



City Manager  
Elaine Leven  
CITY CLERK  
Cynthia Greenia

# City of Fraser

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY

MAYOR  
Michael Carnegie  
MAYOR PRO-TEM  
Patrice M. Schornak  
COUNCIL  
Amy Baranski  
Kathy Blanke  
Patrick O'Dell  
Dana Sutherland  
David Winowiecki

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**FRASER CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**33000 GARFIELD, FRASER, MI 48026**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the City of Fraser City Council was held on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in Fraser Council Chambers, City Hall, 33000 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carnegie called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

## 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Carnegie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 3. ROLL CALL

**Present:** Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
**Absent:** Baranski\*

**\*Motion** by Schornak supported by Sutherland to excuse Council Member Baranski from the beginning of the City Council Meeting.

**AYES:** Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki

**Others:** City Manager Leven, City Attorney DeNault, Assistant City Manager Mistretta, DPW Superintendent Ragsdale, Captain Bisby, City Clerk Greenia

**Residents:** Jim Sutherland, Hilary Dubay, Marlene Hoeft and Laura Lesich.

## 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion** by Sutherland supported by Blanke to approve the agenda as submitted.

**AYES:** Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki

**NAYS:**

Motion Carried

## 5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Nothing at this time.

## 6. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were on tonight's Consent Agenda for approval:

- a. City Council Minutes Regular Meeting April 14, 2022
- b. City Council Minutes Budget Workshop Meeting April 27, 2022
- c. Civil Service Commission Meeting Minutes January 5, 2022
- d. Civil Service Commission Meeting Minutes April 12, 2022
- e. Historical Commission Meeting Minutes April 4, 2022
- f. Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes March 3, 2022

Fraser City Council Minutes  
Thursday, May 12, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M.

- g. Historical Commission May 2022 Newsletter
- h. Check Disbursements
- i. Revenue and Expense Report

**Motion** by Winowiecki supported by Schornak to approve the Consent Agenda for the May 12, 2022 Fraser City Council Meeting with the amended minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 14, 2022

AYES: Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS:

Motion Carried

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. FY 22/23 Water and Sewer Rates**

**Motion** by Sutherland supported by Winowiecki to approve the 2022/2023 Water and Sewer Rates as presented.

AYES: Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS:

Motion Carried

**b. Resolution # 2022-007 - FY 22/23 Police and Fire SAD Millage Rate**

Discussion was had as to whether lowering the mills to two (2) rather than three (3) was the best overall decision for the City at this time. Mayor Carnagie and Council Member O'Dell indicated that they were both concerned with this proposed millage rate.

**Motion** by Schornak supported by Winowiecki to approve the 2022/2023 Police and Fire SAD as presented with one mill being charged on the summer tax levy and one mill being charged on the winter tax levy for a total of two mills.

AYES: Blanke, O'Dell, Schornak, Winowiecki  
NAYS: Carnagie, Sutherland

Motion Fails (5 required)

**Motion** by Carnagie supported by O'Dell to approve Resolution 2022-07 for the FY 2022/2023 Police and Fire Special Assessment District with two mills being charged on the summer tax levy and one mille being charged on the winter tax levy for a total of three mills.

AYES: Carnagie, O'Dell, Sutherland  
NAYS: Blanke Schornak, Winowiecki

Motion Fails

Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak suggested this item be tabled until Council Member Baranski arrived at the meeting.

**Motion** by Schornak supported by O'Dell to amend the agenda to reflect that Item 7b – Resolution 2022-007 FY 22/23 Police and Fire SAD be tabled Until the arrival of Council Member Baranski, moving it down to item 7i at this time.

AYES: Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS:

Motion Carried

City Manager Leven then indicated that it would be challenging to act on Agenda Items 7c 2022 Tax Rate Request and 7d Resolution # 2022-008

FY 22/23 Budget and Millage Rates until such time as City Council had taken action on Item (current) 7i Resolution #2022-007 FY 22/23 Police and Fire SAD Millage Rate.

**Motion** by Schornak supported by Blanked to amend the agenda by moving Item 7c 2022 Tax Rate Request and Item 7d Resolution #2022-008 FY 22/23 Budget and Millage Rates to Item 7j and 7k respectively.

AYES: Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS: None

**c. Fee Schedule Amendment**

City Manager Leven explained that she had requested all Department Heads review the current fee schedule and make their recommendations for any changes they would like. Their requests have been presented to City Council for review and adoption.

**Motion** by O'Dell supported by Winowiecki to approve the FY 2022/2023 City of Fraser Fee Schedule as presented.

AYES: Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS:

Motion Carried

At this time, Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak indicated that for anyone putting in a pool they had to contact the City and have someone come out and look at it.

**d. Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick Hourly Charge Rates**

City Manager Leven referred to the letter from Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick regarding a proposed increase in hourly rates. They had not increased their rates since 2005.

Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak indicated that she was very appreciative that Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick for keeping their rates the same, but she added that she would like to see the city extend an RFP for engineering services so they knew they were getting the best value. She asked if approving these new rates changed the agreement in any way – would the City be paying "ala carte"?

