



City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., July 20, 2026
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on July 20, 2026 at 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM by Mayor LaRussa

1. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Johnna Balk	Mayor Pro-Tem	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor	Present	
Kevin Parkins	Councilmember	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present:

City Manager, David Murphy
City Clerk, Meaghan Bachman
DDA Executive Director, Jessica Westendorf
DPW Superintendent, Josh Leach
City Attorney, Beth Saarela

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

No members of the public spoke.

4. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion by Balk

Seconded by Schneemann

Resolved, move to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- A. City of Farmington Minutes
- B. Farmington Monthly Payments Report
- C. Farmington Public Safety Monthly Report
- D. Accept resignations from the Zoning Board of Appeals
- E. Reappoint Dewayne Gray and Ken Crutcher to the Planning Commission

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

5. Approval of the Regular Agenda

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to approve the regular agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-A NEW BUSINESS Resolution Establishing Social District Commons Area for the Harvest Moon Celebration

DDA Executive Director Westendorf explained that the resolution would exclude Riley Park from the Syndicate Social District during the Harvest Moon Celebration, allowing the festival special license and the social district to operate concurrently. Security and volunteers will monitor the respective beverage boundaries.

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to approve a resolution establishing the Social District Commons Area that will be utilized exclusively for the Harvest Moon Celebration during the effective period of the special license.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-B NEW BUSINESS Sixth Amended Resolution Designating the City of Farmington Syndicate Social District

DDA Executive Director Westendorf stated that the amendment would add the Art Park Promenade to the commons area and identify Table 42 and the Farmington Civic Theater as potential eligible license holders. Once licensed, either establishment could join the social district without another amendment by Council.

Motion by Taylor
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to approve the sixth amended resolution designating the City of Farmington Syndicate Social District, defining the Commons Area to include new eligible license holders, and adopting a management and maintenance plan pursuant to Public Act 124 of 2020.

Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk
Nays: None
Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-C NEW BUSINESS New Public Safety Vehicles

Council considered the purchase of two Chevrolet vehicles, including an administrative vehicle that may also be used to support traffic and pedestrian safety enforcement, together with the equipment necessary to outfit both vehicles.

Motion by Schneemann
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the purchase of two vehicles from Berger Chevrolet, Inc. in the amount of \$95,713.00 and equipment outfitting from Canfield Equipment in the amount of \$25,735.63.

Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, LaRussa
Nays: None
Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-D NEW BUSINESS. Agreement with the City of Farmington Hills to Provide Emergency Medical Services

Council reviewed a two-year agreement, with an option for a third year, for the City of Farmington Hills to continue providing 24/7/365 advanced life support services. The annual

cost increased from \$275,000 to \$300,000. Council requested response-time reports consistent with the performance standards stated in the agreement.

Motion by Taylor
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to enter into an agreement with the City of Farmington Hills to provide 24/7/365 advanced life support services for the City of Farmington for two years, with an option for a third year, and to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Farmington.

Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, LaRussa, Parkins
Nays: None
Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-E NEW BUSINESS Nine-Mile Retention Basin Compressor Rehabilitation

Public Services Director Leach explained that the two air compressors controlling the retention basin pinch valves are 33 years old and have exceeded their expected 25-year service life. The basin can store up to three million gallons of water. The proposed amount includes a ten percent contingency.

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to authorize the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner to replace two air compressors and related equipment at the Nine Mile Retention Basin for an amount not to exceed \$44,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: Taylor, Balk, LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann
Nays: None
Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-F NEW BUSINESS. Sewer Repair Between Gill Road and Conroy Court

Public Services Director Leach reported three deficiencies in a clay sewer within a rear-yard easement: a cross-bore of unknown origin, a calcium deposit, and a separated pipe. Root Masters submitted a base bid of \$28,500.00, with potential dewatering costs that could increase the total to approximately \$48,000.00. The repairs will be completed by open cut, and the sewer is expected to be lined in the future.

Motion by Taylor
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to award the sewer repair of three locations between Gill Road and Conroy Court to Root Masters Sewer Repair & Cleaning, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$48,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

7. Public Comment

No members of the public spoke.

8. City Council Comment

Councilmember Schneemann recognized residents' passion for Farmington's architecture and thanked Council for acknowledging the concerns expressed regarding the Governor Warner Mansion while continuing to move the project forward.

Councilmember Taylor thanked residents for their engagement regarding the Governor Warner Mansion. She reported that the City would proceed with bidding the original concept while the City engineers develop a modification option incorporating an ivy wall, anticipated to return to Council in four to six weeks.

Mayor Pro-Tem Balk thanked those involved with the Founders Festival and stated that the first year following changes to the event was successful overall despite air-quality and weather concerns.

Councilmember Parkins commended Gail, the master gardener at the Governor Warner Mansion, for her exceptional work maintaining and improving the grounds.

Mayor LaRussa thanked the public and Council for the constructive Governor Warner Mansion discussion and recognized the leadership involved in advancing the project. He thanked City Manager Murphy for his longstanding service and leadership in regard to his annual review. Mayor LaRussa reported that the Michigan Public Service Commission had opened an investigation into utility responses to the July 3rd storms. He encouraged residents to report power outages and stated that he would continue discussions with DTE regarding utility reliability.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

Joe LaRussa, Mayor

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk