

Summary of December 7th City Council Meeting

Up first on the agenda was a request from the St. Clair Shores Community Foundation to be recognized as a non-profit organization to obtain a gaming license. Gaming license was never requested and pulled from the agenda. There was absolutely no mention of the President and Vice-President and the whole request was tabled because no information was given to council on to matters that was brought forth by Anthony Miserendino the Treasurer and Secretary. Councilman Ron Frederick is President, ex-councilman Matthew Ahearn is Vice-President and Anthony Miserendino is Treasurer and Secretary. Council vote to table was questionable since there were 6 yes and the one lone vote of no which came from Councilman Ron Frederick who is the President of the Foundation.

Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Audit Report from Plante and Moran. As usually the city of St. Clair Shores every year seeks out an independent audit of the books to get an unbiased opinion as to the financial state of the city.

We are presently spending more than we are taken in and the only reason we have a balanced budget is that we took money from another account that the city had previously saved. The Mayor and City Manager forgot to mention that the residents had a very big part in closing the gap of financial ruins by paying on two millages, one for the street and one for police and fire. We have about 2 years to straighten up our financial course before we will be in the red.

Bids were up next, there were to requests:

(1) to award bid for Custodial Services bids opened

(2) to award bid for Lakeshore Drive bids opened

It was definitely a big difference between the two as far as bidding. The custodial services were bid out and it was a testament to what effort was put in that we received multiple bids back and a variety of services and pricing to choose from, multiyear contract saving was estimated in the mid \$450,000 and unanimously approved by council.

Then on to the bid for what was to be known as a condo in St. Clair Shores that was given to us by the county with back taxes owed. A complete 180 as far as bidding the only bid that came in was for \$11,000 and the median price was for \$44,000. Due to a "typing error" the \$44,000 minimum bid was not placed in the ad and the only person that made the bid is a contractor that works for St. Clair Shores. \$33,000 was not accounted for. The bid was unanimously rejected by council.

There was a request for an Ethics policy, a request to change the political sign ordinance, and we will see a breakdown of the pocket park bench costs.

Audience participation was full of very interesting subjects.

One subject matter was annexing the school districts to consolidate and the other subject matter was the PCB's in which high levels were detected again after 10 years.

Various government officials are to come on December 10th, 2009 at 7:00pm in city hall to discuss the matter and it will be televised on the SCS local channel if you cannot attend the meeting.