



Regular City Council Meeting  
6:00 p.m., Monday, May 6, 2019  
Conference Room/City Council Chambers  
23600 Liberty Street  
Farmington, MI 48335

## FINAL

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on May 6, 2019, 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 6:01 pm by Mayor Steve Schneemann.

#### 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	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

#### City Administration Present

Director Christiansen (left at 6:31 pm)  
Superintendent Eudy (arrived at 7:10 pm)  
City Clerk Mullison  
City Manager Murphy  
City Treasurer Weber  
City Attorney Schultz (left at 6:31 pm)  
City Attorney Saarela (arrived at 6:31 pm)

#### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move to approve the regular meeting agenda as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Stimetz, 35836 Smithfield, asked the City for help with cattails in his yard.

Dan Blugerman, 37000 Grand River, Farmington Hills, shared his thoughts about Maxfield Training Center plans.

Steve Schwartz, 29867 High Valley Court, Farmington Hills, spoke about plans for the dumpster at the Masonic Hall.

Bill Murphy, 21270 Larkspur, declared support for improvements in Farmington Meadows.

### 4. CLOSED SESSION – PROPERTY ACQUISITION

**Move to enter closed session to discuss property acquisition.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	Galvin, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman

Council entered closed session at 6:15 p.m.

**Move to exit closed session.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Galvin, Councilmember

Council exited closed session at 6:31 p.m.

**Move to authorize the City Manager and the City Attorney to finalize the proposal as discussed during closed session with regard to the property acquisition topic.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [4-1]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	LaRussa, Schneemann, Bowman, Galvin
<b>NAYS:</b>	Taylor

## 5. COMMISSION ON AGING: PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT

Jane Frost, assisted by Marsha Koet, presented the Commission on Aging Annual Report, addressing changes directly related to Council comments after the 2018 report. She informed Council about web page improvements, social media use, Commission education, promotion, and enrichment. Problems presently being addressed by the Commission on Aging are financial exploitation, elder abuse, and Farmington becoming an aging-friendly community. Statistics were shared about transportation, meals, and health classes provided to older citizens.

Council questions and comments after the presentation ranged from the demographic of our residents, improvements since last year, policies for providing meals, community education about available services, and appreciation for the Commission's work.

## 6. MISS FARMINGTON CITIES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES

Megan Cromwell, Miss Farmington 2018, summarized the Miss Farmington Cities program and introduced the candidates for Miss Farmington Cities 2019. This year's competition will be held at the Farmington Civic Theater at 7:00 pm on July 17, 2019.

## 7. SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS, SHIAWASSEE PARK:

City Manager Murphy requested approval for both of the following annual events.

### A. Farmington Public Schools Annual Picnic, August 28

Move to approve Special Event Request to hold Farmington Public Schools' Back to School Celebration on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 in Shiawassee Park from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., with set up and tear down beginning at 8 a.m. and ending 3 p.m respectively.\*\*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember

### B. Allstate Insurance Company Annual Picnic, August 15

Move to approve the Special Event Application from Allstate Insurance Company for its annual company picnic in Shiawassee Park on August 15, 2019 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.\*\*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember

## 8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO WAIVE PENALTIES FOR LATE FILING OF PROPERTY TRANSFER AFFIDAVITS

Murphy presented a formal motion bringing a practice that has already been the City's policy in line with Oakland County requirements.

### Move to approve Resolution to Waive the Penalty for Late Filing of Property Transfer Affidavits.\*\*

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>AYES:</b>	Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, Galvin, LaRussa

## 9. DISCUSSION OF BUDGET MONEY FOR BROADBAND CONSULTANT

Councilmember LaRussa presented information about the work of the Joint Municipal Broadband Task Force. Discussion ensued about retaining a consultant to study implementation of municipal broadband in Farmington.

Bowman asked what the timeline was for Farmington Hills to decide on this topic. LaRussa said that if Farmington Hills declined to fund this, Farmington would be able to move faster on the project. She also asked about dealing with broadband as a utility, and expressed concern about the timeline for the project to keep it in line with construction projects already planned and in progress.

Taylor asked for a specific timeline for hiring a consultant and receiving pertinent recommendations from them. LaRussa laid out a plan to get the recommendation from the consultant before the next budgeting cycle.

Galvin stated that he was not ready to commit the City of Farmington to become a trailblazer in delivering a new service. He cited concerns about emergency projects that may come before Council in the coming year and not having sufficient funds if they are spent on this project.

Schneemann asked LaRussa who would write the actual RFP. LaRussa answered that Farmington Hills has allocated staff to direct and advise this effort. Schneemann questioned the proposed division of costs with Farmington Hills, and what the intent of the split was. He also asked about comparable communities that had already been successful with municipal broadband implementation. Schneemann would like Farmington to be a community that can invest in itself.

LaRussa asked for support in adding this to the 2019-20 budget before Council is asked to pass it. Schneemann asked LaRussa to make sure the proposed cost is the correct cost and suggested he meet with the Farmington Hills City Council representative on the Broadband Task Force and the City Managers of Farmington and Farmington Hills to come up with the correct answers.

## 10. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND 2018 CONCRETE ROAD IMPROVEMENT BUDGET

Superintendent Eudy and Matt Parks from OHM summarized the need to amend the budget to complete road projects in Flanders, Lilac, and Chesley because of discovering variable thicknesses in the existing concrete. Two items would be added to the contracted amounts that would stay within funds already available.

**Move to approve amended budget for the 2018 Concrete Road Improvement project to \$525,000 with Hartwell Cement Company.\*\***

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	LaRussa, Councilmember
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember
<b>AYES:</b>	Taylor, Bowman, Galvin, LaRussa, Schneemann

## 11. OTHER BUSINESS

Murphy addressed the problem brought up in the public comment portion of the meeting about the dumpster at the Masonic building. He intends to speak to all councilmembers individually about the issue and available options. Schneemann questioned how this big of a problem got past the Planning Commission without usable plans for a dumpster and indicated that this issue should be addressed.

## 12. COUNCIL COMMENT

LaRussa, Farmington's representative to SEMCOG, announced their campaign for Walk, Bike, and Drive Safe and brought information and materials that promoted safety awareness.

Taylor clarified her vote against the proposed property acquisition, stating that the recent millage increase proposal was not intended for property acquisition, other infrastructure investments are needed, and she feels that since the DDA rather than the City will capture revenue from the property, she is not ready to take the gamble of finding a developer to successfully utilize the property.

Galvin commented on Steve Schwartz's earlier public comment about the Masonic Lodge dumpster issue. He cited the Oakland Street project and suggested that Council should take extra time to get it right.

Schneemann remarked on the importance of the Maxfield property development as an infrastructure project to stitch together the downtown and Shiawassee Park. He questioned why the plan that will be presented to Council by the Planning Commission was approved without a dumpster. City Attorney Saarela was asked about the Planning Commission recommendation procedure, and said it was not necessarily an inappropriate way to present the project to Council. Schneemann would like Council not to be put in the position to have to make a tough call and stated that the Planning Commission should be the body to present a more complete plan to council.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**Move to adjourn the meeting.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Taylor, Councilmember

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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Steve Schneemann, Mayor

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Mary Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: May 20, 2019

**\*\***To view approved documents, please see the Agenda Packet link that is relevant to this meeting at <http://farmgov.com/City-Services/Government/Agendas-and-Minutes/City-Council.aspx> or contact the City Clerk.