



Budget Meeting
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 24, 2018
City Council Chambers
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

A special budget meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on April 24, 2018, in Farmington City Hall, Farmington, MI. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Bowman.

1. ROLL CALL

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

City Administration Present

City Clerk Halberstadt
City Manager Murphy
City Controller Norgard

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Galvin, Councilmember
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Councilmember

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Wright, 21492 Birchwood Street, provided input on the proposed budget. He thanked Councilmember Galvin for his presentation on the financial status of the city. He noted the City Manager's article in the recent city newsletter was extremely helpful in clarifying the financial needs of the city. He does not want to see city services cut. He would vote for an override of Headlee Amendment. He pointed out the neighborhoods need to be maintained including sidewalks, trees and parks.

4. CITY MANAGER'S PROPOSED BUDGET

City Manager Murphy presented the proposed FY2018/19 budget.

Galvin asked about the economic value of contractual services, such as the assessing contract with Oakland County.

Weber stated the cost for Oakland County services is far less than paying a full time assessor. He advised the City is saving \$75K a year for Dispatch with an additional savings on equipment.

Responding to Galvin, Weber stated the last payment on the Drakeshire Plaza Special Assessment District (SAD) will be made this year.

Galvin questioned the DDA fund balance of approximately \$332K. He wants to make sure the money is spent and if it is saved, there should be an identifiable purchase in the near future.

Galvin would like to see where City Council expenses can be reduced. They need to lead by example if residents are being asked to pay more taxes. He would like to see discussion of the Council budget on a future meeting agenda.

Galvin also questioned how the Mansion can be managed more efficiently. He asked about the \$250K Parks and Recreation fee we pay to Farmington Hills.

Responding to LaRussa, Weber stated we have a verbal agreement with Farmington Hills regarding the fee for Parks and Recreation services.

LaRussa asked whether there is discussion regarding increasing productivity as part of the budget process, in order to address year over year increases. He asked what can be done to maximize the productivity of City staff.

Weber confirmed for LaRussa that revenue projections are not based on any new development projects in the City.

Taylor also questioned how the Council budget can be reduced, noting a nearby community where the Council budget was significantly lower than Farmington.

Murphy advised the comparison of other budgets may not be apples to apples. He will conduct a survey to determine what other governments include in their Council budgets.

Taylor suggested compensation for attending functions be taken out of their annual salaries.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was heard.

6. COUNCIL COMMENT

Taylor noted that Joni Hubred from the Farmington Voice was livestreaming the meeting on Facebook and that there were 17 viewers.

LaRussa encouraged residents to attend one or both of the two civic engagement meetings coming up on April 26 and May 16.

Bowman pointed out the budget numbers are obtained through a yearlong process with a significant amount of background work that is done. She discussed the importance of the upcoming civic engagement meetings.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Galvin, Councilmember

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: May 21, 2018