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AI-generated content may be incorrect. **City Council Meeting**

**7:00 p.m., July 21, 2025**

**23600 Liberty Street**

**Farmington, MI 48335**

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**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

A meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on July 21, 2025, 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 7:08 PM by Mayor Pro-Tem Balk.

**1. ROLL CALL**

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

**City Administration Present:**

City Manager, David Murphy

Assistant City Manager, Chris Weber

Public Safety Director, Bob Houhanisin

City Clerk, Meaghan Bachman

DPW Superintendent, Chuck Eudy

City Attorney, Beth Saarela

DDA Executive Director, Jessica Westendorf

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public spoke.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

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. Reappoint James White to Library Board

E. Consideration to Approve License Agreement for Use and Maintenance of Public Right-Of-Way for Outdoor Seating with Good Food Farmington, LLC

F. Consideration to Approve License Agreement for Use and Maintenance of Public Right-Of-Way for Outdoor Seating with the Farmington Tasting Room, LLC and Basement Burger Bar, Inc.

G. Appointments of MML Delegates for the Annual Meeting

H. Building Department Fourth Quarter Report

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**5. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR AGENDA**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Schneemann

Resolved, move to approve the regular agenda with the following amendments:

* Remove: Item 7-I Rapid Flashing Beacon
* Add: Item 7-F Caddell Drain Petition
* Add: Item 7-M 9 Mile Retention Pump

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**6. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. **Special Event Application: Holly Days**

Annette Compo spoke regarding the 2025 Holly Days in Farmington. The Compo and Medema Group has offered to organize Holly Days which as been an annual event in Downtown Farmington. The event will follow the same footprint as last year; however, Riley Park will likely be unavailable. Holly Days is December 6, 2025, and includes the Gift, Greens, and Giving Holiday Markets and a lighted parade down Grand River.

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the special event application for the 2025 Holly Days and Light Up the Grand Parade on December 6, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Update Syndicate Hours of Operation**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the extended hours of the social district to be open until midnight daily.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Establish Social District Commons Area exclusively for the Harvest Moon Festival during the effective period of the Special License**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve a resolution establishing 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: Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, Parkins

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **DDA Community Events Calendar**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to adopt Resolution Approving the 2025 DDA Community Events Calendar, Temporary Liquor License Applications, Street Closures and Designated Sidewalk Shopping dates as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, Parkins

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Purchase of Planning and Building Software**

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to to approve the purchase of Planning and Building Software from BS&A in the amount of $4,390 and purchase implementation and training services in the amount of $13,500.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Taylor, Balk, Parkins, Schneemann

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Caddell Drain, Nine Mile & Drake Project Engineering**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Taylor

Schneemann asked for clarification of the cost of $35,581 for engineering fees. It was noted in the staff report that this is to approve ‘preliminary’ engineering. The question was raised whether this is an estimate or will there be additional engineering fees. Superintendent Eudy noted this should be final, however if something is found wrong, the fees could increase. The motion was reflected to remove the word preliminary.

Mayor Pro-Tem Balk asked when this will begin. It was noted construction will not begin until next calendar year.

Resolved, move to approve payment to Oakland County WRC Special Assessments Office for the Nine Mile & Drake Culvert Improvement Project Engineering in the amount of $35,581 for engineering, right of way, and administrative services.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Caddell Drain Petition**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to petition Oakland County Water Resource Commission to consider improvements to the Caddell Drain culvert near intersection of 9-mile Road and Drake Road in Farmington Hills which will include reconstruction, realigning, and/or rehabilitating the culverts of said drain.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Local & Major Street Crack Seal/Overband Program Payment**

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Parkins

Resolved, move to Approve Change Order No. 5 and Construction estimate and payment No. 6 (final) to Wolverine Sealcoating for Local & Major Street Crack Seal/Overband Program in the amount of $44,999.88.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, Parkins

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Fitness Courts Concrete Payment**

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve Payment Application No. 10 and Change Order No.11 to Luigi Ferdinandi & Son Cement Company in the amount of $62,083.70 for the National Fitness Challenge.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Taylor, Balk, Parkins, Schneemann

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Nine Mile Retention Project 1, and Project 2 Design**

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Parkins

Resolved, move to Move to approve proposal from Orchard Hiltz & McCliment (OHM) for the Nine Mile Retention Project 1, and Project 2 Design Engineering in the amount of $150,000 which includes approximately 5% contingency.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Salt Storage**

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to Move to approve Change Order #1 and Payment Application #2 to Clear Heights Construction LLC in the amount of $199,415.45 for the reconstruction of the Salt Storage Structure, located at 33720 W. 9 Mile Road.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **Massage Ordinance Amendment**

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Schneemann

Resolved, move to approve introduction of Ordinance C-\_\_\_, 2025, amending Chapter 18, Massage Facilities, of the City of Farmington Code of Ordinances.

FIRST READING. Ordinance number will be assigned after final reading.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **No Overnight Parking on Thomas Street**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve Resolution amending Chapter 4 of Farmington City Traffic Control Order to add a new Section 4.10 to prohibit overnight parking on Thomas Street.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, Parkins

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

1. **9 Mile Retention Pump**

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Parkins

Resolved, move to accept proposal from Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner Office to recondition pump #1in the estimated amount of $15,314 and allow city administration to execute contract documents.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Taylor, Balk, Parkins, Schneemann

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public spoke.

**9. CLOSED SESSION: LAND ACQUISITION**

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to convene into closed session to discuss Land Acquisition at 8:05 PM.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

RESOLVED, move to reconvene to the regular city council meeting at 8:23 PM.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**VOTE ON CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to approve offer and agreement to purchase a permanent and temporary easement over parcel 23-27-154-012 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve and accept a permanent and temporary easement over parcel 23-27-154-011 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to approve and accept a permanent and temporary easement over parcel 23-27-154-006 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Schneemann, Taylor Balk, Parkins

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Motion by Balk

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve offer and agreement to purchase a permanent and temporary easement over parcel 23-27-154-005 as presented. Councilmember Schneemann added a friendly amendment to omit permanent.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Taylor, Balk, Parkins, Schneemann

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Schneeman

Resolved, move to approve offer and agreement to purchase a permanent and temporary easement over parcel 23-27-154-015 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Balk, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to amend the 25/26 local street fund budget to provide additional funding for sidewalk improvements in the amount of $20,000. The increase in expenditures will be paid for through fund balance,

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**9. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Taylor noted she was pleased to see the easement owners are cooperative and willing to work with the city.

**10. Adjournment**

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to adjourn the meeting at 8:27PM.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

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Johanna Balk, Mayor Pro-Tem

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk