



Special/Study Session Meeting
 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 20, 2018
 Conference Room
 23600 Liberty Street
 Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on August 20, 2018, 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 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Steve Schneemann.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Sara Bowman	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
William Galvin	Councilmember	Absent	
Joe LaRussa	Councilmember	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Mayor	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

City Manager Murphy
 City Clerk Halberstadt
 City Attorney Schultz
 City Treasurer Weber
 Director Demers

2. Approval of Agenda

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	LaRussa, Councilmember

3. Public Comment

Marilyn Radojcich, 33414 Oakland Street, expressed support for an ordinance to yield to pedestrians.

4. Discussion on ordinance to increase fines for repeat parking offenders

Demers provided an overview of the Parking Advisory Committee's recommendation to approve a resolution to raise the parking violation fee from \$25 to \$100 starting with the 4th repeat violation.

Joe Mantey, Parking Advisory Committee member, stated data was gathered to support the recommendation. The committee believes employees and business owners are the likely offenders; offenders would be informed in advance of being fined. He stated that the goal is not to increase revenue due to fines, but to shrink non-compliance and increase available parking.

Responding to Taylor, Demers stated it would be difficult to account for rewarding drivers who have not incurred 4 violations within a period of time.

Discussion followed.

Bowman asked if there is a way to put a scale of fees on the ticket. Demers stated the court will provide this data.

Responding to LaRussa, Demers is aiming for good compliance with new fines.

Discussion followed regarding other options considered.

5. Discussion on proposed ordinance to amend the City of Farmington Code of Ordinances, Chapter 20, to include Vape and Electronic Cigarettes

Demers provided information about the problem of use and abuse of vape products among youth.

Bowman stated this ordinance will prohibit use of vaping on all school property, including ball fields.

Taylor supports the proposed ordinance.

Schneemann would like to incorporate language into the ordinance to prevent marketing vaping to minors. Schultz stated the ordinance is already ahead of the state so to add to it would be difficult. He discussed the challenge of free speech rules. He suggested to regulate vape shops in a different way to closer define where they can be located.

Council supported further regulation of vape shops.

Discussion followed regarding the impact of infractions on a minor.

6. Discussion on proposed ordinance requiring motorists to stop for pedestrians at a non-signalized crosswalk

Demers provided an overview of the proposed ordinance.

LaRussa showed interest in before and after results for other cities with similar ordinances. Demers stated there was some confusion in the beginning, but compliance was obtained with additional signage.

LaRussa would be interested in investing in activated crosswalks before legislating anything.

Bowman said this is a step in the right direction, but there are hurdles as this is different than the current ordinance. She believes it will require new signage and driver re-training; it will also cause more stress on officers in the process.

Schneemann stated there has been discussion to add clear signage to both sides of the road, as well as the middle, to warn drivers of pedestrian traffic.

Taylor does not want to stray too far from state law and believes the amendment to the ordinance will create a false sense of security among Farmington residents if pedestrians believe vehicles will stop. She does not support the ordinance as written, but would like to see a full stop on both lanes when pedestrians step into the crosswalk.

Discussion followed regarding the wording of the current ordinance.

Schneemann stated motorists must recognize pedestrians have rights. He supports giving strength to pedestrians over motorists.

Taylor would like the City to take small steps in regulating motorists.

Schneemann does not believe pedestrians will be in more danger by passing the ordinance.

7. Overview of the City's pension program

Weber provided information regarding the two different pension programs offered by the City: Defined Contribution and Defined Benefit.

Responding to Bowman, Weber stated it varies amongst groups as to how long it takes to be vested, whether 7 or 10 years.

Discussion followed regarding the factors of the plans. In regards to funding and changes in pensions over time, Weber stated that it is 80% funded and he gave options about how to reduce the cost to the City.

Schneemann stated that the goal for today was to introduce the topic. He would like to revisit the discussion at a later date.

8. Other Business

No other business was heard.

9. Council Comments

No council comment was heard.

10. Adjournment

Move to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bowman, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Steve Schneemann, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: September 17, 2018