

A Special Meeting of the Royal Oak City Commission was held on Thursday, May 20, 2010, in Room 309 of City Hall, 211 Williams, Royal Oak. The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ellison at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Ellison, Commissioner Capello, Commissioner Drinkwine, Commissioner Poulton and Commissioner Rasor. Also present were City Manager Johnson, City Attorney Gillam, City Clerk Halas, Mr. Carlo Ginotti, Mr. Gary Lelito and Attorney Bill Hampton

Adjourned to Closed Session

Moved by Commissioner Drinkwine  
Seconded by Commissioner Capello

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission hereby adjourns to Closed Session for purposes of Pending Litigation.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Commissioners Rasor, Poulton, Capello, Drinkwine and Mayor Ellison

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioners Andrzejak and Semchena

MOTION ADOPTED

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A Special Budget Meeting of the Royal Oak City Commission was held on Thursday, May 20, 2010, in the City Hall, 211 Williams, Royal Oak. The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ellison at 6:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mayor	Ellison	
Commissioners	Andrzejak Capello Drinkwine Poulton Rasor Semchena	

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#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Frank Arvin has an office in the Downtown Development Authority district. It's important to keep at least a portion of the full-time Building Department staff. To move projects forward they needed someone they could call with issues.

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Mr. Jason Krieger said it was important to have a Building Department. They needed to have someone they could talk to. There were always questions with projects.

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## **COURT**

Court Administrator Tarchala distributed copies of the Court's proposed budget. The 44<sup>th</sup> District Court is not a department of the City of Royal Oak but an equal branch of government mandated by the Constitution. Since 2009 four positions remain unfilled. The Court is one of the busiest. The Probation Department works closely with the City to help save money.

City Manager Johnson noted the Court Administrator and judges indicated they were willing to discuss concessions with their staff.

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## **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Mr. Jim Domanski, Chair of the Downtown Development Authority, was present to answer questions. He noted the Downtown Manager was leaving and a decision hadn't been made about replacement. They've increased the maintenance they provide downtown and taken over responsibility for the Christmas lights.

Commissioner Poulton left the Table at 7:20 p.m. and returned at 7:24 p.m.

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## **RECREATION**

Program and event fees provide most of the revenue. Two part-time instructor positions are being eliminated. Contractual workers and program supplies are proposed to increase slightly. Recreation Supervisor Gazetti highlighted changes in the budget and programming.

City Manager Johnson pointed out that the Recreation Department is self-supporting. No tax revenue is spent on the department.

Commissioner Rasor left the Table at 7:43 p.m. and returned at 7:45 p.m.

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## **SOLID WASTE**

Tax revenue has decreased due to lower taxable values. Personnel increased due to recent increases in actual expenditures thus allocating higher personnel splits for fiscal year 2010/2011.

Mayor Ellison left the Table at 7:47 p.m. and returned at 7:49 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Andrzejak ran the meeting in his absence.

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## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES MAJOR STREETS**

This fund is financed by Act 51 revenues which are projected to decline slightly. Expenditures have increased due to transfers and increases for capital improvements. A slight increase in electrical and signal repairs is recommended.

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## **LOCAL STREETS**

Costs are recommended to stay relatively flat, with the exception of a slight increase in winter maintenance based on recent actual expenditures.

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### **MOTOR POOL**

One facility custodian position has been eliminated through attrition. No capital expenditures are recommended for fiscal year 2010/11. They are being postponed at least one year.

The vehicle replacement program was discussed.

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### **WATER & SEWER**

FY 2010/11 shows an increase in the cash requirements due to Oakland County Drain Commission rate increases, a SOCWA increase and decreased consumption. Reduced consumption means fewer units to spread fixed costs over. Flat Administrative Fee recommendation is unchanged at \$10.25 per quarter. The Graduated Usage Rate recommendation is \$92 for the first 2 mcf, a 22.67% increase and \$104 for each additional mcf, a 26.83% increase.

Mr. Rassel noted that last year there were 56 water main breaks and 23 broken services they responded to. They need to develop a meter replacement program. The current water meter reading system is antiquated. There are many new systems that would allow them to reduce manpower and increase efficiency. The cost is approximately \$4M.

Commissioner Capello requested information on how reallocating staff would effect water bills. Commissioner Rasor requested information on how other communities were paying for their new meter reading systems.

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### **OTHER STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE**

Mr. Johnson explained the proposal kept core building function operating with City employees but still called for either contracting or using part-time labor particularly for trade inspectors. Possible fee increases were not included.

Mr. Craig explained they now have a full service department. With this proposal they would not be able to do that. They would become part-time in the electrical, mechanical and plumbing divisions and need to set certain days or hours when they would respond to requests for those inspections.

Consolidation of services with other cities was discussed.

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Moved by Commissioner Rasor  
Seconded by Commissioner Semchena

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission hereby schedules a Special Budget Meeting for Wednesday, May 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

Possible items for discussion will be Ice Arena, Farmers Market, Library, Auto Parking, Senior Center, Parking Enforcement, recommendations for changes to the Parking System, parking fines and revenue enhancements including a potential millage and city income tax.

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Upon Motion of Commissioner Capello, Seconded by Commissioner Rasor, and adopted unanimously, the Special Budget Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 P.M.

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Melanie Halas, City Clerk

The foregoing Minutes of the Special Budget Meeting held on May 20, 2010, having been officially approved by the City Commission on Monday, June 7, 2010, are hereby signed this seventh day of June.

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James B. Ellison, Mayor