

**ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
WORKING SESSION - MARCH 27, 2000**

The working session of the Ann Arbor City Council was called to order at 7:03 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber by Mayor Ingrid B. Sheldon.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL

PRESENT : Councilmembers Tobi Hanna-Davies, John Hieftje, Joseph Upton, Dee Freiberg, Jean Carlberg, Marcia Higgins, Christopher Kolb, Mayor Ingrid B. Sheldon, 8;

ABSENT : Councilmembers Heidi Cowing Herrell, Stephen C. Hartwell, Elisabeth L. Daley, 3.

COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF WATER UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

City Administrator Neal Berlin introduced Interim Utilities Department Director Sumedh Bahl and explained that as a part of the comprehensive assessment, the Utilities Department participated in a peer review process, in which representatives from across the country made recommendations to the department.

Mr. Bahl gave a slide presentation of the findings of the comprehensive assessment. He presented an overview of the findings and recommendations from the peer group and stated that the Utilities Department has set some goals, priorities and objectives for the department. QualServe has been chosen to work with the department since it is designed for water and wastewater operations. QualServe will help the department develop an action plan and implement it, include employee input, and allow for a continuous improvement process. Mr. Bahl explained the strengths and weaknesses of the department as seen in the results of the self-assessment and peer review processes, and stated that the Utilities Department is encouraged to pursue the recommendations of QualServe.

UPDATE ON FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR HOMELESS SHELTER FACILITIES

Associate City Administrator Ronald Olson introduced Bill Harvey, architect representing Hobbs & Black. Mr. Harvey reviewed the feasibility study and costs associated with locating the emergency shelter project at the Ann-Ashley Parking Structure, or possibly in

conjunction with the continued use of the 543 N. Main St. facility. Mr. Harvey presented four possible schemes for the shelter and pointed out the differences between each. He acknowledged that more variations of these schemes are possible. He described the existing conditions at the Ann-Ashley Parking Structure and at 543 N. Main St., and outlined the possibilities available with their existing foundations. Mr. Harvey distributed a summary of the proposed schemes and answered questions from Council.

Mayor Sheldon allowed public commentary and the following people addressed City Council: former Mayor Bob Harris; Jim Mogensen, 3780 Greenbrier, #354C; Ellen Schulmeister, Washtenaw Hoising Alliance; Paul Downs, 204 Chapin St.; and Ray Detter, Chairman of the DDA Citizens Advisory Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

W. Northcross
Clerk of the Council

Frances M. McMullan
Recording Secretary