Farmington Observer



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Fabrios, furniture and inspired on the second of the secon

Kimberley paving plan OK'd

years, which is longer than any dents are arguing a \$4,000 assessment cost right down to the cent, and some were getting red doing it.

For the third time, the Farmington Hills City Council listened to residents apposed to the nearly \$1.5 million repaying project during a cost hearing Monday.

The description of the control of the con

nearly \$1.5 million repaving project during a cost hearing Monday.

Residents agree the \$3.5 miles
of subdivision roadway needs to
be repaired; they question the
cost and scope of the project as
well as how it was presented.

"I feel like I'm being taken,"
said Kilartan vesident Brendar
Fitzpatrick - seident Brendar
Fitzpatrick - Residents Husbatern
Farmington Hills subdivision
will pay nearly \$4,000; some 3;
corner lots are assessed more
because they conscivably receive
more benefit as a said present of the
subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continjustification of the subdivision's residents - continsubdivision's residents

ject is below initial cost projec-tions. The road will last 15

change the way residents are assessed.

I don't like (special assessment districts). I don't like that they pit neighbor against neighbor and they pit neighbor against neighbor and they go on for a long-time," said councilwoman Vicki Barnett.

Council members, who admit the current method has flaws, decided to stay with it after discussing the matter during a January study session.

Assessing, homeowners or frontage and benefit has also withstood court challenges, said John Donehue, Hills city attorney.

John Donohue, Hills city attorney.

"I know that those who live or corner lots don't feel they get a benefit from paving, except when they sell their property." said Donohue, noting the resale of homes corner lots is often higher. That's of little consolation to Eric Larson, who recently moved to Kimberley and will pay \$760 more on the assessment for his

corner lot.

As for his corner-lot premium, Larson said, "I've already paid that price."

Another resident complained he hadn't been presented a coat breakdown of the \$1.6 million project, which includes engineering fees and 10 percent contingency for cost overruns.

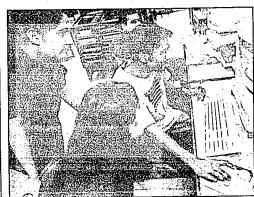
Councilman Jerry Ellis asked that the vote be delayed a week so the cost breakdown can be provided to residents. "I don't want to open it up again, but I want to see the numbers broken down," Ellis said.

Instead, the council agreed to hold off awarding the contract but approved the assessment in a 5-0 vote. Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi, who lives in Kimberloy, abstained, and Councilman Terry Sever was absent.

Another council member reiterated that the city is acting on the request of the majority of subdivision residents, who asked that the roads be repaved.

"We don't decide you need your road paved and send people on the street (with petitions). You come to us," Councilwoman Nancy Bates said. "It's nothing we start."

'net gains



At the library: It's National Library Week and the week and the options are endless. At left, Farm-ington High School stu-dents (from left) Teestra Kaur, Tania Sandhu and Sharan Lohit travel the Internet at a comput-er at the Farmington Hills branch of the Farm-ington Community Library.

