 **Special City Council Meeting**

**6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18, 2025**

**Conference Room**

**23600 Liberty Street**

**Farmington, MI 48335**

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**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on February 18, 2025, at 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 6:03 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:**

Assistant City Manager, Chris Weber

City Clerk, Meaghan Bachman

Director of Public Safety, Bob Houhanisin

DPW Superintendent, Chuck Eudy

**2. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

Motion by Parkins

Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public spoke.

**4. Pathways Committee Interview: David Haering**

Motion by Taylor

Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to appoint David Haering to the Pathways Committee with a term ending date of December 31, 2025 – this is a partial term continent upon his resignation; and

Be it further resolved, move to appoint Kevin Danies to the Pathways Committee with a term ending date of December 31, 2026.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

**5. Vehicle and pedestrian traffic adjacent to 33425 Grand River**

Public Safety Director Houhanisin presented this report. The background includes concerns regarding vehicle and pedestrian traffic on the south side of Grand River and the driveway to 33425 Grand River (The Vines). The Transportation Improvement Association (TIA) surveyed the area and provided a report that was presented to Council. Director Houhanisin reported the recommendations from the TIA, included in the report. It was recommended to limit all traffic on the alleyway drive to be southbound from Grand River towards Firestone. It is a very narrow road and having 2-way traffic is restrictive. The Mayor discussed the impact on businesses and truck deliveries. He further noted due to the impact on the business, he would like for the City to reach out to them directly about the potential change. Further discussion was held between Council and it was decided to proceed with the Traffic Control Order to change it to one-way traffic.

**6. Other Business**

Mayor LaRussa noted he and the Mayor of Vacri Italy have been corresponding. Mayor Dr. Piergiuseppe Mammarella formally proposed a twinning pact (sister city) between Farmington and Vacri. He further proposed sending a representative to Farmington for a visit in the month of October 2025. Mayor LaRussa asked for feedback from Council.

Councilmember Schneemann presented Council with a high-level plan for the Civic Theater. The renovation concept plan proposed changes to include new dining areas, a bar, wood-fired pizza kitchen, and new seating. An estimated cost could be around $700,000 - $800,000 for the renovation.

**7. Public Comment**

No member of the public spoke.

**8. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

No members of the Council spoke.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Balk

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to adjourn the special meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously

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Joe LaRussa, Mayor

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk