

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – NOVI CIVIC CENTER – 45175 TEN MILE ROAD**

Mayor Gatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt, Council Members Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma

ALSO PRESENT: Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager
Jessica Dorey, Senior Budget Analyst
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

CM 19-04-054 Moved by Casey, seconded by Verma; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the Agenda as presented.

Roll call vote on CM 19-04-054 Yeas: Staudt, Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING – 2019-2020 CITY OF NOVI BUDGET

1. Overview
 - a. Introduction: Goals - Projects
 - b. 2019-2020 Budget Overview – Highlights
 - c. Multi-Year Budget
 - d. Capital Improvement Program

Assistant City Manager Cardenas said it was an honor to come before Council that evening to give an overview of the budget. He said the General Fund is balanced. The Special Revenue Funds are balanced, but they show differently because of internal borrowing. There will be a debt elimination plan that will be coming forward for your consideration that will bring us in line with the accounting rules. The good news is that there was no use of Fund Balance over the next 3-years. The budget includes over \$2 million in capital related items in each of the 3-years proposed. The capital projects are something they have been talking about for many years. The Tim Pope structure at ITC Park which has been on radar for many years will be replaced. The ladder truck is replacing the current one. This piece of equipment will have a nine month lead time. Our current truck is in fair condition. Replacement parts are hard to come by. As directed by CIP Committee last year we have over \$500,000 boardwalk repairs. Those are happening all around town. Council approved the N.W. Quadrant Ring Road, but the current Flint Street, which is the new Bond Street, are both up for construction in the FY 2019-2020. He stated the current CIP map describes what will be going on all over the City in terms of major projects, roads, and sewer. All of this information is on the City's website. He summarized four positions that they are requesting in this year's

budget. These positions have no legacy costs, no defined benefit pensions and no retiree health care. Our Building and Planning Department are extremely busy; they would like to add one planner to assist in the necessary reviews. They have many projects coming through the Planning Department. He thanked the management analyst for putting together the infographics for the other positions they are requesting for this budget. We have a very robust transportation program; we are serving 80 percent more riders than we have in previous years. More than 10,000 riders have scheduled using the new software that Council approved a few years ago. We are combining two part-time transportation facilitators into one full-time employee to assist in facilitating this successful program. We will still maintain one part-time employee to help. We are requesting to add an Assistant Fire Chief. We have a very sophisticated Public Safety Department. Our Police and Fire Departments are two of the best departments in their respected fields. We have four fully staffed fire stations, staffed 24/7 with full-time during the day and part-time during the night. Director Johnson is the only non-union fire personnel. The demands of the department warrant a deputy assistant to implement policy and training command staff. The deputy will be able to flex their schedule so they can be at the stations late at night or early in the morning and interacting with our dedicated paid-on-call staff. If promoted from within, they will not backfill that position. We are requesting a full-time Code Compliance Officer. We are celebrating our 50th Anniversary and the community is continuing to grow, along with that it continues to age as well. Similar to engaging a professional police force who utilizes the policing model, we already have a pilot program in the south east portion of the community where 80 percent of the violations were brought into compliance after the first notification. Bringing a fourth Code Compliance Officer on board will continue to work properly and legally with the residents to maintain a high quality that our community demands and deserves. He thanked our fantastic staff, Jessica Dorey, Pat Cauchi, Megan Mikus, Chris Jackett and the rest of our leadership team that helped put the budget together. We are standing ready for any questions that you may have.

2. City Council discussion and decisions regarding the plan priorities

Mayor Gatt thanked Mr. Cardenas thanked him for a succinct and detailed overview of the proposed budget for the FY 2019-2020. This is the 16th time he has been up there working on the budget. Some have been up there a long time. They have seen some lean years when things were difficult and seen some boom years when we have had millions of dollars come in from a drug forfeiture program. We have seen it all here in Novi. He believed this was a very robust budget. He appreciated the staff working on the budget. He said a lot of the staff members do a lot of the work and feed that information up the chain. He thanked everyone who worked so hard on the budget. Usually the Mayor speaks last, but today he exercised his mayoral rights and he spoke first. The budget is balanced there is no question about that. We are not using any of the Fund Balance in any of the three-years. Something that all the people should be aware of is that we are spending more than \$14 million dollars for road projects in the next fiscal year. The budget includes \$2.7 million dollars on Neighborhood Roads, and \$1 million dollars on our Concrete Panel Replacement Program. He mentioned among

the major projects, which included a long talked about Ring Road, \$5.7 million dollars. The Ring Road will help alleviate some traffic at the Novi Road and Grand River intersection. He said Flint Street \$2 million dollars, \$1.5 million on Cabot Drive and another on \$1.1 million on Lee Begole Drive. More than \$29 million dollars is budgeted for roads over this proposed over this three-year budget. \$1.1 million in sidewalk segments and boardwalk repair construction for this coming year in this FY 2019-2020 total of \$3.5 million over three-years. Segments include key areas to connect the new ITC Trail. We listened to the public when it comes to their main concern. Their main concern seems to be roads. We have a very safe City; we have the finest Police and Fire Departments anywhere that can be found. He thought the City has turned their attention to doing some of the work that people have been complaining about. He turned the attention to the Goal Session they had in January. In that Goal Session they tell the administration what they are looking for so they can prepare a budget. He looked at the minutes from the Goal Session in January. He thanked his colleagues for being so well prepared on that Saturday morning. He agreed with some of the speakers that there are dark clouds revolving around the economic scope. He said that in the past several years he always asked for additions to the work force, especially in Public Safety. He said he would not ask for that this year and he would oppose adding any full-time staff. He felt that it would be prudent to hold the line this year and see what happens. He then talked about transit, how it was Councils idea to bring SMART in to give us a presentation, which they did. He went on to say during our Goal Session that he would not be in favor of moving forward with SMART at this time because of the question of the Regional Transit Authority (RTA). SMART is a program that we could opt into for 1 mill. RTA is a program that will be a regional vote; it won't be a City of Novi vote. If the region opts in, then the City of Novi will be included. We don't know yet what is going to happen with the RTA. There has been a lot of talk that it will be included in the 2020 Election. If that happens, the last two times that it was proposed, it was 1.5 mills and he has heard talk at Oakland County they are talking about a 2 mill levy at this point. He was not in favor of doing anything at this time with SMART or any regional transit right now. Our senior transit has increased and we made moves to make it free for our senior residents and as a result we are going to add a couple of transit vans to our fleet in the coming year. He said he would opt to just concentrate on our own in-house transit system rather than explore anything on the outside. He liked the budget as proposed except for the new staff members. He said in January he would not be in favor of adding staff and he was not in favor of adding staff at this time either. He would be opposed to any budget that adds more staff. Other than that he liked what was written. He stated that everyone will have a chance to talk and give your ideas on the budget. There will be no motions made at this time. After the first go around we will start the second go around at which time anyone can make a motion to add something to the budget or take something away from the budget. He pointed out that it takes four members to add or subtract anything from the budget, but it takes five members to pass the budget. With that he started discussion with Member Casey.

Member Casey thanked staff. She said the budget process is a yearlong process. It is complex and what everyone does to pull the information together, to make it

digestible, not just for us for a decision prospective, but for residents and businesses who look at the budget. It is very clear for them to understand where our priorities are. To pull the information together, the budget is balanced in terms of Fund Balance, but also where we are allocating resources. She thought the City was very frugal and fiscally responsible. We are allocating our resources to the places where they can do the most good, but it is across all of the activities of the City, all of the departments. At the last Council meeting they approved the Ring Road which she was 100 percent in favor of. One of her colleagues mentioned that we were approving the budget for the Ring Road. It was kind of out of context with some of the rest of the projects that we know are coming from a road perspective among others. She used this opportunity to call on staff to make sure we are looking long-term. We have had a couple of studies that we have been waiting for final reports on and she is looking forward to those coming in the very near future so that we can continue to prioritize. These are the things that will not be incorporated into the FY 2019-2020, but they can be incorporated into FY 2020-2021 and beyond. As we are looking at multi-year those are important numbers to have when we talk about things like Novi Road, Beck Road, etc. She stated she was really looking forward to the conversation around the table this evening in terms of where Council is looking to set priorities going forward and she has a couple changes she will be proposing.

