

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 21, 2011

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, November 21, 2011, in Council Chambers, 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 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Buck.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Buck, Cowley, Galvin, Kuiken, McShane.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**CITY ADMINISTRATION:** Director Gushman, City Clerk Halberstadt, Attorney Schultz, Director Schulz, Treasurer Weber.

**APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**11-11-193** MOTION by McShane, seconded by Kuiken, to approve the items on the consent agenda as amended; removing Special Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2011 to New Business, Item No. 7E, for further consideration.

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2011
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2011
- D. Approve City of Farmington Monthly Payments Report, October 2011
- E. Approve City of Farmington Financial Report Quarter Ended June 30, 2011
- F. Approve City of Farmington Financial Report Quarter Ended September 2011
- G. Approve City of Farmington Investment Report Quarter Ended June 30, 2011
- H. Approve City of Farmington Investment Report Quarter Ended September 30, 2011
- I. Approve 47<sup>th</sup> District Court Financial Report Quarter Ended June 30, 2011
- J. Approve 47<sup>th</sup> District Court Financial Report Quarter Ended September 30, 2011
- K. Approve DPW and Water Sewer First Quarter Report July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011
- L. Approve Public Safety Monthly Report, October 2011

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

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**11-11-194** MOTION by McShane, seconded by Galvin, to approve the regular agenda as amended under the Consent Agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS, MELANIE WEST**

Mayor Tom Buck presented Melanie West with a proclamation recognizing November as National Family Caregivers Month in Farmington. Ms. West thanked the City for the proclamation and discussed the purpose of National Family Caregivers.

**AT&T PRESENTATION – ROBERT JONES, DIRECTOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Robert Jones, Director of External Affairs for AT&T, introduced himself to the members of Council.

Responding to a question from Councilmember McShane, Mr. Jones stated he is unaware of any concerns Council might address with AT&T.

Responding to an additional question from Councilmember McShane, Mr. Jones stated tree trimming is conducted by both AT&T and DTE.

Councilmember Kuiken inquired if AT&T maintains all phone lines in Farmington. Jones replied AT&T maintains the telecommunications cable.

**GOVERNOR WARNER MANSION VOLUNTEERS, CHRISTIANE LENZ, SHARON BERNATH AND MARY-JEANNE SHORE**

Christiane Lenz, Sharon Bernath and Mary-Jeanne Shore discussed the accomplishments and ongoing goals of the Mansion. Council was invited to attend the annual Warner Mansion Tree Lighting on Saturday, December 3, 2011.

City Clerk Halberstadt introduced additional Mansion volunteers in attendance and discussed opportunities to make the Mansion self-sustaining.

Councilmember Cowley inquired regarding weddings at the Mansion. Halberstadt shared additional wedding information.

Councilmember McShane commended the volunteers on the wonderful programs and events held at the Mansion this year.

Councilmember Kuiken noted the success of the Mansion Porch Parties.

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Mayor Buck congratulated and thanked everyone for their continued success with the Mansion.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT PROGRAM YEAR 2012 CDBG APPLICATION**

City Manager Pastue advised Council held a public hearing regarding the 2012 CDBG program at their October 17, 2011 meeting. He indicated the funding for 2012 would be \$24,137 which is \$5119 less than the current year program allocation.

Pastue advised subsequent to that hearing the City received notice from Oakland County that the allocation for senior public services cannot exceed 15% of the grant total. Consequently, the allocation would be 85% Senior Center (\$20,517) and 15% Senior Public Services (\$3,620). The allocation was previously 70/30.

Pastue referred to correspondence he recently sent to Council with regard to foregoing County funding in order to take advantage of the State program. He advised given the deficits faced by both state and federal government it is likely the block grants will be affected. As a result, he recommended continuing with the County program that holds more certainty.

Mayor Pro Tem Galvin inquired regarding the 3-year commitment Council made to the County earlier in the year.

