



Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, December 2, 2019
Conference Room
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on December 2, 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 7:00 pm by Mayor Bowman.

1. Roll Call

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

City Administration Present

City Clerk Mullison
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Schultz
City Treasurer Weber

2. Approval of Agenda

Move to approve the regular meeting agenda as presented.

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

3. Public Comment

No public comment was heard.

4. Farmington Area Arts Commission Board Reappointment Interviews

- a. Cheryl Blau
- b. Susan Warner

As this was a reappointment interview, Bowman took the opportunity to ask the appointees about the current activities of the Arts Commission, with an emphasis on what Council could do to support their work. Blau and Warner were interviewed jointly and answered questions about the Arts Commission's projects and goals. Discussion arose about Council representation on the Commission, and Bowman suggested that Taylor act as liaison to the group. A dialog began about bringing art to City Hall.

Move to appoint Cheryl Blau to a regular a term ending June 30, 2021 on the Farmington Area Arts Commission and move to appoint Susan Warner as an alternate with term ending June 30, 2020.**

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

5. Consideration to Adopt Resolution for Charitable Gaming License

City Manager Murphy reviewed the South Farmington Baseball, Inc request for a gaming license resolution.

Move to adopt resolution to allow a Charitable Gaming License for South Farmington Baseball, Inc.**

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

6. Discuss Public Act 88 of 1961

Murphy explained that a review of Public Act 88 was pertinent because of a former employee's request during public comment at the September 3, 2019 Regular Council meeting. Administration recommended against adoption because there is no way to calculate current or future costs to the City. Council questioned Murphy about details of the Act to clarify the issue. Bowman had previously reached out to Director Demers to ask if he felt that the decision not to adopt PA 88 would deter recruitment to the Public Safety Department, and he felt that it would not.

7. Pension and OPEB Presentation and Form 5572 Submittal

City Treasurer Weber presented an annual report on OPEB debt, obligation funding, savings, liabilities, and comparisons to Council as required by the State of Michigan. Discussion followed

clarifying City obligations and requirements, including measurements, changing assumptions and strategy that should be considered. Galvin reminded Council that it needs to keep a regular eye on pension obligations. Bowman thanked staff for responding quickly to questions and concerns and for bringing the numbers into perspective.

Move to accept and file Form 5572.**

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

8. 2019/2020 Capital Improvement Discussion

Murphy reported on projects budgeted for the 2019/2020 fiscal year, including being right on target for the Freedom Road project and the Bel-Aire sewer lining project. The Mayfield Street storm sewer line came in higher than anticipated, with the finding that a complete fix would be millions of dollars. Murphy stated that a smaller fix would be to add an additional smaller line as the road needs to be redone. He also reported that the micro surfacing being considered for the main commercial parking lot had been scrapped. The lot was newly striped this year and resurfacing will be put off until later when it can be done correctly.

Drake Park improvements were discussed, including a reconfiguration of the parking area. Grants from the Department of Natural Resources might be available to improve the park. Murphy requested that Council indicate approval of suggested improvements so that planning can begin. Taylor asked why removing tennis courts would be beneficial, and Weber referenced the Parks and Recreation Master Plan that indicates that there are already a disproportionate number of tennis courts and not enough basketball or volleyball courts. Work on the park would be done in 2021 as applying for grants will take time. Discussion continued about currently available tennis courts being unfixable. Weber noted that there is no sidewalk to the school except for walking through the parking lot and that a new plan could permit a safe passage for students.

Bowman, with concurrence from Council, directed administration to proceed with projects as presented.

9. Five-Year Forecast Update

Weber went over four years of budget history and five years of budget forecast. He discussed general assumptions and reviewed surplus and deficit projections. The most significant assumption subject to change is the taxable value increase, which will be determined at the end of February 2020. In response to a question from Galvin, Weber explained the difference between the total fund balance and the unrestricted fund balance. Galvin reminded Council of their goal to keep unrestricted fund balance above 25% and thanked Weber for the report.

10. Capital Improvement Planning Discussion

Murphy and Weber began this year's capital improvement program discussion, requesting Council's additions or deletions and priority projects. Murphy asked that Council send suggestions and priorities to him to be given to the CIP Steering Committee.

Administration requested the assignment of a councilmember to the Capital Improvement Steering Committee. Schneemann volunteered to fill that role.

Move to appoint Steve Schneemann to the CIP Steering Committee as Council's representative.

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

Taylor requested that a list of completed and in progress projects be sent by administration to Council. Weber recommended that CIP projects be taken from master plans and studies. He suggested that councilmembers list projects, then priority of projects.

11. Other Business

No other business was heard.

12. Public Comment

No public comment was heard.

13. Closed Session to Discuss Pending Litigation – Coleman v City of Farmington

Move to enter closed session to discuss pending litigation - Coleman v City of Farmington.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Galvin, Councilmember
AYES:	Taylor, Bowman, Galvin, Schneemann
ABSENT:	LaRussa

Council entered closed session at 8:43 p.m.

Move to exit closed session.

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

Council exited closed session at 8:53 p.m.

Move to direct the City Attorney to take action as discussed in closed session.

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

14. Council Comment

Bowman contributed a \$140 check to Governor Warner Mansion as a result of a successful 2019 Turkey Trot event.

15. Adjournment

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Mary Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: December 16, 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.