for high-tech

research companies.
Textron Automotive recently withdrow a similar request made of Novi, issuing a statement that the city's timetable had caused them to fall behind in construction of their new facility. Novi City Council members had approved a tax abatement policy just two weeks earlier.

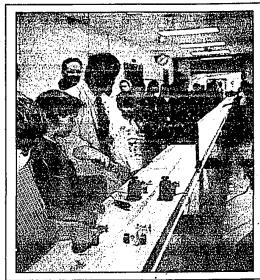
city Country instances a mapproved a tax abatement policy just two weeks earlier.

Brock said the company anticipates making a \$40 million to \$50 million investment, consolidating four or five offices into one location. The city's Economic Development Commission has recommended approving the abatement, which would amount to approximately \$2,540,019 from all taxing jurisdictions. The city's share would be \$599,918.

In the city's last MEGA-relactive share would be \$599,918.

In the city's last MEGA-relactive share mould be \$100,000.

Corp. received \$2,518,668 in personal and real estate tax abatement, with the city's portion totaling \$594,873.



Here's how:

Demo time: Middle teacher Tom Ogle demon strates how carbon diox miniature down the drag strip, at the annu al Warner Technology Night. Approxi-mately 150 attended the program, held at the school's renounted technology cen-

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