Member Verma mentioned the Mayor has seen the budget for 16 years and he has only been on Council for four months. He thought the budget books were very elaborate and thanked staff. He did not have anything to add. He said he will listen to discussions and then he might have something to add.

Member Breen thanked staff for all their assistance and particularly the Assistant City Manager who has been very prompt in responding to a flurry of questions and giving very distinct answers. He has done a very good job. She thanked her colleagues for the support they gave on some of the Council goals. One she was particularly excited about was a comprehensive sustainability plan. Although she and the Mayor have some different views on public transit, she would like to see us do something. She believed that is a conversation to continue. She noted that we are stepping up in the area of public safety. She wanted to make sure road improvements are in areas that our residents want to focus on. That being said she thought that overall a really good plan. She looked forward to continuing the conversation.

Member Poupard commented that this is overwhelming. She said for those who are watching, you cannot believe the amount of work that goes in to providing this budget. She looked at it, and studied it, the budget is responsive to what Council and City staff has been hearing from residents. It is an extremely responsive budget with numbers. They cannot do it all, so they have to prioritize. It's not easy. She believed the residents have no idea how much it costs to repairs roads. You'll see a major amount of money to repair roads. The other concern was the focus on sustainability. That has been a goal, and they are beginning to take steps to make that happen. Thanks to the staff for everything that they have done. She said the residents should be impressed by staff, and their listening to concerns on what is going on in the community.

Member Mutch said he believed this budget has some elements we haven't seen in previous years. The Mayor and Assistant City Manager mentioned the fact we are not using any fund balance in the next two years to balance the budget. That's been a request from Council for a number of years, and it's challenging. He thought that accomplishing that should be noted. It shows we have finally gotten in alignment between the amount of revenue coming into the City through various sources and the expenditures that we are doing at least in the General Fund. Another element he thought was noteworthy was that we continue to pay down our existing debt in comparison to other communities of our size and character. We have way less debt in terms of overall debt load and general obligation bonds. That's been a sustained effort by City Council to hold the line on unnecessary debt expenditures. He was glad to continue in that direction. He highlighted the positive that we continue to make that investment into capital improvements across the City in a variety of areas. It's one of the key things we do as a City to keep us a great City as we are continuing to invest in infrastructure, buildings, and vehicles. They are expensive but necessary. If we stop doing that on a regular basis, there will be a problem. He thought there are areas in this budget where we as a Council can provide direction in terms of bringing the budget more fully into alignment with the goals we adopted in January. He mentioned areas like devoting more resources to public safety related to our schools. Another would be looking at the neighborhood park improvement request we had as a short term goal. Investing in street lighting in major corridors, and where we can do even more with that. On the second go around he would get into the specifics of that. There are areas that need more conversation; it wouldn't all happen here tonight. He mentioned that he was going to put three big items that City Administration needs to help them better understand the financials of. First is, contracted services in the area of inspections and plan review. The City jumped into this years ago although he had some concerns about that. He saw the potential benefits, but he was concerned about keeping a handle on costs related to that. Unfortunately some of his concerns happened because we saw the cost associated spike up significantly beyond what was initially projected. He noted that now the company we had been contracting with we are no longer utilizing anymore, and yet the budget still reflects a significant expenditure into that area. He said that we are also being asked to add staff in some of those same areas. He would like to know how that all works together. City Council had conversations related to employee health care. It is an issue that we have not visited in a few years. He felt it was time to have another conversation about that. It is time for a conversation on whether there are better ways to provide health care coverage to our employees that are more equitable for everyone within the organization at the same time holding the line on cost. That might not be a budget item that we approve, but it has an impact on our budget. Not only in terms of spending on health insurance which is significant, but in additional to maintaining and attracting employees. That has a cost that isn't reflected in the bottom line. It can be just as significant. Finally, most importantly within the context of this budget is an issue he has raised previously is prioritizing our road dollar spending. The presentation by the Assistant City Manager highlighted some of those projects. Those are perfect examples of where this City is going to be spending a significant amount of money, looking at spending \$8 - \$10 million dollars on this budget year if we incorporate the Ring Road that we just approved and that has an impact on

this budget that we are going to approve. He felt that's a significant amount of money that we are going to spend in one area in the City that we hope to relieve some of the congestion. We are also approving a lot of development in that area. He doesn't know if we will see a huge positive impact from that. There is a significant amount of money going to that area, and at the same time there are other pain points that back up at rush hour that the residents complain about. It is the bottlenecks at rush hour that residents feel the most impact. Also visitors to the community experience that also. He was concerned that in the list of projects in CIP and the information provided by City Administration there is a lot of money going into areas which may be worthy at some level, but he did not see addressing the areas of biggest concern. He acknowledged up front that some of the most challenging locations in the City are the responsibility of the Road Commission so we have to work with them to address those. Sometimes their funding priorities are not our funding priorities. When he looked at the list of prioritized roads that were provided to Council he was shocked there are road segments that are not reflected as being done over the next six years, but not projected to be done in the future. He gave an example; no Grand River between Haggerty and Novi Road. He felt that it was one of the most challenging during evening rush hour, no discussion about widening that. The second area of concern was Novi Road from 8 Mile to Ice Arena Drive. It varies with different lanes; it has three lanes, four lanes, two lanes with no mention of addressing capacity in that corridor. He said that 10 Mile is mentioned in terms of short term improvements and repaving, but no long term solution for long term solution for capacity. If that is the priority list and it's missing several of the most important corridor improvements we need to do as a City, he has a hard time with the document reflecting where we need to go. He said looking again at our CIP plan where funding is intended to be spent, such as the extension of Crescent Boulevard south and east in the area of our current DPW facility. He questioned if it was really their highest priority to spend a couple of million dollars for that. We have a limited amount of road dollars. We have to put those in places where people feel the positive impact in terms of traffic and congestion. We will hear complaints from residents. That is an area that we need to talk about and City Administration needs to reflect on. He didn't think what was presented to us was where we really need to be going in terms of spending the limited dollars that we have.

Member Staudt said there are certain things when he looks at the budget that he ignores, one of them is the extreme detail in the blue book. That is the responsibility of City staff to give us numbers and to provide us with information that is extremely accurate that leads us to the bigger picture. The big picture is where everything really happens. He supported what the Mayor said earlier. He thought we need to change the way we think about adding employees to our City. In 2008/2009 we went through a reduction of employees and we don't want to do that again. We never cut wages, which was unusual at the time. We reduced our work force and we are very reluctant to push it up. We need to pull back on employees and look at each position on a need basis. If we find they are needed, we have funds to provide that. We are at a 29 percent fund balance and maintaining that. With these positions, we aren't looking to dip into that. It behooves City Administration to come and make a case on each position instead of just putting in the budget. Another area was the CIP through our

millage last year funded \$24 million worth of projects without debt; Lakeshore Park, Bosco Field's, and the ITC Trail. That was \$24 million dollars of new projects without any debt. The debt that we incurred was internal debt, internal borrowings that we are going to pay with the millage over time. That is what a prudent fiscally City does. It takes care of its taxpayers' dollars. We have done a great job doing that. One of the things when we proposed the CIP Program a few years ago, one of the things that were really important to him was the each year City Council needed to have a small amount of money, \$500,000, which is unallocated so if new projects come up we have those funds available. The way it is set up now we have \$3.7 million dollars' worth of revenue and \$4.7 million dollars' worth of spending. He said that means we are minus \$1 million dollars. To get to where we need to go we need to either dig into our Fund Balance or we need to cut the expenditures by \$1.5 million dollars to get to get to that \$500,000 number. We will talk about that in more detail as we go along. Another issue that came up today as Council Member Mutch said we are pretty much adverse to debt in our City. One of the areas he noticed was the Ice Arena. We have \$2.5 million dollars' worth of debt and about \$5 million dollars' in Fund Balance. He will come back and ask the staff to come back to us with a potential pay-off for that building. If we pay that off we will generate an additional \$500,000 a year in Fund Balance which again is used to keep the property lively and do the repairs that are necessary. This budget is much easier than seven or eight years ago. We have more revenue, we are spending more money than just prior to the drop. In 2008/2009 any of us that are sitting on Council went through a tremendously difficult period and a lot of staff members felt it. What we did was didn't give raises for years, we didn't spend any money on capital improvements, we didn't do anything. If we could put it off and not spend money on it, we didn't. We are in a totally different ballpark now. As Member Mutch talked about we are looking at different opportunities to spend money on roads. The million dollars we are spending on panel replacement program, we could have fathomed that a few years ago. The fact that we continue to grow our City and grow our tax base is a testament to long term planning and to really thinking out how we are going to operate our City. He said he had a few things he would like to recommend later in the discussion. He thought they did a great job on the budget. He said our staff puts in months of work on this budget and he appreciated their work.

Mayor Gatt said everyone had a chance to put their thoughts out on the budget. We get a blue book and a white book with the budget. The blue book is line items. It has been Council's practice over the last decade that we do not get into the line items. We deal with the big picture. Mayor said it was now the second time around and Councilmembers can add something, delete something, or make a motion. It is just like a normal meeting which takes four votes to add or delete and he reminded them that it takes five votes to pass a budget.

MAIN MOTION
CM 19-04-055

Moved by Staudt, seconded by Gatt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the budget with the following considerations: Removal of the positions that are recommended by the City Manager in the

budget. Removal of the fire apparatus for \$1.8 million dollars which would be considered at a later date once we have a better idea of the actual CIP Fund Balance. The addition of the necessary funds to move the Novi Special from the Novi Library to City Hall.

Mayor Gatt asked Assistant City Manager Cardenas what the cost would be to move the Novi Special to City Hall. Mr. Cardenas replied the estimate was approximately \$30,000. Mayor Gatt asked if the motion passes and if the budget passes with this in it then how soon can we make that happen. Mr. Cardenas said it is in the works right now and it should be by the end of the calendar year. Mayor Gatt asked Mayor Pro Tem Staudt where those funds would come from. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said probably just out of the General Fund Balance. He said with the removal of the positions it will be a lot smaller.

RESTATED MAIN MOTION

CM 19-04-055 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Gatt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the budget with the following considerations: Removal of the positions that are recommended by the City Manager in the budget. Removal of the fire apparatus for \$1.8 million dollars which would be considered at a later date once we have a better idea of the actual CIP Fund Balance. To add \$30,000 from the General Fund to cover the cost of relocating the Novi Special from the Novi Library to City Hall.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt explained on the fire apparatus he understood it has a long lead time and that there are questions about how much money we have to pay up front. He clarified that he was not looking to not purchase the fire engine. He was looking to provide for Council a buffer of \$500,000 in the CIP Funds that are collected on an annual basis through the millage. He stated that was one of the provisions that when we approved the millage that each Council would have the opportunity to set aside roughly \$500,000 to that so if those opportunities came up to do something during the course of the year and they always do, that we would have funding available to do that. If we don't do it this way, we are going to have every part of the money generated is going to be used for expenditures this year and anything we do will have to come out of a very limited Fund Balance. We don't have any borrowing dollars left. This is just a flexibility issue for Council.

Member Verma wanted to understand why we should not be taking care of the fire apparatus for safety. Assistant City Manager Cardenas explained the need for the fire apparatus is due to the fact that the fire truck has come to its end of life, and it is unserviceable. He said right now it is more expensive to keep it running than it is to purchase a new fire apparatus. Member Verma said he would like the fire apparatus to be included in the budget.

Member Casey appreciated the Mayor Pro Tem making the motion that he did. She suspects it might behoove us to make these as individual changes to the budget. She could not support the motion at this point in time if it was not moving forward with the fire apparatus. That has been on the CIP for years. She asked if this was the ladder engine that will go to 10 stories that we need. Mr. Cardenas said yes, that was correct. She said she respected the point of view that we leave ourselves some flexibility, but this is not a place where she is willing to leave some flexibility especially if we need it to reach the 10 story hotels that we have approved. She said the Mayor Pro Tem mentioned the Novi Special. We have had a significant interest in it and we put the Novi Special in the Library when we built the Library in the first place. The City requested that the Novi Special go into the Library. Now the Library needs space, so we are asking per Mayor Pro Tem Staudt's motion to relocate the Novi Special. She asked if any of that \$30,000 was expected to come from the Library budget. If so, we need to have the Library Board amend their budget as well. Mr. Cardenas said he hasn't been involved in the cost sharing discussions that have taken place, but it is his understanding that it will be the Library's responsibility to get the car out of the building and we would then take to the Civic Center to its final resting place. Member Casey said there should be some conversation with the Library Board. That will be a budget impact on them to get the vehicle out of the Library. She said she would support the removal of the new employees, and moving the Novi Special, but she cannot support the motion as is with the fire apparatus included.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt wanted to clarify again on the fire apparatus. He had a discussion with Director Johnson about the funding of it. There hasn't been a clear response given on it. This is a \$1.8 million dollar purchase that we were not quite sure if we had to pay the entire cost up front or not. Chief Molloy replied to the question and confirmed that they do not have to pay for it up front. We have to pay for it upon delivery of the fire apparatus. It does take 9 months to at least a 1 year and it is only 7 stories, not 10 stories. Mayor Pro Tem asked how we account for the funds in the CIP Program. His preference was to allow us the flexibility which he discussed earlier was to spend half of it this year and half of it next year budget, but not to delay the purchase. He said if we don't have to put anything in, let us budget now for the portion that we want to budget this year, approximately \$700,000 to \$900,000 and do the rest next year. We would still allocate for the purchase of the fire apparatus. He said the motion was not intended to pull that fire apparatus off of the budget. He was questioning how they were going to pay for it. Mayor Gatt confirmed it will stay in the budget. He asked Chief Molloy if it has been ordered yet. Chief Molloy said they typically don't order anything until it is budgeted for. Mayor Pro Tem asked if we had to budget the whole thing. Chief Molloy said that would be left up to Council. Mayor Gatt said if the budget takes effect on July 1, 2019, 9 months later we are going to be almost into the next budget sessions. If we budgeted half this year and we budget the other half next year, that would satisfy Council and the Chief's needs. Mayor Pro Tem said that will give us flexibility and not wipe out the CIP Fund Balance at the beginning of the year.

RESTATED MAIN MOTION

CM 19-04-055 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Gatt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the budget with the following considerations: Removal of the positions that are recommended by the City Manager in the budget. Budget 50% of the cost of the fire apparatus in FY 2019/2020 and 50% in FY 2020/2021. To add \$30,000 from the General Fund to cover the cost of relocating the Novi Special from the Novi Library to City Hall.

Member Mutch asked for clarification from the City Attorney in terms of process so we are all on the same page on what we are voting on. Any motions that we are making tonight are essentially to approve what would be presented at the Public Hearing at a future date, and then a vote would take place. That would be the actual approval of the budget. He said this vote would only be 4 votes, it doesn't require 5 votes at this point. City Attorney Schultz agreed with Member Mutch and confirmed that he was correct process wise. Mr. Schultz said he was going to ask for clarification on the maker's motion. He said that Mayor Pro Tem started the motion by saying "approve the budget with the following" and then listed the three items. He asked if he was offering just the three amendments and there is going to be further discussion or was the motion only the three amendments and then we would be done. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said any additional amendments would need to be approved by the motion maker and the seconder. Mr. Schultz said yes, if that was how he wanted to frame the motion.

Mayor Gatt said he has been speaking to City Manager Auger for the last 9 or 10 months. There are one or two members in the community who are very interested in having this vehicle moved from the Library to another location. There were several locations discussed. We finally narrowed it down to it belongs at City Hall. In their last conversation via email, Mr. Auger said that they were hoping to do something with the Novi Economic Development Corporation regarding this. He supported this 100%. It is our vehicle, and he believed we should have it on display here; it is a big part of our history. A lot of people don't understand that. It is not getting the viewership at the Library that it should, and the Library needs the space. He thought that we could have a win, win by moving it.

Member Verma wondered who would be paying to have the Novi Special moved from the Library. Mayor Gatt replied that we, the City will pay for it. We are amending the budget this evening to include monies to pay for it. That is what this amendment is about.

Member Poupard went back and repeated the theme that Council has listened to the resident. The Library has been involved in the strategic planning session and it has come up again and again from residents who have participated in that process that the Library needs more space and more creative use of space around early childhood literacy. The car is currently in the area where we would be able to expand programming and library for literacy. She thought this was a double win for the Library and the City.

Member Breen expressed that she understood the need to have more flexibility in the CIP. She was happy that Mayor Pro Tem amended his motion to make sure that we do order the ladder truck as needed. She thought with all the development going on, there is a possibility that we might not have a ladder truck available. The current one is unserviceable. As long as we are able to order the ladder truck this year and it is available when we need it then she was perfectly fine with that part of the motion. She echoed the need for more space in the children's section of the Library because there are too many little people running around in too small of an area.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said he wanted to look into having staff borrow an additional \$2 million dollars internally to pay for the entire cost of the fire apparatus in this fiscal year. He said we may be putting a burden on a future Council that he is not sure if we have the right to do. He thought maybe the more appropriate thing to do would be to borrow the \$2 million dollars internally, spread it out over the 7 remaining years for the debt payment that takes care of this issue right now and gives us the flexibility. Assistant City Manager Cardenas wanted to clarify that we are talking about FY 2019-2020. Mayor Pro Tem confirmed, yes, 2019-2020. Take \$2 million dollars more, spread it out through the remaining years of the millage and just add it to our debt responsibility. That will make it a much cleaner transaction in one budget year. Mayor Gatt asked where the \$1.8 million that was budgeted would go. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said the \$1.8 million dollars that is budgeted would go away and we would only add the first years payment if spread over seven years. That first year's payment would be added to our debt load for the budget. Right now we are paying \$2.3 million dollars a year in debt. Divide the \$1.8 million by 6 years and that is \$300,000. Our debt load would go from \$2.3 million to \$2.6 million annually. It would spread it out over the entire term of the millage. This is the same as what we did for the Bosco Field, Lakeshore Park, and the other things that we have done. So far we have \$24 million that we have borrowed. This would take it to \$26 million. This will give us much more flexibility because we are spreading this over a period of time. Mayor Gatt wondered where the \$1.8 million originally come from. Mayor Pro Tem said it was going to come from the proceeds of the millage for this year, plus we were going to use Fund Balance. Mayor Gatt asked if we are going to use the Fund Balance. Mayor Pro Tem said there would be no Fund Balance used and we will only using the portion that is necessary to pay the debt and the rest we will borrow from ourselves.

RESTATED MAIN MOTION

CM 19-04-055 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Gatt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the budget with the following considerations: Removal of the positions that are recommended by the City Manager in the budget. Fund the purchase of the fire apparatus internally and spread the payment over the course of the millage. To add \$30,000 from the General Fund to cover the cost of relocating the Novi Special from the Novi Library to City Hall.

Member Poupard originally she thought she heard him say not to purchase the fire apparatus because of the cost. Then she heard, yes, we will purchase the fire apparatus. She wanted to confirm that we are going to purchase the fire apparatus. What we are discussing is how to pay for it in a more creative way, rather than taking it all out of this year's budget. Mayor Pro Tem said that was correct.

Member Casey thanked the Mayor Pro Tem for making that change to his motion. She was trying to do the math as everyone was talking. If we try to split the cost and put half in one year, and half in another year. This budget year starts in July, if we ordered it then, the 9 months out would be around April 2020 if we were splitting we would be a 1.5 years away from getting the fire apparatus. Thank you for listening to your colleagues. She realized that we don't typically address comments back to individual members, but she did want to say thank you for making that change. She could support this fully now.

City Attorney Schultz said since the motion originally spread it over two years and now we are talking about staff coming back with it over a seven year period, he would like the seconder of the motion to indicate formally they are ok with the amendment to the motion. Mayor Gatt said he would second the amendment.

Member Verma thought maybe it was too long to wait for the fire apparatus. Fox Run will be adding new apartments and some other areas. He was concerned that the fire apparatus would be able to maneuver around some areas. Mayor Gatt asked Assistant City Manager Cardenas to assure the residents in Novi who may be watching the meeting on TV that we do have fire apparatus that will keep everybody in the City safe. Mr. Cardenas said that was correct. Our fantastic staff in Public Safety is in charge of the specifications to make sure it meets the road, weight level and width that we have throughout the road network in the City of Novi. Mayor Gatt said what we are doing tonight is assuring that in the future our apparatus will be safe, but we have apparatus today that will respond to Fox Run, hotels, to anywhere else in the City. Mr. Cardenas said yes, that is correct. He said he and the Chief personally inspected it at 13 Mile, Old Novi Road, and South Lake Drive to see how it can go through that area over there.

Member Mutch wanted to make sure he was clear in terms of process. He asked City Attorney Schultz if we vote on this motion and then we have additional changes that we want to make do they need to happen within the context of this motion or can we vote and then have additional amendments to what has already been voted on at this point. Mr. Schultz replied the latter. He is understood that this motion is to be move this forward to the Public Hearing with only the three amendments that the Mayor Pro Tem added. If that is voted on, than that will be it. If Councilmembers want additional amendments beyond those offered by Mayor Pro Tem then they would need to be offered as an amendment to the motion that is on the table. Member Mutch confirmed that it would be within the context of this motion. Member Mutch said he wanted to put out there that he had a couple of items he would like to add. Mayor Gatt said right now they have one motion with support on the floor. Member Mutch

said he would be willing to make amendments to that. He said there were a few things talked in Goal Setting that we can approve upon in terms of our resources that we are allocating to this budget. The first amendment he wanted to make was addressing a need that was out there for several years. Residents are concerned that they don't have crossing guard out near Deerfield Elementary. This is a part-time position, unlike the other positions that were discussed in the budget. Mayor Gatt stated that he thought that Member Mutch was going to make an amendment to one of the three items mentioned in the motion. He said if he was going to add or subtract something else, then that would be a new motion. City Attorney Schultz said if Mayor Pro Tem Staudt's motion had just been "I would like to amend the budget with the following three things", you could vote on that and then move on to a different subject. Instead, the motion that is on floor is move the budget forward, with just the following three amendments. Mr. Schultz recommended that the maker of the motion reframe the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said he made a motion that encompasses the entire budget process tonight. If we are going to make modifications to it, Member Mutch has to present those to the motion maker and the seconder. That is how we have done it in the past. He didn't remember us doing multiple motions. If he changed his motion for those things, then we are going to have another vote to approve the entire amended group. Mr. Schultz said there are two ways you can do that. The motion on the floor is to move the whole budget forward with the following three amendments. That is the way the motion was framed. If that is the motion on the table then if you want to add additional amendments to the budget you are going to have to do that within the context of that with motions to amend your motion with a vote on those. Another way to do it would be, "I offer the following three amendments" and vote on those, then a member could make a separate motion with additional amendments. Mayor Gatt asked if we proceed on the motion as it is written so far, he thought there was consensus and these three amendments would pass. He asked how they would vote on something that Member Mutch was going to add. Mr. Schultz said he would offer an amendment to the main motion. There is already a motion and a second. There would be a vote on whether or not to amend the main motion for whatever he offers. If it passes with four votes then you would have a motion on the floor with Member Pro Tem Staudt's original three, plus the one that just passed. Mayor Gatt said we will not vote on Mayor Pro Tem Staudt's original motion until the end of the night. Mr. Schultz replied yes, you will have one main motion and add amendments to that. You would vote on each amendment. Mayor Gatt said the maker of the motion does not want to change. Mayor Gatt said that Member Mutch has the floor, and this is an amendment to the main motion. Member Mutch said he didn't have a problem with either approach. Member Mutch said one of the goals at goals setting session was allocating additional public safety resources to our local schools. One of the areas that we have had residents ask us for additional resources was that the need a crossing guard at Deerfield Elementary at Wixom Road and Eleven Mile Road. He noted that is a part-time position that cost about \$5,400 a year to provide a crossing guard and he would ask is to make an amendment to add a crossing guard position so make sure we can provide adequate coverage at Deerfield Elementary so that schools parents and kids that walk to school can have a safe crossing at a very busy intersection. Mayor

Gatt asked how much it would cost and where the money would come from. Member Mutch said approximately \$5,400 a year and it would come out of the General Fund.

Amendment #1

CM 19-04-056 Moved by Mutch, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To amend the main motion to add a position for a part-time Crossing Guard at Deerfield Elementary School for approximately 5,400 a year to be paid out of the General Fund.

Member Breen wanted to thank her colleague Member Mutch because he has listened to the parents out at Deerfield Elementary. They have been voicing their concern for several years. She would fully support this.

Roll call vote on CM 19-04-056

Yeas: Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt, Staudt

Member Mutch said the next item he wanted to address was one of the CIP items regarding converting the street lighting. DTE owns the street lights throughout the City and we would like to change them to LED lights. What were omitted from that project were the non LED street lights within Special Assessment Districts (SAD). What he was seeking was City Council approval to direct City Administration to provide us with the appropriate information to address this before we approve the final budget. Essentially stating what the mechanism was to get these Special Assessment District street lights converted to LED lights. What is the cost implication of that and what would be the budget impact in terms of SAD districts covering the cost of that conversion that may have to be allocated some way. This aligns with the City Council goal that we adopted which is to address street lighting within our major corridors in the City. This is not a motion to amend the budget, but is a request to direct City Administration to provide that information before we approve the budget. Mayor Gatt asked if it was a monetary matter, to provide the monies to do so. Member Mutch said if there is a monetary issue they would then vote on that before if it is brought forward to the budget. This is just to gather information. Mayor Gatt said he would support that.

Amendment #2

CM 19-04-057 Moved by Mutch, seconded by Gatt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To Direct City Administration to provide information on converting Special Assessment Districts (SAD) lighting to LED lighting and the cost impact on the budget.

Roll call vote on CM 19-04-057

Yeas: Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt, Staudt, Breen

Nays: None

Member Mutch stated he had a final issue that he wanted to bring up. He asked PRCS Director Muck if any of the short-term goals that Council had regarding some of the upgrades to neighborhood parks had been added to the budget. He said that we had a list of the improvements in the CIP plan that we intended to do. He asked him to clarify the process so we can understand if we are doing the improvements this upcoming budget year. Mr. Muck replied that they were looking at short-term goals as one to three years. He gave an example of adding Pickleball courts, a small parking area, and access to Wixom Road at Wildlife Woods. Part of that is tied to the development to the north. The developer is going to be paying for the parking lot and the access road so they are delaying adding the Pickleball courts until that aspect has been developed. They are looking at 2021 to install the Pickleball courts. They are in the middle of planning the northwest. We have a small subcommittee of staff working on that development. They will be reaching out to the local neighborhoods and want to have enough time to gather input on what the neighborhoods want to see. They want to have enough time to gather public input which is why they didn't put that into next year's budget. He would say the same about Village Wood Lake as well. Member Mutch shared his perspective that when Council approves a short-term goal, his expectation is that it will be reflected in the upcoming budget. He understood that not every project will be completed and some will take a little longer. He thought one to three years was not what their intent was. He agreed with going through the planning process, but he also thought it was important that we have funding set aside because this was noted. He said there is no funding in place for the next 15 months so even if you go through this planning process and incorporate the neighborhoods feedback, at the earliest we are looking at some time out into late summer next year before we can have a conversation about funding those improvements. They are more likely to be pushing into the year beyond that. He did not believe that was the intent from this Council when we approved that short-term goal to accelerate those. We were looking at the CIP and seeing those three and four years out and we want to see them happen sooner. He understood the concern about having money set aside for things that may come up and he agreed with that. The intent of that is important. At the same time if we look at the projects that have been approved for the CIP millage and the significant amount of money that we are expending out of the CIP millage, and where that is going, most people are not seeing projects in areas of the City where they live. He mentioned the DPW facility, Lakeshore Park and ITC Trail. If you live in the south east portion of the City, as in Village Wood Lake Park, no dollars have been spent there yet from the CIP millage. That was important to him that we have this impact of this millage where people can see their tax dollars being spent. He said due to the uncertainty we have with the CIP funding he is not going to make a proposal that we allocate any specific dollar amount at this time, but he thought it was important to have this conversation. He thought that once we do have a better handle on that he may be asking that we allocate a placeholder amount that says once you finish that planning process with these neighborhood parks, let's get moving on the improvements. Folks have been waiting a while for those in particular. Some of these like Village Wood Lake Park go back a long time. It is time for some of these improvements to come forward.

Member Poupard had a few questions regarding the main motion where we were removing four positions that were requested in the budget. She wanted some clarifications specifically for the transportation for Older Adult Services. It was a Council decision to increase the number, quality and availability of the transportation for seniors across the City. What she heard tonight and what she read is that they are requesting a full-time position in lieu of two part-time positions. She would like to hear some of the rationale as to the actual differentiation and cost between the two part-time because she would like to ensure that we can continue to expand. Right now we have about a thousand seniors taking advantage of the transportation system with a large percentage of those requiring handicapped assistance. Once that is available at such a low or no cost she thought the ridership will increase and she did not want it held up because we cannot program it and schedule it. She needed to know the impact to the budget between what we have now which is two part-time, and requesting a full-time. Mr. Muck said currently the team that schedules the rides is three part-time positions. They are flexible, they fill the hours that we need, but they are very transient positions. They have to fill those frequently over the last few years. With the new technology there has been a higher skill set needed out of that position. That is why they are looking for someone who would be immersed full-time in that scheduling software and be able to enhance our customer service as well. We have also seen an issue of three people trying to meet the demands of all 10,000 riders. The communication is actually much easier with one full-time. She reiterated that he said they are looking for convenience, quality of service, and not necessarily to provide service. Mr. Muck felt it was important to our drivers as well. One main point of contact, a full-time position, is more in-depth skilled with the software verses three people who are only operating about 24 hours a week. Member Poupard thanked him for his explanation and stated she wasn't convinced. Mr. Cardenas said it would be a net increase of \$24,000 including fringe benefits if we eliminate the two part-time and hire one full-time employee. Mayor Gatt said it was \$66,000 with salary and benefits and one part-time person replaced and the net cost was going to be \$51,341. Mr. Cardenas said that was the updated information that was provided today. It was provided to the Finance Department today. Mayor Gatt wanted to confirm that we could add a full-time employee including all benefits for an additional \$15,000. Mr. Cardenas said no, it was an additional \$24,000.

Member Breen said she had a few items she would like to discuss. She thanked Director Muck for all the work he has done and she said a lot of people are very happy with the new playground at Pavilion Shore Park. She understood that there are some small improvements that are coming to that area around the playground like benches and trash receptacles. She wondered if there was anything else planned and if that is included in the upcoming budget or how it would otherwise be paid for. Mr. Muck said they have a line item every year in the budget for park amenities. We use that across all the parks systems, so if we need to repair, replace or add a feature such as a park bench or picnic table we have a set amount of money set aside for that. Member Breen wondered if it would be included that there are benches around the playground because when she was there last weekend all the parents were sitting on the muddy grass just waiting for their children to finish playing. She wondered when the residents

can expect something to happen. Mr. Muck said they would take a look at that and add it into their plan. Member Breen said her next question had to do with ITC fields. She wondered about the time frame as to when the Bosco fields will be ready, and the soccer fields at ITC because some of them are in pretty bad shape. She wondered about the time frame as to what is planned for the soccer fields at ITC Park and how that will interplay with the Bosco field development. Mr. Muck said the Bosco fields start development this year. Depending on weather, they need two to three growing seasons before moving any of our programs off of ITC and onto Bosco. We want to establish a really solid base at Bosco. The intent is that when Bosco is ready for play then we can start moving programs off of ITC and begin the ITC renovation process. That is why you see it budgeted out in a few years. Member Breen thanked him for the clarification and all the work he has done. Member Breen said she wanted to talk about an item in the CIP which was the SCBA gear for the firefighters. This is currently budgeted for the FY 2020-2021 and she said this is the gear they wear when they go into a fire so they can breathe. The CIP had a couple of memo's attached regarding this equipment and in that 2016 memo it actually said that we need to order this gear no later than 2018-2019. Most of this gear was ordered in 2006, it is 13 years old, and it's approaching the end of its life. She would like to move this from the 2020-2021 budget up to this year's budget for the CIP. Her argument for this was twofold; the price of this equipment goes up 5 percent every year. On top of that the current equipment manufacturer is out of business, the parts are hard to come by, and they are getting more and more expensive. If we had ordered this gear at the time of the original quote it would be about \$50,000 cheaper. If we push it back from this year to the next it will cost approximately \$17,000-\$18,000 more. The cost to repair the current SCBA equipment has gone up quite a bit also. If we had ordered these when they were requested then we would have save thousands of dollars. Her second argument was safety. At the time of the memo, the timeframe to get this gear was a 9 month lead time and then firefighters take two to three months to train on it before it can be in service. We are looking at about a year from the time we order to the time it arrives. This takes us to the very end of the shelf life of the gear that they currently have. That does not account for the availability of parts to repair the current gear. Safety being paramount, it would behoove the City both financially and from a public safety perspective to move this item from the 2020-2021 budget to the 2019-2020. It would keep our firefighters safe and it would save us some money.

Amendment #3

CM 19-04-058

Moved by Breen, seconded by Mutch; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To move the purchase of SCBA gear from the FY 2020-2021 budget to the FY 2019-2020 budget.

Mayor Gatt invited the experts to come to down and talk about this. Chief Molloy said Member Breen's facts were correct. The documentation has been included in the budget for the last several years. They have asked for grants on this and we are still waiting for a response on a grant that they requested to replace this. He agreed that the equipment was near end of its useful life however the bottles have been tested the

last couple of months and they are satisfactory; they are not failing, we are currently testing all the masks. Firefighters have until the end of the month to submit for testing. Mayor Gatt asked about the grant and wondered what stage that was in. Chief Molloy said they are just waiting to hear from the Assistance to Firefighter Grant through FEMA. Mayor Gatt asked how much the grant would be for. Chief Molloy said it would be a 10 percent match on our part. Mayor Gatt asked what the total cost for the equipment for the FY 2020-2021 was. Member Breen said it would be \$373,497. If we move it up to this year with the 5 percent differential it would be \$355,701, but that would decrease the line item cost for the refurbished parts for the current gear. We are talking a savings around \$20,000. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt asked Chief Molloy about the grant and the 10 percent match. Chief Molloy said the City would pay 10% and the grant would cover the other 90%. He said these grants usually go to communities that are in trouble. He said we've been denied this grant for three or four years. He would bet that we do not get this grant because we are not in a financial situation that many of the communities are who are receiving the AFG grants. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt asked Chief Molloy if this has been presented in another budget that Council has pushed back. Chief Molloy said this has been in the budget almost every year. The original memo was done in 2016 because we were starting to ask for grant requests. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt asked if this had been requested in prior budgets for immediate purchase. Chief Molloy said they hadn't put it in the budget because we cannot put it in the budget if we are going to request a grant. We have never pushed them up and the Council has never denied the SCBS. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said this was the first time he has heard it. He wondered if we have to pay 100% or can it be spread out over time. Chief Molloy explained that they are sending firefighters into burning buildings, it is imperative that they have the 30 minutes to be able to breath. If we do it with half now, a third next year, a third the following year, we need to have consistency in our equipment. He doesn't want to have something that is 13 years old and have a firefighter respond and not realize that he is wearing something that is 13 years old or something that is brand new. It does take some time to train with the new gear; there are different makes and models. He recommended that we fund it all and not break it up half now and half later. Mayor Pro Tem said this is the first time that Council has heard from Chief Molloy on this issue. Chief Molloy said it was the first time he has been asked about it at Council. Mayor Pro Tem confirmed they never had a reason to ask him. Chief Molloy said he had not received any reason.

Member Mutch appreciated Chief Molloy's perspective on that issue. He said when we see the opportunity for grant funding and we see an opportunity for 90% of the cost covered that is something that we wouldn't want to take a step to foreclose that possibility. On the other hand, the reality is if we have applied for the grant multiple times and we haven't gotten it funded, if the funding generally goes to communities that are not in the financial shape as the City of Novi and there are a lot of them out there. This is critical lifesaving equipment. This is not only lifesaving for those that are wearing it, but for those that the firefighters are helping. Member Mutch commented that they haven't seen this specifically as a budget request. The Mayor Pro Tem noted that City administration presents the budget to Council and sometimes their priorities aren't fully reflective of what Council would want in terms of priorities. He explained

that is why they have this conversation. If they see something that they perceive as an important and critical need that they will make it happen. He said he was in full support of this. The equipment is getting old, and it is expensive to keep putting this off year after year. The equipment is getting to the point where it is no longer functioning the way it should at the most critical times. We have made some reductions elsewhere in the budget and he thought they could find a way to make this work within the context of the budget.

Mayor Gatt said this was lifesaving equipment. He said had they known they would have approved it a long time ago. We are here to protect everybody; we buy the safety equipment that is needed for our staff to do their jobs whether they are police, fire, or those out assessing properties. He said he was in favor of this amendment.

