



FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on January 19, 2016, in 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, MI. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor William Galvin.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Sara Bowman	Council Member	Absent	
Greg Cowley	Councilmember	Present	
William Galvin	Mayor	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Jeff Scott	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

- Director Christiansen
- Director Demers
- Superintendent Eudy
- City Clerk Halberstadt
- City Manager Murphy
- Attorney Schultz
- Treasurer Weber

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Officers Jacob Cote and Donald Laporte led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

4. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott
ABSENT:	Bowman

- A. Special Event Request, Farmington Community Library: Thursdays Are Thrilling – Fitness Fair

- B. Special Event Request, Farmington Community Library - Pavilion Story Time
- C. Special Event Request, Farmington Community Library - Family Fun in Riley Park
- D. Consideration to Accept James Moran's Resignation from the Farmington Community Library Board
- E. Second Quarter Building Report
- F. Public Safety Monthly Report
- G. Farmington Monthly Payments Report - December 2015
- H. Minutes
 - 1. Minutes of the City Council - Special - Nov 9, 2015 7:00 PM
 - 2. Minutes of the City Council - Special - Nov 30, 2015 7:00 PM
 - 3. Minutes of the City Council - Regular - Dec 21, 2015 7:00 PM

5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeff Scott, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott
ABSENT:	Bowman

6. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Introduction of Recently Promoted Public Safety Officers

Demers noted in a recent survey, Farmington was named the 13th safest city in Michigan. He stated this did not happen by accident or coincidence. He cited three reasons this community remains safe: 1) residents that have a vested interest in the safety and security of their neighborhoods; 2) a supportive City Administration that provides the resources that are needed; and 3) the dedicated men and women of the Farmington Public Safety that work hard to fulfill the mission of the department.

Demers recognized the promotion of Sergeant Andrew Morche to the rank of Commander and Officer Patrick Spelman to the rank of Sergeant. He highlighted the education and career background for both individuals.

Both Commander Morche and Sergeant Spelman were present to receive their recognition.

Demers introduced two recently hired Public Safety Officers: Jacob Cote and Donald Laporte. He highlighted the education and career background of both individuals.

Demers administered the Farmington Public Safety Code of Honor to both officers.

B. Request for Special Event - Swing Farmington, Inc.

Present: Alexander Steward

City Administration requested Council approval of a special event request from Alexander Steward of Swing Farmington Inc. to host social swing dances in Riley Park/Sundquist Pavilion beginning May 1st through October 20, 2016.

Steward was present to provide an update on Swing Farmington and respond to questions from Council.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Steward stated Swing Farmington will be moving back to the pavilion during Founders Festival.

Schneemann was pleased Swing Farmington had a good summer last year and was happy they are returning for another year.

Scott was also pleased to see Swing Farmington return to the pavilion and wished them much success.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Murphy stated there has not been an issue in the past relative to the extended hours requested and waiver of the sound ordinance.

Schneemann noted his home is located near the pavilion and in the past he has not had an issue with the noise level of the event.

Cowley discussed the designated parking for Fresh Thyme and asked Steward to advise the dancers that parking restrictions will be enforced.

Motion to approve a special event request for Swing Farmington, Inc. scheduled every Thursday, May 1 through October 20, 2016, 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. with the following conditions:

- **Music will discontinue at 11:00 p.m. except for evenings during the summer months;**
- **Waive the City Sound Ordinance to allow Swing Farmington, Inc. to extend operation until 11:30 p.m. from the end of the school year June 18 through the September 3.**
- **Approve charge of \$25/week to defray the cost of maintenance.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES:	Greg Cowley, William Galvin, Steve Schneemann, Jeff Scott
ABSENT:	Sara Bowman

C. Farmington Farmers & Artisans Market report

Present: Walter Gajewski, Market Manager
 Alan Maxi, President of Farmington/Farmington Hills Neighborhood House

Gajewski provided an update on the Farmington Farmers Market and plans for the coming year.

