BY PAUL R. PACE STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills resident Mark Gordanler has decided to double his offer of reward money to \$20,000. It's available to anyone will-ing to go public with the right information concerning wrong-doing and subsequent dismissal of a Partmington Hills city employee or elected official.

Hills eity employee or elected official. The news comes on the heels of a brief and explosive meeting between Gordanier and the eity council in a study ession Monday. Mayor Nancy Bates ran through a list of concerns Gordanier had submitted to City Manager Steve Brock after a recent council meeting. However, after 45 minutes, Gordanier and his wife, Jean, who did not speak, walked out of the meeting after Bates chastised Gordanier for tak-ing up so much of city admin-istration's time with past istration's time with past istrati

Also among Gordanier's concerns was how the city's Zoning Board of Appeals was treating business people who seek zoning variances. Bates said the ZBA is its own ruling body that can nei-ther take direction from the city couped user have it deci-

Bates and the AAA BITS own ruling body that can nei-ther take direction from the city council nor have its deci-sions overturned by the coun-cill. Business owners who do not receive variances from the ZBA can appeal their cases to civil court. Council members' only control over the ZBA lies in the appointment process. "We read their (meeting) minutes so we see what's going on," Bates said. "You don't see how they behave in front of residents and business owners," Gordanier said, adding some business people have been publicly scolded. Gordanier also complained that Police Chief William Dwyer has been overzealous in his handling of some crim-inal cases in the pust, includ-ing a 45-count indictment filed against be owner of Hungry Howic's pitza restau-rants. Charges were filed after a load restaurant was robbed and official discovered a 16-year-old had been teft alone. Bates pointed out the charges were filed through the state's labor division, not the Hills police department,

and Gordanicr could file a Freedom of Information Act request with the Oakland County Prosecutor's office to obtain more information. Before leaving, Gordanicr told the mayor her attitude stinks

stinks." Gordanier announced the Gordanier announced the increase in the reward in an e-mail sent to the Observer after the meeting. He said the money is payable upon public disclosure of misconduct and subsequent/directly related resignation or firing of any elected official or non-clerical administrative official. No prosecution is neces-sary, Gordanier stated. "Jean and I pity our mayor who has made it very clear that abe is wayting between that abe in wayting between members of the public who care for our community far more than our arrogant city administrators and certain elected officials, Gordanier With

elected officials, Gordanier wrote. His original reward, offered in December 2001, was for \$10,000 and was sparked by Tom Prose, who through his newspaper, Your Community Criter, offered a similar

Crier, offered a similar reward regarding city of Phymouth employees. The Crier did not publish any results from the offer and has since rescinded it. ppace@oe homecomm.net 1 (248) 477-5450

projects in Oscimity of Control have been approved for fund-ing. At its annual project selec-tion meeting. Wednesday, the Oskland County Federal Aid Task Force Funding Committee was unable to provide funding for any new road widening projects in the county. The action means no projects will be eligible for federal funding through the year 2006. As was the case for the last two years, the committee was able to approve funding only for the second or third phases able to approve funding only for the second or third phases of previously approved widen-ing projects. Five new major resurfacing projects were fund-ed. The decision comes on the method for Osvi Jennifer

ed. The decision comes on the heels of Gov. Jennifer Granholm's announcement last week that she was 'pausing' funding for all new road con-struction projects that have not already been bid and contracts approved for the work. State funding, Granholm said, will be reserved only for maintenance and reconstruction projects. The county funding commit-tee has the task of selecting which city, village or Road County (RCOC) road improve-ment projects will receive fed-eral road funding, which is the primary source of funding for

The 14-member committee includes 10 representatives of Oakland's cities, villages and townships, as well as two mem-bers from KCOC, one represen-tative from SMART and one from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The committee reviews projects that are submitted by RCOC and all the cities and villages in the county. All those projects then compete for the available funds. In order to receive feder-al road construction dollars, projects must be rated, ranked and approved by the commit-tee.

that receive the most points receive funding. Every year, worthy projects costing mil-lions of dollars go unfunded because of a lack of fund. This year, nearly \$100 mil-lion worth of projects were sub-first phase (project design) has been submitted, meaning the more costly right of way sequi-sition and construction phase have yet to be submitted. If the full costs of all the projects sub-mitted were calculated, the unit cost would be several hun-dred million tollars more. RCOC and the county's ctiles and villager rely on federal funds, or a mix of federal and state funds, for nearly all major road construction projects. Without the federal funds, there would be very faw major road construction projects. Without the federal funds, there would be very faw major road projects undertain on ctile and willager they on federal funds, or a mix of federal and state funds. for nearly all major road projects undertain on ctile and rouge the weilable federal funds. The is a very fair and bigier the reast albue forderal funds. The is a very fair and bigier the reast albue for and indices the initic of dereal dol-har sovilable, he aid. "Each project submitted is reviewed obley on its metri." He added his system essentially reviewed solely on its metri. "He added his system creads), to compete for the available funding.

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Road projects go unfunded

BY JOE BAUMAN STAFF WRITER

major projects. Each year the committee meets in February to select the projects that will receive funding three years in the future. "It is frustrating to see the tremendous need for capacity improvements on the road sys-tem and not be able to do much about it," said Brian Blacsing. RCUC director of planning and development and the chair of the funding committee. Blaesing noted the commit-tee had \$2.316 million to allo-cate to projects this year. However, it received applica-tions for \$2.35 million worth of road projects vying for those funds. The 14-member committee includes to representations of

and approved by the commu-tee. The projects are ranked using a 'worst first' point sys-tem that gives the most points to those projects that will do the most to reduce traffic com-gestion and improve motorist safety. Then, only the projects

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