



Special Council Meeting
6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 27, 2022
Council Chambers
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on September 27, 2022 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 6:02 p.m. by Mayor Sara Bowman.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Johnna Balk	Councilmember	Present	
Sara Bowman	Mayor	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

City Clerk Mullison
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Schultz

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

4. DISCUSSION: UTILITIES UPDATE

Tony Ignasiak, Supervisor of Engineering for DTE's SW Region, gave a presentation with the help of DTE representatives Bill Hutchinson, Director of SW Region Customer Operations and Center for Excellence, Shannen Hartwick, Director of Tree Trimming Team, Stephanie Beres, Public Relations, and Jennifer Whitteaker, Government Affairs Liaison to Oakland County from DTE. Topics included improvements that have been made to ensure Farmington's power stays on as much as possible, obstacles that have been found and are being worked on, and future plans. Community education and resources for residents were discussed, as were current maintenance cycles and the tree trimming program and audit process of that trimming. Ignasiak covered restoration times, critical points in the circuits, sectionalizing of the circuits and what that means to customers, system improvements, pole replacement and specifications, and plans for redundancy in the system.

Discussion with Council included reliability of circuits, the effect of a downed tree on the circuit, minimizing loss of service to our residents, specific sections yet to be upgraded, where the updates are to be found, why certain sections are still experiencing repeated issues, service territory attention to problems and on-going solutions, quantifying risks, and a Farmington area load analysis.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager Murphy handed out information for Council to consider for a vote at the next meeting about allowing Red E to install two EV charging stations in the City.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Della Reese James, 33250 Freedom Road, thanked Council for hosting this meeting because she wanted to hear more about the electricity issue. She also commented on the DTE pilot program to do with assisting customers with durable medical equipment during a power outage as discussed earlier.

7. COUNCIL COMMENT

Taylor noted that this is an issue to keep a finger on and important enough to have direct Council involvement. She suggested having a designated representative to DTE from Council and nominated LaRussa for the position. Bowman suggested having the City Attorney review the issue because a liaison with an entity providing the community with a utility resource is quite different than a liaison with a company we are doing business with.

Balk agrees with Taylor that LaRussa should be the representative if it is legal.

LaRussa said he was happy to make himself available as this is a high priority item.

Council thanked the DTE representatives for making themselves available for Council and the community tonight.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Mary J. Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: October 17, 2022