



**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**7:00 p.m., Monday, November 19, 2018**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**23600 Liberty Street**  
**Farmington, MI 48335**

**FINAL**

---

## **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on November 19, 2018, 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 Schneemann.

### **1. ROLL CALL**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Sara Bowman	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
William Galvin	Councilmember	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Councilmember	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Mayor	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

#### **City Administration Present**

Director Christiansen  
Director Demers  
Superintendent Eudy  
City Clerk Mullison  
City Manager Murphy  
Controller Norgard  
City Attorney Schultz  
City Treasurer Weber

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chuck Fehl of Chatham Hills Subdivision detailed road repair needs on Treehill Boulevard.

Haley Stevens, 11<sup>th</sup> District US Congresswoman-elect, reported on her plans upon taking office once she is sworn in.

### **4. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **A. Farmington Quarterly Investment Reports**

- B. Farmington Quarterly Financial Reports
- C. Farmington Quarterly Financial Reports - Court
- D. Farmington Monthly Payments Report
- E. Farmington Public Safety Monthly Report
- F. Accept and File Local Government Retirement System Annual Report
- G. Accept City of Farmington Board and Commission Minutes
- H. Farmington City Council Meeting Minutes  
     October 15, 2018 Special Meeting  
     October 15, 2018 Regular Meeting
- I. Consideration to Adopt Resolution Establishing 2019 Farmington City Council Dates
- J. Consideration to Adopt Resolution Establishing 2019 DDA Events
- K. Consideration to approve Market Manager Contract
- L. Consideration to approve Farmington Civic Theater Manager Contract

Move to approve the consent agenda as presented. \*\*

**RESULT:** APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem  
**SECONDER:** LaRussa, Councilmember

**5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

Move to approve the regular agenda as presented.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** LaRussa, Councilmember  
**SECONDER:** Taylor, Councilmember

**6. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A. Plante & Moran Annual City Audit Presentation - David Helisek**

Helisek provided a report on the City’s audit ending June 30, 2018. Farmington received an unmodified opinion which is the highest level of assurance that can be given to a financial statement. He noted there are no weaknesses in the internal control system which means the financial information the City receives is reliable, and emphasized the high profile items coming through the Michigan Treasury, including Public Act 202 which addresses the funding levels of post-retirement benefits. He spoke about the city issuing debt in the form of OPEB bonds to fund the Retiree Healthcare Fund. He stated the City is about 88% funded for retiree healthcare which is extremely good compared to other communities.

LaRussa asked about revenue sharing and whether the program is a competitive one and wondered how it worked. City Treasurer Weber indicated that revenue sharing is not competitive.

Galvin thanked Helisek and Plante & Moran as well as Weber and Controller Norgard for their work. He then spoke about pension liabilities and how pension costs will increase, taking into account increases in annual pension payments. Though Farmington is still at a lower but still viable funding percentage, pension costs will be our largest expenditure. Galvin asked Weber, City Manager Murphy and Director Demers for a 3-5-10 year plan or projection on a targeted pension income fund policy statement.

**B. Public Hearing Program Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant Application**

City Manager Murphy introduced the topic and summarized the CDBG services.

**Move to open the public hearing to receive public comment on the 2019 Community Block Grant Application.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	Taylor, Bowman, Galvin, LaRussa, Schneemann

Karen Dekett, Director of Social Action at HAVEN, detailed community programs HAVEN offers to residents and asked that Council consider including HAVEN in the plans for the CDBG grant.

Mayor Schneemann asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

**Move to close the public hearing.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	Bowman, Galvin, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Consideration to approve 2019 Program Year Community Development Block Grant Application**

Murphy proposed the adoption of the resolution for the use of PY 2019 Community Development Block Grant funds of \$23,677 for the Senior Center and Senior Services.

Bowman commented on how Farmington's funding would be used within the CDBG program and stated that she would like to hear more about HAVEN and how those funds could be allocated in the future.

**Move to approve resolution adopting 2019 Program Year Community Development Block Grant Application. \*\***

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	Galvin, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman,

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Special Event Permit – Light Up the Grand & Holly Days**

Greater Farmington Chamber of Commerce Director Mary Martin introduced Light Up the Grand & Holly Days. She spoke of the collaborative nature of the event, and pointed out that the Chamber, the DDA, the City of Farmington, including the DPW and Public Safety have come together to make this happen. This event brings together elements that include the Farmington Civic Theater, the Farmers Market, and the Warner Mansion. Warner Mansion Director Kim Shay and the DDA have both worked with the Chamber to promote this event.

LaRussa asked about portraits with Santa at the Farmington Garage. Galvin inquired about whether roasted chestnuts would be available. Bowman thanked Martin for collaborating with the DDA and reiterated that the parade has grown over the last few years. Martin stated that the Market hours have extended this year to keep residents downtown until the parade begins. Taylor inquired about Metromode media coverage. Schneemann commented on the fantastic momentum this event has generated.

**Move to approve the special event application for the 2018 Holly Days and Light Up the Grand Parade on Saturday, Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember

**B. Special Event Permit – Farmington Winter Artisans Market**

Gilda Wong, Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, and Faith Dew, Associate Matron, requested approval through January for a Winter Artisan Market.

LaRussa inquired as to typical attendance at the Winter Market and Wong answered that it might be less than one hundred people, with ten to fifteen vendors. Bowman thanked Wong for stepping up to keep this program going and asked about advertising plans. Wong indicated that her publicity effort will kick off as soon as she receives permission for the events.

**Move to approve the special event application for the Farmington Winter Artisan Market to be held at the Masonic Lodge, 34002 Grand River Ave. on Saturdays in December and January from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember

**C. Consideration to authorize purchase of Swaploader Roll-off Container Attachment**

Superintendent Eudy described the need for a roll-off container to use for maintenance efforts.

**Move to authorize Administrative Staff to purchase the Swaploader Roll-off Container Attachment in the amount of \$7,923.00 for the 2015 Freightliner Salt Truck from Truck & Trailer Specialties located at 1200 Victory Drive Howell MI 48843.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, Galvin

**9. DEPARTMENT COMMENT**

Weber spoke about the efforts of the audit and commended Norgard for all her work on the audit.

Demers highlighted snow emergencies and reminded the community about what is expected when a snow emergency is declared. He also asked residents to clear snow from hydrants so that they can be accessed when needed.

Eudy played a video that highlighted how to shovel snow to not get blocked in by snow plows. He asked that parents monitor children and keep them from snow tunneling near roads. LaRussa asked about the progress of new LED light replacement. Eudy indicated that Farmington is more than 73% complete. Schneemann asked about extension of leaf pick up and Eudy gave an overview of the late season extended schedule.

Christiansen reported on the upcoming City of Farmington Master Plan update open house meeting and invited all to attend to be part of the process. Development projects in progress for the Planning Commission include the Samurai Steakhouse PUD. LaRussa asked for an update about the easements for the Courthouse property and Christiansen stated that the sale has been completed. Schneemann expressed his excitement for the wrap up of the Master Plan.

Mullison commented on the success of the recent election and commended Farmington's Election Inspectors and Receiving Board for their hard work throughout an especially long election day. She confirmed that the County Board of Canvassers had already approved the City's election results and the State would be certifying the election soon. Bowman pointed out that Mullison's first election as Clerk was also the highest voter participation in a long time with over 70% of eligible voters taking part. She congratulated Mullison and the Clerk Department team and volunteer staff. Schneemann also expressed his thanks for a job well done.

Murphy thanked Mullison for her work on the election and Weber and Norgard for their work getting everything together for the auditors, noting that Norgard still had work to be done.

**10. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

LaRussa thanked Director Demers for allowing him to go on a “ride-along” with the Public Safety night shift, with particular thanks to Commander Houhanisin. He also commented on the SEMCOG Regional Transportation Plan, distributing a handout to Council.

Bowman took a moment to thank the citizens for approving the recent millage request and reminded the public that Farmington needs to be very smart with the money, but that it is not a windfall. She commented that it’s great that the residents have so much faith and trust in Council’s leadership.

Schneemann also thanked Weber and Norgard on the tremendous job they do year after year on the audit, and stated that residents should have tremendous confidence in the financial leadership here in Farmington. He echoed Bowman’s comments about the passing of the millage and he pointed out that the administration and leadership went the extra mile to support the approval of the millage.

**11. CLOSED SESSION – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATION AND CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION FROM LEGAL COUNSEL**

**Move to enter closed session to discuss collective bargaining negotiation and confidential communication from legal counsel.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>AYES:</b>	Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, Galvin, LaRussa

Council entered closed session at 8:15 p.m.

**Move to exit closed session.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember

Council exited closed session at 8:36 p.m.

**12. APPROVAL OF POAM WAGE INCREASE**

**Move to approve the tentative POAM Collective Bargaining Agreement adopting a 2% wage increase for the remainder of the term of the existing contract.**

**RESULT:** APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** LaRussa, Councilmember  
**SECONDER:** Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem  
**AYES:** Taylor, Bowman, Galvin, LaRussa, Schneemann

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**Move to adjourn the meeting.**

**RESULT:** APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Taylor, Councilmember  
**SECONDER:** Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

---

Steve Schneemann, Mayor

---

Mary J. Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: December 17, 2018

**\*\***To view approved documents, please see the Agenda Packet link that is relevant to this meeting at <http://farmgov.com/City-Services/Government/Agendas-and-Minutes/City-Council.aspx> or contact the City Clerk.