

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 19, 2012

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, March 19, 2012, 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.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**03-12-049** MOTION by Galvin, seconded by Kuiken, to approve the items on the consent agenda:

- A. Special Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2012
- B. Special Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2012
- C. Regular Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2012
- D. Approve Public Safety Monthly Report, February 2012
- E. Approve City of Farmington Monthly Payments Report, February 2012
- F. Special Event Request – South Farmington Baseball League Parade
- G. Special Event Request – American Cancer Society Relay for Life
- H. Special Event Request – Our Lady of Sorrows Church Picnic
- I. Special Event Request – “Poppy Days”

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA**

**03-12-050** MOTION by McShane, seconded by Galvin, to approve the regular agenda as amended; removing Item No. 7G, Consideration of Resolution Regarding Appointments to the Corridor Improvement Authority, under New Business. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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**PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**FARMINGTON JAYCEES – EASTER EGG HUNT**

Present: Jennifer Hall, Individual Development Director

Jennifer Hall provided an update on upcoming events including the Easter Egg Hunt at Heritage Park in April.

**SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST – THURSDAY NIGHT WEEKLY SWING/SWINGINFUSION**

Alexander Steward, Manager for Swinginfusion, spoke about their proposed weekly dance and special event schedule.

Kuiken noted this is a great event and inquired where the attendees are coming from.

Steward replied Farmington, Farmington Hills, Plymouth, Livonia, Northville, Novi and a number of other communities.

McShane commented on what a fun and positive event this is for the community.

**03-12-051** MOTION by Galvin, seconded by Kuiken, to approve a special event request from Swinginfusion, LLC, to hold a swing dance in the Sundquist Pavilion, every Thursday evening, May 3 through October 25, 2012, 8:00 – 11:20 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVAL FOR ALLEY REGALLY**

Present: Mary Engelman, Executive Director, Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce

Mary Engelman advised the Chamber of Commerce and Salon Legato would once again like to sponsor Alley Regalley at Downtown Farmington Founders Festival. She discussed the partnership and success at last year's festival. She advised a portion of the proceeds would go towards the Farmington/Farmington Hills after school programs.

**RESOLUTION 03-12-052** Motion by McShane, seconded by Cowley, to approve a request from the Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce for a temporary liquor license for Alley Regally as part of the Founders Festival activities scheduled July 19-21, 2012. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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ROLL CALL

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

Nays: None

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT ORDINANCES C-760-2012 AND C-761-2012  
AMENDING CHAPTER 35 OF THE ZONING CODE AND CHAPTER 5 OF THE  
CITY CODE DEALING WITH ANIMALS**

Galvin indicated the proposed ordinance updates definitions related to domestic animals. He stated a process is in place to make determinations regarding chickens, foxes, etc. going forward.

Pastue indicated the proposed ordinance has been reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission.

McShane recognized the intent of the ordinance is to provide definitions, but asked about a timeframe when Council would consider allowing chickens under the code.

Buck inquired if chickens would be outlawed under the proposed ordinance.

Pastue replied chickens are already banned under current code.

Schultz responded the current ordinance does not allow chickens, etc. and the new ordinance will allow for a better definition as such.

**RESOLUTION 03-12-053** Motion by Galvin, seconded by Kuiken, to adopt Ordinance C-760-2012 amending Chapter 35 of the Zoning Code, Article II – General Provisions, dealing with animals. [\[SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE\]](#)

ROLL CALL

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**RESOLUTION 03-12-054** Motion by Kuiken, seconded by McShane, to adopt Ordinance C-761-2012 amending Chapter 5 of the City Code dealing with animals. [\[SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE\]](#)

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ROLL CALL

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

Nays: None

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Buck confirmed there will be more discussion regarding chickens.

**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE C-762-2012 AMENDING  
CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY CODE DEALING WITH COMPOSITION OF THE  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD**

**RESOLUTION 03-12-055** Motion by McShane, seconded by Galvin, to adopt Ordinance C-762-2012 amending Chapter 2 of the City Code to reduce the Downtown Development Authority Board Membership from eleven to nine. [SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE].

ROLL CALL

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

Nays: None

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PRINCIPAL SHOPPING CENTER SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RENEWAL –  
CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #4 APPROVING PRELIMINARY  
ASSESSMENT ROLL AND SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING**

Responding to a question from Buck, Pastue stated the assessment would remain the same as the last 3-4 years.