Responding to Galvin, City Manager Pastue stated Council made the 3-year commitment with the understanding that it could opt out any time, however, this proved not to be true based on a 1993 Cooperative Agreement.

Kuiken asked if data was available regarding participation in the senior programs. Pastue responded available data corresponds with the smaller transportation service, but Farmington Hills does not break down other usage of services.

Galvin inquired if the City is locked in to applying CDBG funds to senior services. Pastue replied the flexibility and latitude is there to allocate funds to other County-run programs.

McShane commented on her hope that the city could take advantage of the state program to provide funding for a larger project that would benefit the city. However, she recognized state funding may not be available in the future and the city does not have a project ready to support grant funding. She expressed support for allocating funds to senior services with a study on future use.

Kuiken would like the opportunity to look at other alternatives in allocation of CDBG funds and supports a study on Farmington resident usage of senior services.

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Galvin asked about the process for accepting and allocating funds and whether there is a point of no return once they are applied to senior services.

Pastue advised Council will be asked to approve an agreement between the Cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills once the funds have been allocated. The grant allocation is binding once an agreement is executed.

Galvin asked if there are programs for which the funds can be used other than senior services. Pastue stated a list of eligible programs can be provided.

Attorney Schultz added the funds may be used for any County operated assistance program.

Galvin advised given the recent SMART cutbacks it would be worthwhile to review the list of eligible programs. He does not want to give funds to a transportation program that may be defunct. Pastue will provide the list of other uses.

Buck discussed the state funding process and related issues. He stated the county funds are predictable and provided every year. He pointed out Farmington's population includes a large number of seniors citizens and therefore senior services is a good of these funds.

**RESOLUTION 11-11-195** Motion by McShane, seconded by Galvin, to adopt a resolution approving the Program Year 2012 Community Development Block Grant Application. [\[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION\]](#).

**ROLL CALL**

Ayes: Cowley, Galvin, Kuiken, McShane, Buck.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE 2012 COUNCIL MEETING DATES**

**RESOLUTION 11-11-196** Motion by Kuiken, seconded by Cowley, to adopt a resolution approving the 2012 City Council Meeting Dates as presented. [\[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION\]](#).

**ROLL CALL**

Ayes: Galvin, Kuiken, McShane, Buck, Cowley.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS.**

**11-11-197** MOTION by Galvin, seconded by Cowley, to renew an agreement with Oakland County to utilize the services of the Oakland County Board of Canvassers for any general, primary, or county-wide special election when the ballot includes a local issue and for all local city elections. [SEE ATTACHED AGREEMENT].

**ROLL CALL**

Ayes: Kuiken, McShane, Buck, Cowley, Galvin.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ESTIMATE #5 FOR THE 2011 FARMINGTON ROAD AND WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM**

Cowley noted the 9 weeks it took to install the water main created a huge burden for businesses on the north side of Grand River. He advised future contracts should always include a penalty associated with performance and meeting deadlines.

Responding to a question from Galvin, City Manager Pastue stated all future contracts will stipulate a penalty if projects are not completed on time.

Buck pointed out City Administration was diligent in pressing the contractors to complete the project.

**RESOLUTION 11-11-198** Motion by McShane, seconded by Kuiken, to approve payment of Construction Estimate #5 to Sole Construction in the amount of \$25,827.35 for work completed on the 2011 Farmington Paving and Water Main Improvements Program.

**ROLL CALL**

Ayes: McShane, Buck, Cowley, Galvin, Kuiken.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**Consideration to Accept Resignation of Kari Vaughn from the Farmington Historical Commission**

**11-11-199** MOTION by Kuiken, seconded by Cowley, to accept the resignation of Kari Vaughn from the Farmington Historical Commission. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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**Consideration to Accept Resignation of Thomas Killeen from the Board of Review**

**11-11-200** MOTION by Cowley, seconded by Kuiken, to accept the resignation of Thomas Killeen from the Farmington Board of Review. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Consideration to Appoint Sean Murphy as the Suburban Alliance Millennial Mayor Representative**

**11-11-201** MOTION by Galvin, seconded by Kuiken, to appoint Sean Murphy as the Suburban Alliance Millennial Mayor Representative for a term to expire December 31, 2012. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Consideration to Appoint Duane Reynolds to the Board of Review completing a term expiring December 31, 2014**

**11-11-202** MOTION by McShane, seconded by Cowley, to appoint Duane Reynolds to the Board of Review to complete an unexpired term ending December 31, 2014. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CORRECTION TO THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2011**

Galvin noted the minutes say Dave Wright was present; he was not present nor a member of Council, and adjournment motion was made by Wright and seconded by Knol and neither one of them was present nor a member of Council.

City Clerk Halberstadt will review and correct.

**11-11-203** MOTION by Galvin, seconded by Kuiken, to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2011 as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment was heard.

**COUNCIL COMMENT**

McShane noted in a communication from the University of Michigan Dearborn the City's participation in eCities 2011 Star Report. She stated cities are rated on their efforts to foster entrepreneurial growth and economic development. She announced Farmington was given 5 stars and recognized as a Star Community in the eCities Project, which is part of an elite group of Michigan communities making up the top 10% of places for businesses. She suggested passing this

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information on to the DDA and it was recommended this information become part of the city's dashboard for benchmarking.

Pastue added the City attained this recognition due to the dedication of DDA staff to economic development and the City's use of incentives including: TIF, Brownfield Redevelopment and utilization of Industrial Facilities Tax Exemptions.

McShane suggested sending letters of appreciation to Kari Vaughn and Thomas Killeen for their service to the city.

Pastue noted letters of appreciation to Board and Commission members who resign are a matter of course.

Cowley formally tendered his resignation from the DDA Board.

Attorney Schultz advised he will review and advise whether a resignation is automatic as a result of Mr. Cowley's election to Council.

Galvin requested an update on the Drakeshire Center that was recently up for auction. Pastue replied there is no information available because the owner opted for a sealed bid process.

Galvin asked about scheduling a follow-up study session on economic redevelopment before the end of this year.

Pastue agreed to send out an email with possible meeting dates.

McShane asked if a date had been set for a goal setting session. Pastue stated his office is working on a date and he suggested Council keep Saturday mornings in January flexible.

Buck thanked Cowley for his long and dedicated service on the DDA Board. He expressed concern regarding recent notification from SMART that it will be canceling a couple of bus routes through Farmington effective December 12, 2011. He stated the community has always shown support for mass transportation and will need to consider options in response to these cutbacks.

Pastue advised three major fixed routes currently run through Farmington and two of those routes, 305 and 385, will be eliminated leaving one remaining fixed route 330.

Kuiken asked if the December 5, 2011 joint meeting with Farmington Hills is an annual meeting. Pastue replied the cities typically meet once a year, however, this meeting is more purposeful with specific decisions to be made.

Cowley pointed out SMART must have ridership statistics if they are making decisions regarding route cancellations. He noted the city has previously

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requested these statistics to no avail. He stated those statistics would provide the City the level of ridership in our community.

Buck clarified the statistics historically shared are the total number of people who ride a particular bus route. He stated those statistics do not provide ridership specific to a community.

Cowley inquired if there is an avenue available by which riders can provide feedback to the City. Pastue responded bus riders in the community have expressed their opinion at meetings where Council has considered the possibility of opting out of SMART. He noted in past elections where the SMART question was on the ballot, residents have voted 2-to-1 in favor of levying the millage.

McShane suggested the city conduct an educational program to inform the public of alternative transportation and related costs. She pointed out the current service is limited and expressed the importance of providing people with transportation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**11-11-204** MOTION by McShane, seconded by Cowley, to adjourn the meeting.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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J. T. (Tom) Buck, Mayor

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Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

APPROVED: December 19, 2011