Mayor Pro Tem requested the motion maker indicate where the money would come from.

Restated Amendment #3

CM 19-04-058 Moved by Breen, seconded by Mutch; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To move the purchase of SCBA gear from the FY 2020-2021 budget to the FY 2019-2020 budget with funds coming out of the General Fund.

Roll call vote on CM 19-04-058

Yeas: Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt, Staudt, Breen, Casey
Nays: None

Member Breen stated this was the last item she wanted to discuss. Residents on the north end have raised concerns about Shawood Lake and the canal that connects Shawood to Walled Lake. She wanted to know whose authority Shawood Lake was under and what has been done to determine who is responsible for the maintenance of these canals, drains, and streams. She said we have backyards that are flooding, and we have canals that are getting choked up. She would like to give some clarification to the public as to the efforts that we have made to figure out what is happening to Shawood. This is important because we are making changes to Lakeshore Park and there are sure to be impacts on Shawood Lake. It is important for people who live on that lake and in the surrounding area to have an understanding on how that is going to impact the natural habitat. Assistant City Manager Cardenas said they have been in contact with the DEQ. We have received minimal contact from them about them looking into it. In terms of investigating the actual canal that is going southeast from Shawood Lake there is no regulated drain that is on any kind of plat map or any other kind of maps from our investigation from the City Attorney's office. We have to rely on the DEQ. We have sent a couple of emails to the person who was assigned to this case and it is something we will continue to look for support from them and have them give us a definition of what this is exactly. Member Breen asked Mr. Cardenas if he could clarify when the Stormwater Master Plan was last updated. She

asked him to share how any of that area is reflected in the Novi Stormwater Master Plan and where the water runoff goes. Mr. Cardenas said the Novi Stormwater Master Plan was last updated around 2014. The areas around Walled Lake and Shawood which is really just a retention pond, is regulated by the DEQ. DPW Director Herczeg confirmed Mr. Cardenas was correct; the last update was done in 2014. That section wouldn't have been included because it is not part of our stormwater retention basin. He stated that certainly with the information that has been brought forward they could include the conversations with the DEQ and get to the bottom of the jurisdiction. Member Breen asked when the last time anything in that area has been evaluated and where the runoff is supposed to go. Mr. Herczeg said he did not know as it was not in the 2014 Stormwater Master Plan update. Member Breen was concerned that the water quality of that lake or retention pond has not been assessed in decades. People used to be able to go from Walled Lake to Shawood Lake. They cannot do that now because of the road changes. Fish used to go from Walled Lake to Shawood Lake. She said she was looking for an assessment. Prior to approving the budget she would like City staff provide Council with a cost estimate to do an assessment of Shawood Lake and the surrounding areas to determine the sustainability of that area.

**Amendment #4
CM 19-04-059**

Moved by Breen, seconded by Mutch; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To Direct City Administration to provide a cost estimate on doing an assessment of Shawood Lake and the surrounding area in order to determine the sustainability of the area prior to approving the budget.

Mayor Gatt asked if this was a matter of determining our jurisdiction. This is a DNR or DEQ, because we don't own the lakes. Mr. Cardenas said that was correct. That is what our intentions have been to determine whose jurisdiction this is. He said we are trying to find out if it is the Water Resource Commissioner, or the DEQ from the office of Water Resource Commission. Mayor Gatt said one thing is certain the City of Novi or the residents do not own Walled Lake or Shawood Lake or anything. Mr. Cardenas said the City owns portions of Shawood Lake as the neighboring property owner. There are private entities that own Shawood Lake as well. In terms of who is regulated by it is what we are trying to determine. Mayor Gatt asked if the motion is to determine our culpability up there. Member Breen explained the motion is to just get a cost estimate for an assessment of the area to determine how much it will cost to even figure out who has jurisdiction, whether or not it is in our parameters to dredge that canal between the two lakes. We have been putting this off for years. The last time Shawood Lake was looked at was decades ago. She said she thought it would be prudent to put a deadline on this. Mayor Gatt confirmed that the motion is to have this done before we approved the budget in May. Mayor Gatt asked Mr. Cardenas if that be done by then. He didn't want the whole budget to be stymied on this issue. Mr. Cardenas said we are at the will of the DEQ in terms of determining jurisdiction. Mayor Gatt stated that was his fear. He couldn't vote on that motion the way it is presented. He requested it be

amended to say attempts would be made so that the whole budget would not be stymied because the DEQ won't answer us.

Member Breen said she appreciated that but wanted to clarify that this needs to be done in the near future. Something needs to be done. If it means there are other areas of Shawood like the wetlands that are behind Lakeview Bar and Grill that are part of that whole system.

Restated Amendment #4

CM 19-04-059 Moved by Breen, seconded by Mutch; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To Direct City Administration to make every attempt to obtain a cost estimate on doing an assessment of Shawood Lake and the surrounding area in order to determine the sustainability of the area prior to approving the budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said this is something that we did years ago to try to tie things into the budget to make it more difficult to pass. He said he could not support this. He said he could support this if it had nothing to do with the budget. If it is crystal clear that the budget will not be affected in any way and it is not being considered under the budget motion that we are going to pass tonight. He stated that this is not a budget issue. This is something we can make a motion on in any meeting, deal with at any time, and he would be happy to support it outside of the budget. This is not something that is normally part of the budget, this was not asking for an allocation of funds. He will not support this and strongly encouraged at his colleagues to think about tying anything to the budget at this point unless it is a financial number that we all agree on.

Member Mutch said he believed in the intent of the motion and the reason he seconded it is that there is a potential budget allocation here. If City administration came back and said yes, this is an area that we have responsibility over and we want to do an assessment that will cost some money to do that. He didn't think the intention was to hold up the entire budget. He felt it was seeking information to allow us to put money into the budget for such a study if it was available. Right now we do not have a number for what it would cost to essentially do a Stormwater Master Plan for that area. He thought it was warranted. We as the City have ownership over a significant portion of Shawood Lake. With the City doing improvements at Lakeshore Park there are going to be and continuing to have stormwater runoff into the lake. We have stormwater runoff coming from the adjoining roads and it is having an impact. We do have a responsibility over there. He suggested that they revisit this at our next regular City Council meeting under Mayor and Council Issues where we can have a more cleaned up and clarified motion. He said that could be an alternative way of doing it.

Mayor Gatt asked Assistant City Manager Cardenas who would do this investigation that is being talked about. Mr. Cardenas replied that it would start with the DEQ. Mayor Gatt asked if we could hire an outside firm to come in and do this study. Mr. Cardenas said as long as we have access and it is under our purview to do that. He

believed any firm would be happy to take that on. Mayor Gatt thought for budget purposes it may be more appropriate to ask for an amount of money to set this study in motion.

Restated Amendment #4

CM 19-04-059 Moved by Breen, seconded by Mutch; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To add \$20,000 from the Drain Fund hire a consultant to perform an assessment of Shawood Lake and the surrounding area in order to determine the sustainability of the area prior to approving the budget.

Mr. Cardenas clarified that the information they are looking for will be in the FY 2019-2020 Budget. Mayor Gatt confirmed that come July 1, 2019 there will be \$20,000 set aside for the City to hire somebody to try to get the answers that we need. Member Breen said her whole intention and bringing attention to the issue to get the ball rolling.

Roll call vote on CM 19-04-059

**Yeas: Poupard, Verma, Gatt, Staudt, Breen,
Casey, Mutch
Nays: None**

Member Casey said she wanted to speak about two additional short-term goals listed in the budget that weren't addressed. She mentioned the Sustainability Plan that is mentioned on Page 156 and the Fire Department Strategic Plan on Page 161. They are listed as short-term goals. She said nothing was set aside in the budget for these. She wanted City staff's insight on these goals. We may have to do a budget amendment if there are going to be costs that need to get applied. She wanted to make sure her colleagues were aware so there are no surprises if this is coming up. She asked Mr. Cardenas to give a quick understanding how administration plans to proceed with both of these strategic plans. Mr. Cardenas said regarding the Sustainability Plan there is a current Council goal for a municipal sustainability plan that we are working on. There are dollar amounts available for that. It is our intention after the Sustainability Plan for municipal operations is complete, Council would review it, approves its expectations and goals. We would then use dollars that are currently allocated in the current budget and roll over into next year's budget to then help us accomplish the next Council goal which would be incorporating that with our residents, stakeholders, business owners, etc. The Firefighter Strategic Plan is again looking at the resources that we have currently and in next year's budget and determining how we will proceed with that with respect to using our internal professional staff to come up with the plan or retain the services of a consultant to help us with that. It would be similar to what ICMA did about 10 years ago. That is how we are proceeding and we can identify dollars if need be in our current or next year's budget to make that happen. Member Casey thanked him for the information on what may or may not be coming down the road. These were listed as short-term goals she wanted to make sure that we all understood that there is not funding right now and it might be that we get requested for funding at a point in time when FY 2019-2020 starts.

Mayor Gatt said we don't talk about line items, however the Rules Committee met prior this meeting and they opted to raise a line item that gives \$5,000 for City Council participation in various seminars. The whole Council will get their recommendation probably within the next off-week packet. In order for it to work we have to raise the line item from \$5,000 presently to \$7,000.

Amendment #5

CM 19-04-060

Moved by Gatt, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To add \$2,000 to line item 101-1001.00-956.000 and take it from the General Fund.

Roll call vote on CM 19-04-060

Yeas: Verma, Gatt, Staudt, Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard

Nays: None

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt believed Council was required to make a motion to incorporate all the amendments that have been made to the budget to bring them forward to the Public Hearing. City Attorney Schultz said he thought the motion as it stands incorporates all of those. We do not need any further motions. It would be the main motion as amended several times. Mayor Gatt confirmed that the original motion was to remove the four new positions as presented, add necessary funds move the Novi Special from the Library to the Civic Center from the General Fund and to borrow \$2 million dollars to purchase the fire apparatus. The first amendment was by Member Mutch to add a Crossing Guard position at Deerfield Elementary and take that money from the General Fund. The second amendment was from Member Mutch to gather information regarding LED lighting. The next amendment was from Member Breen to add \$355,000 dollars from the General Fund to buy equipment for our firefighters. The next amendment was from Member Breen to add \$20,000 from the Drain Fund to study the Shawood Lake and other lake area problems on the north end. The last amendment was to add \$2,000 to a specific line item for City Council participation in seminars.

Roll call vote on CM 19-04-055

Yeas: Gatt, Staudt, Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma

Nays: None

Mayor Gatt said with that motion we can cancel our planned budget sessions that we have on the books.

AUDIENCE COMMENT:

Mike Duchesneau 1191 S. Lake Dr. stated that the Novi budget is the most important function of the City Council. It is the least interesting to residents. City Council is trusted by residents as far as the general direction and City management. Based on input, you

can be assured City Council and City Administration in good hands. He has previously brought up the roads. He said the recent changes and additions that are mentioned you obviously have listened to the citizens' concerns. Along those lines you may want to consider a ballot proposal to have a special millage to be able to do some things that are proposed, but aren't funded currently. Many items in the budget have been pushed into year six, which show there are other things. We all hate taxes, but the City will do a better job with the roads than the County or the State. He thought the City should have Wi-Fi in all of the City parks. He mentioned an International Book Collection and Library Funding. He has spoken to the Library Board and he said he has seen some things go on with that. He had outstanding results from his comments to the Library Board with a lot of answers back in writing. He supports moving the Novi Special to make room for children's activities, and the International Children's Books that he foresees coming.

Danielle Fasseel, 118 S. Lake Dr. thanked everyone for the wonderful play area that was added at Pavilion Shore Park, and the future renovations at Lakeshore Park. They are really appreciated. She wanted to ask for additional money in the budget for enforcement and signage to help with safety, and to address the traffic problems on S. Lake Drive. The street has heavy traffic and it is used as a cut through. She felt that people think of S. Lake Dr. as a City road instead of a unique residential street with property across the street. People are constantly crossing the street in the warmer weather, walking, and biking on the narrow path. She was concerned with the increase usage at Pavilion Shore Park and the renovation of the Lakeshore Park with the addition of the community center with residential programs day and night which are wonderful things, but this problem will only increase. She also mentioned the possible water park off of Beck Road, the large apartment complex at 13 Mile and Novi Road, and another large subdivision development at Novi Road and Old Novi Road. A traffic study done for Lakeshore Park for renovations will increase the traffic about 600 cars. That is a lot of traffic for a residential street. Keep in mind we do not have a sidewalk; our neighbors have to put up their own signs to be awareness and slow down traffic. We cannot have police monitoring all the time. There is no way to decrease the amount of traffic that will be using their street, she wondered if it would be possible to add an additional stop sign or two to their street to help slow cars down. Cars heading west on S. Lake Drive seem to pick up speed right after the stop sign until they hit Lilly Pond. Many of us have to remove wildlife that has been hit on the road and we don't want to see an accident happen to a child. There are a lot of younger children on their street right now. She gave a suggestion for a stop sign at the entrance of the Lilly Pond Subdivision. This will not affect any houses. If we cannot get one, possibly speed bumps at both ends of the street. She also suggested changing the speed limit on 13 Mile heading west after Novi Road to 25 miles per hour.

Anand Pappuri, 42210 Park Ridge Rd. thanked everyone for working hard to get the budget here. He moved to Novi from Ann Arbor. He is involved in energy efficiency. He would like to see in the budget an energy efficiency goal. He saw that it deals with sustainability, but we want to see a zero energy variance. Maybe the City staff can hire an energy manager that would help. He mentioned a community garden. He thought

we should have an energy manager to convert to solar. He thought DTE Energy could help out. He also suggested that the north end have some type of Library access.

Mr. Thippireddy, 24135 Winter Lane Cir. He said he moved here five years ago and has two daughters. Novi has very good schools. Novi is different than other schools. We pay more taxes to get some services, safety is there. He wondered if we are we really competing with global standards to meet next level of challenges in terms of education. He thought what Novi could use at the schools was some user experience. The teachers can be trained in that area and the children can grow. He felt that is what will be needed in the future.

Mike Davis, 1321 S. Lake Dr. said he supported benches and trash receptacles at Pavilion Shore Park. We need something up there for the parents. He also mentioned he agreed with the previous speaker and they have a large speeding issue especially after Lilly Pond. Need signage to slow people down. He mentioned that he see a lot of kids crossing the road and that the cars race through there. He also supported moving the Novi Special from the Library to the Civic Center to open the area so that the children have more room to move around, and more books in the Library.

Mayor Gatt expressed his thoughts on Mr. Bill Bowman, who was a real pioneer and died at age 92 a few days ago. Bill was selling lots in Novi since 1954. Jump ahead to modern times he was responsible for over 10,000 lots for homes sold. He was responsible for the OST Ordinance that created the M-5 Corridor that we benefit from. He assembled the property for the first Ascension Providence deal at 10 Mile and Haggerty. He assembled the property for where Ascension Providence is now. He was a private business man, but he was a truly a Novi pioneer, pro Novi and one of the nicest men in the whole world. Please keep him and his family in their prayers.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 P.M.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

Transcribed by Deborah S. Aubry

Date approved: May 6, 2019