**RESOLUTION 03-12-056** Motion by Kuiken, seconded by McShane, to adopt Resolution #4 approving preliminary special assessment roll for the Principal Shopping District special assessment renewal and schedule a public hearing regarding the preliminary roll. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL]

ROLL CALL

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE BID FOR FARMINGTON ROAD CONCRETE PATCHING AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS**

Responding to a question from Galvin, Pastue stated the work would be done between Shiawassee and 10 Mile Road and that it will start at the eastern end of Shiawassee and Farmington Road.

**RESOLUTION 03-12-057** Motion by Galvin, seconded by Cowley, to accept bids for the Farmington Road concrete patching project and award the contract to the low qualified bidder: Hard Rock Concrete in the amount of \$179,107.50.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH IQM2 FOR VIDEO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS AND COUNCIL PACKET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

McShane asked regarding the monthly fee associated with the service and inquired about the system.

Pastue explained the efficiency, accessibility and benefits of the recording system and Council Packet Management.

Cowley noted this system will facilitate the transparency of government.

Pastue added the system allows for live-stream broadcasting as well.

Galvin inquired how the service would assist citizens who are disabled and unable to navigate the internet. Pastue indicated any accommodation can be made to assist those individuals.

Kuiken asked if purchase of this system fits in line with budgetary goals.

Pastue responded PEG (Public, Education, Government) money may be used.

Kuiken noted the proposed new system is a great improvement over what is currently in place.

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**RESOLUTION 03-12-058** Motion by Cowley, seconded by McShane, to authorize City Manager to execute a service agreement with IQM2 for video recording of council meetings and council packet management system in the amount of \$900 per month. [ SEE ATTACHED AGREEMENT]

**ROLL CALL**

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF TWO POLICE PATROL VEHICLES**

Schulz discussed the decision making process used to decide on these specific vehicles to purchase.

Responding to a question from Buck, Schulz confirmed these new vehicles will replace current ones that have excessive mileage. He noted vehicles that reach 100,000 miles incur higher maintenance costs.

Kuiken asked if the new utility vehicles will replace the department's SUV. Schulz responded the SUV was purchased to navigate snowy weather conditions. He noted the new vehicles have all-wheel drive which serves the same purpose.

Responding to a question from McShane, Schulz advised the vehicles that will be replaced will be sold independently rather than as trade-ins.

Pastue confirmed the cost of the vehicles was included in the budget as part of the replacement schedule.

**RESOLUTION 03-12-059** Motion by McShane, seconded by Kuiken, to approve the purchase of two police patrol vehicles from Gorno Ford, Woodhaven, Michigan, in the amount of \$51,240.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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**CONSIDERATION TO AMEND THE GOVERNOR WARNER MANSION FEE  
SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2012**

Responding to a question from McShane, Pastue noted recreational fees are the same for Farmington and Farmington Hills residents with golf being the exception.

McShane noted the proposed fees are reasonable.

Kuiken discussed the photographer fee as it relates to the annual cost. Halberstadt indicated one of the local photography studios already pays an annual fee.

**RESOLUTION 03-12-060** Motion by Galvin, seconded by McShane, to amend the Governor Warner Mansion Fee Schedule as presented, effective April 1, 2012. [SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULE]

**ROLL CALL**

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CONSIDERATION TO AMEND FISCAL YEAR 2011/12 BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION 03-12-061** Motion by Kuiken, seconded by Galvin, to adopt a resolution amending the Fiscal Year 2011/12 Budget. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION]

**ROLL CALL**

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF MARIA JEWETT FROM  
DDA BOARD**

**03-12-062** MOTION by McShane, seconded by Galvin, to accept the resignation of Maria Jewett from the DDA Board. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

McShane requested City Administration send a letter to Ms. Jewett thanking her for her service to the community.

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**BOARD AND COMMITTEE REAPPOINTMENTS**

**03-12-063** MOTION by Galvin, seconded by Cowley, to re-appoint Joseph Dompierre, Michael Kish and Steve Schneemann to the Construction Board of Appeals for 2-year terms ending February 28, 2014; James Atkinson and Michael Harrison to the Farmington Historical Commission for 3-year terms ending March 31, 2012; and Brian Golden to SWOCC Public Access Promotion Committee for a 3-year term ending March 31, 2014. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Susan Lightner, representing the Commission on Aging, shared information regarding Project Healthy Living, which will take place Friday, March 30, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Jennifer Hall, Farmington Area Jaycees, added they will be collecting non-perishable items for Gleaners at the Easter Egg Hunt Event at Heritage Park.

Peter Haapaniemi, 23907 Wilmarth, inquired regarding a dispatch consolidation presentation that he was under the impression would take place at this meeting. He commented the public is getting less than 2 weeks to understand the proposal and prepare for discussion. He understood this change would be irreversible. He feels the public should have the opportunity to vote on this issue.

Pastue advised a draft report on dispatch consolidation was given to City Council that evening and it will be available online. He stated there will be a presentation and discussion on April 2, 2012 at Farmington High School regarding dispatch consolidation.

Dan Graham, 32960 Slocum, offered additional comments regarding consolidation of dispatch. He is not in favor of the consolidation and agreed citizens should be given the opportunity to vote on it.

Larry Hutchinson, 21056 Robinwood, added the consolidation should not be taken lightly and wants the opportunity to vote on it as well.

John Kamstra, 23835 Wilmarth, noted this subject behooves the Council to think about the history of Farmington. He commented that it should not be assumed that everyone uses the internet.

Maria Putt, 31528 Marblehead, shared her concern regarding the impact of joint dispatched services. She noted her concerns are not meant to be disparaging to Farmington Hills. She does not see the benefit of consolidation. She inquired when Council would vote on this issue and requested more time to put this issue on the ballot.



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Pastue replied Council is scheduled to vote on this issue at the April 16, 2012 meeting.

Greg Garden, 34067 Grand River, concurred with comments regarding consolidation that have been shared with Council. He agreed there is not enough time to make this decision and a vote should go before the people.

John Haapala, 35477 Tall Pine Road, expressed support for the consolidation, however, he noted one month is not enough time to decide this issue. He stressed the importance of having concrete information. He noted Farmington has limited commercial tax base. He shared his decision to bypass Farmington in locating his business because of the tax base.

Jim Madigan, 36569 Heatherton, asked Council to take time to listen to the residents.

David Simowski, 23625 Warner, inquired regarding the grant process.

Pastue discussed the process that has taken place regarding dispatch consolidation and noted the Farmington Hills grant deadline is at the end of the month.

Tom Ostin, 23411 Hillview Court, supports consolidation of dispatch. He noted the taxes for a neighbor on same street are \$2,000 lower because the house is in Farmington Hills.

Bernd Barthel, 23445 Hillview Court, discussed Council's earlier approval of buying two new patrol vehicles and the cost versus maintenance of current vehicles.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENT**

Bob Schulz, Public Safety Director, shared the Public Safety Department has established a Facebook Page as another tool to communicate with the public.

Chris Weber, City Treasurer, noted the department has completed collecting 2010/2011 property taxes. If any resident has outstanding taxes they are directed to contact the Oakland County Treasures Office. He shared that 95.6% of taxes were collected and 4.4% was turned over to county as delinquent.

Sue Halberstadt, City Clerk, invited Council and residents to the Governor Warner Mansion Open House, April 1, 2012, 1-5 p.m.

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**COUNCIL COMMENT**

Galvin asked about reservations and cost for taking Prom pictures at the Mansion. Halberstadt responded that reservations are required for prom events, however, there is no charge for local High Schools. She noted a donation is typically received.

Galvin asked about the status of the Drakeshire Plaza. Pastue advised John Koncsol, Code Enforcement Officer, met with the owners of the Plaza regarding property maintenance concerns. He confirmed improvements will be made over the next several months.

Cowley advised consolidation of services is both timely and necessary given the current economic climate. He asked Vince to provide the 5-year budget forecast at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. He is willing to make the tough decisions and cited the complexity of running a local government. He discussed the need to plan for the future. He noted not every decision needs to go on the ballot. He advised there is more to the conversation than combining dispatch and jail. He does not believe the solution is to raise taxes.

Kuiken spoke about her recent "ride along" with Officer Hermann and commented that the City's Public Safety officers are top notch. She asked Director Schulz to comment on how consolidation of dispatch might slow response time.

Schulz advised the concern is how priority runs will be handled if there is a situation where there is only one dispatcher handling both communities.

McShane thanked the public for their comments. She stated it is important for Council to listen to residents and hear what they have to say. She wants to know all of the facts in making a decision. She encouraged residents to look at the budget and determine if there are other large line items in the budget that could be reduced. She stated the City has major financial challenges ahead.

Buck expressed appreciation for everyone who attended and expressed their points of view. He invited the public to continue to provide feedback on this and other issues. He stated the City Manager's job is to present a budget that maintains services in the best possible manner. He recognized the financial challenges the City faces especially if tax revenues continue to decline.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**03-12-064** MOTION by Cowley, seconded by McShane, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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J. T. (Tom) Buck, Mayor

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Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

APPROVED: April 16, 2012