Maxi spoke about the partnership and joint program the Farmers Market has with the Neighborhood House where fresh produce is provided to families in need.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Gajewski advised the market will temporarily relocate to the Village Commons during the Harvest Moon event this year.

Responding to a question from Scott, Gajewski stated growth of the market will be more organic, i.e. word of mouth, etc. He advised no additional monies will be spent on advertising.

Scott stated he would like to include in the market survey how many market patrons shop elsewhere in the downtown.

Gajewski responded he would be happy to include additional questions from Council in the survey.

Cowley advised there are dissenting opinions that the market does not support the surrounding business community. He would like confirmation through survey data that in fact it does support downtown businesses. He noted the market is drawing as many people to the downtown as the Civic Theater.

Cowley suggested working with the Chamber to integrate itself into the market in order to expand their relationships. He discussed the issue of parking and the opening of Fresh Thyme market.

Gajewski discussed the importance of communicating to the market community the implementation of timed parking and alternative parking locations.

Galvin recommended discussing the *Tuesday Market* at a future study session. He complimented Gajewski on the data he presented which validates the success of the market. He stressed the importance of continued collaboration with the Downtown Development Authority, Parking Committee, etc. He brought up the idea of a City Council tent at the market.

Gajewski advised there is a community information tent at the market which Council could use as well.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Gajewski stated solicitors, political activists, etc. are asked to keep their business outside of the market.

Galvin expressed his support for keeping the market in the downtown. He encouraged Gajewski to continue data mining and keeping the market successful.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

8. NEW BUSINESS**A. Economic and Community Development Update**

Christiansen provided Council with a written project status memorandum and entertained questions.

Galvin noted the recent closing of a coffee shop at Drakeshire Plaza. He commented on that troubled Plaza and the significant number of vacancies. He asked if the city is doing anything to provide assistance to the owners.

Christiansen stated the owners have secured a new real estate broker and are optimistic that some of the vacancies will be filled this spring.

9. DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Weber discussed water and sewer rates, specifically the establishment of fixed costs and how they are calculated.

Council took a 10 minute recess at 8:32 P.M.
Council resumed the meeting at 8:42 P.M.

Demers announced the Public Safety Department has a stock of smoke detectors available for residents.

Cowley stated the Chamber is planning to have a dunk tank at the Founders Festival. He suggested Public Safety Officers participate in this event. He would also like to resurrect the softball tournament where Public Safety played a major role.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Demers stated he could not recall the name of the source of the recognition that Farmington is the 13th safest city in the state. However, he pointed out the recognition was based on 2014 data and the data for 2015 is even better. He stated Farmington is getting noticed by organizations for being a safe community.

Schneemann stated he would like to use this information to promote the city.

Galvin extended congratulations to Commander Morche and Sargeant Spellman on their promotions; and welcomed new officers, Jacob Cote and Donald Laporte.

Eudy cautioned residents to protect areas where water meters are located so they don't freeze. He spoke about staff changes in his department.

Halberstadt announced the City is currently interviewing candidates for a part-time Mansion Director position.

Murphy advised he will send the draft Special Events Policy to Council for their review by the end of the week.

10. COUNCIL COMMENT

Galvin stated the annual event of Martin Luther King (MLK) Day motivates us to think about issues such as diversity and opportunity. He advised that as representatives of the city,

Council should be aware of those issues at all times. One of the important ways to keep these issues at the forefront is to continue to seek diversity in our workforce.

Galvin pointed out Farmington has always maintained a gender-diverse staff. He noted Farmington's population has been changing over the past several years. He stated we have a population of ethnically diverse residents and cultures from all over the world. He discussed the benefits of a diverse workforce.

Galvin encouraged the city's management team to continue to seek the best, broadest, and most diverse range of candidates for participation and provision of services to our businesses and residents.

Galvin requested including the redevelopment of the Maxfield Training Center on the agenda of the upcoming joint meeting with Farmington Hills and the Farmington School Board.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Jeff Scott, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott
ABSENT:	Bowman

William E. Galvin, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: February 15, 2016