Scott Lockwood, Executive Vice-President with Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, was present to discuss their proposed rate changes. He stated that approving the new rates would in no way change the current agreement. The agreement reflects that the cost can change upon approval of City Council. Approval would not lock the City in to a longer agreement if they did not wish to be in one.

Mayor Carnagie indicated that he and the City Council would like to see regular project updates from Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick. Mr. Lockwood said he would get an update to them monthly the week prior to all City Council meetings.

**Motion** by O'Dell supported by Schornak to approve the changes to Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick hourly charge rates as submitted

Council Member Winowiecki agreed that he felt these services should be bid out to make sure we are getting a good value.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS:

Motion Carried

**e. Zoom/IT Issues Discussion**

City Manager Leven reviewed for City Council that Ed Horn had researched what the issues were in regards to City Council meetings with Zoom included. Mr. Horn has purchased a piece of hardware that should fix the problem. Mayor Carnegie said it was money well spent as they started the meeting in a timely fashion tonight. City Manager Leven thanked Ed Horn for taking the time to investigate this issue and find a resolution to the problem.

City Manager Leven then reviewed the amount of people that use ZOOM to watch the meetings and participate in them.

**f. City Manager Evaluation Discussion**

City Council discussed the City Manager Evaluation process. Mayor Carnegie noted that he suggested this be on the agenda now so that this can be addressed in a timely fashion. He reviewed that Attorney DeNault had assisted City Council in the evaluation process before and he thought it would be beneficial to follow that same basic process. Mr. DeNault and City Council reviewed the steps for this. Mayor Carnegie would like to see this back at the June meeting. City Manager Leven could choose to have this discussed in open session or closed session.

Attorney DeNault and City Council agreed on the following timeline:

Evaluation and goals forms would be forwarded to City Council from Mr. DeNault on May 16, 2022

City Council would get their results back to Mr. DeNault on or before May 25, 2022

Mr. DeNault would get his results totals back to City Council by June 1, 2022

**8. RETURNING BUSINESS**

**a. Industrial District Street Repair**

DPW Superintendent Ragsdale and Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick representative Scott Lockwood reviewed the update on the Industrial District Street repair. Mr. Lockwood reviewed the letter from Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick dated May 4, 2022 in which all options for this matter were covered by Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick. The options were as follows:

Reconstruction with Concrete	\$ 18,500,000
Malyn Only	\$ 4,800,000
Heavy Rehabilitation	\$ 11,000,000
Malyn Only	\$ 2,700,000
Light Rehabilitation	\$ 7,300,000
Malyn Only	\$ 1,800,000
Routine Maintenance (spray Patch)	\$ 100,000
Malyn Only	\$ 25,000

Mr. Ragsdale was looking for direction on long term fix that City Council wished to go as well as approval of the short term fix of spray patching.

Council discussed all options and the cost for each as well as possible ways to pay for the repairs. Mr. Lockwood explained that these roads were in bad shape and that there were no inexpensive fixes for this matter.

**Motion** by Schornak supported by O'Dell to approve a \$50,000 amendment to the FY 2021/2022 Budget and \$50,000 from the FY 2022/2023 Budget for spray

patching the Industrial District Roads as recommended by DPW Superintendent Ragsdale.

City Council Member Baranski arrived at 7:23 p.m.

Discussion was had on what City Council was looking at for future remedies to the problem. City Attorney DeNault stated that perhaps some type of Special Assessment District could be approached for these repairs.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland  
NAYS: Carnagie, Winowiecki

Motion Carried

City Attorney DeNault indicated that a 5 to 2 vote was enough to carry the motion to pass, however Mr. Ragsdale would need further direction as to which contractor to use for the purpose of spray patching.

**Motion by Schornak supported by O'Dell to utilize Highway Maintenance and Construction Company to spray patch the Industrial District Roads at a costs of \$390 per ton as recommended by DPW Superintendent Ragsdale.**

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland  
NAYS: Winowiecki

Motion Carried

7.

**i. Resolution #2022-007 FY 22/23 Police and Fire SAD Millage Rate**

**Motion by Schornak, supported by Baranski to enact two (2) mills for PA 33 Police and Fire Special Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2022/2023.**

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, O'Dell, Schornak, Winowiecki  
NAYS: Carnagie, Sutherland

Motion Carried

7.

**j. 2022 Tax Rate Request**

City Manager Leven reviewed that City Council had before them the tax rate request, form L-4029 that would be submitted to the County so that the City could levy taxes for this year showing how tax rates are calculated.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak asked about the Library Millage. Marlene Hoeft, 18546 Davidson explained that the Library did have one mill but with the Headlee rollback last year it was closer to .971.**

**Motion by Baranski supported by Schornak to approve the 2022 City of Fraser Tax Rate Request, L-4029, as presented.**

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS:

Motion Carried

7.

**k. Resolution # 2022-008 FY 22/23 Budget and Millage Rates**

**Motion by Schornak supported by Winowiecki to adopt Resolution #2022-008 approving the FY 2022/2023 Budget and Millage rates.**

**Fraser City Council Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 12, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M.**

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
 NAYS: None

Motion Carried

8.

**b. Public Safety Uniform Discussion**

City Manager Leven reviewed why this item was on the agenda. She shared that Captain Bisby had done some investigation on this subject. He was here to discuss this with City Council.

Council stated that they felt uniforms should be worn at all times. They gave their concern with casual work wear. Captain Bisby noted that the officers, other than the detective bureau, were always in some version of the uniform. Further discussion was had on exactly what a uniform was. Captain Bisby went over in more detail what the policy referred to. City Council still supported formal uniforms for all Public Safety Officers and Command Staff.

City Council asked City Manager Leven to develop a clear and concise policy – what exactly is a uniform, what is a "version" of the uniform, who has to wear a uniform and when, those types of things. Everything needed to be clear.

**9. REPORT OF CITY ADMINISTRATION**

City Manager Leven reported on the following items:

The bushes for Somerset Park would hopefully be here sometime in June.

Staff evaluations had been sent out to Department Heads. Once she receives them back she will do her own and then review them with the Department Heads. This year was really about setting the bar.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan process has started with a meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>. They were working on the survey to be sent out to residents.

The Farmers Market would be starting this coming Saturday.

The Fame Awards were Monday, May 16 at The Vintage House.

**10. REPORT OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

Council Member Sutherland spoke regarding the Farmer's Market, Library Spring Fling, the Committee who is working on hiring of a new Director of Public Safety, the F.A.M.E. Awards.

Council Member Baranski updated City Council on what was happening in the process in the search for new Public Safety Director, she added that there were two (2) internal candidates that had applied.

Council Member Blanke wished everyone a good month.

Council Member O'Dell indicated that many youth were starting their summer sports. He wished everyone a good Memorial Day.

Council Member Winowiecki wanted to clarify his position on the spray patching matter. He explained the he was not at all against doing something in the Industrial District – he understands that this needs to be addressed. He did not want to throw away \$100,000 on spray patch.

Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak stated she would like an update as to where we are with the Dairy Queen. The Historical Commission is asking for donations for the Barn Sale. Starting May 25 they will be at the museum between 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. to collect these – no clothing please. On June 5 they will be having their plant sale and barn sale from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. She would like to see RFP for Engineering Services on the agenda for June, would like information on what bonding would look like for the Industrial Subdivision road repair. She asked if City Manager Leven could review the budget in regards to the Senior Housing. Congratulations to all the seniors who are graduating.

Mayor Carnegie noted there were numerous Public Safety Employees involved in the Fight for Air Climb, a fundraiser held at Comerica Park. He was heading out to South Dakota to do an inspection on the new fire truck that was being built.

## 11. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

The following citizens had comments for City Council:

Hilary Dubay, from Harrison Township, was present to introduce herself to City Council. She was running for State Representative for the City of Fraser and Harrison Township area. She said she was looking forward to learning more about Fraser and was here to simply introduce herself.

City Manager Leven shared that the Memorial Day Flag raising ceremony was on Memorial Day at 11:00 a.m. at the V.F.W. post.

City Attorney DeNault shared that the City of Mt. Clemens would be joining in with the Advancing Macomb Group.

Laura Lesich asked if all Boards and Commissions would have the availability to offer Zoom for the residents. She would like updates to job descriptions and available jobs posted on the website. She added she had concerns with the current state of Meadows Park, Fraser First was having a fund raising on May 19 and they were having their next meeting on May 24. There were still openings on the Recreation Commission.

## 12. CLOSED SESSION

Closed session to consider an attorney-client privileged communication, as permitted by section 8(1) (h) of the open meetings act

**Motion** by Carnegie supported by Winowiecki to enter into closed session for the purpose of considering an attorney-client privileged communication as permitted by Section 8(1) (h) of the Open Meetings Act at 8:35 p.m.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki  
NAYS: None

Motion Carried

**City Council reconvened at 9:18 p.m.**

**Motion** by Sutherland, supported by O'Dell to appoint Captain John Gillies and Interim Public Safety Director for the City of Fraser effective Monday, May 16, 2022.

Attorney DeNault asked Council Member Sutherland if her intent in the motion was that if Captain Gillies accepts this position it will not in any way affect his status as a Captain in the Captain's Union and if he were to accept the role he will remain in the Captain role also until a Director of Public Safety is hired by the City of Fraser. Council Member Sutherland noted that Mr. DeNault's understanding was correct.

Fraser City Council Minutes  
Thursday, May 12, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M.

Mayor Carnegie noted that since he was an employee of the Department of Public Safety he must abstain from the vote.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki

NAYS:

ABSTAIN: Carnegie

Motion Carried

**13. ADJOURNMENT**


**Motion** by Winowiecki supported by Baranski to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland, Winowiecki

NAYS:

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindi Greenia, Clerk  
City of Fraser

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Carnegie  
Mayor