



FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on March 17, 2014, in City Council Chambers, 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 William Galvin.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Greg Cowley	Councilmember	Present	
William Galvin	Mayor	Present	
JoAnne McShane	Councilmember	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Jeff Scott	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

Superintendent Eudy
Director Christiansen
City Clerk Halberstadt
City Manager Pastue
Attorney Schultz
Director Schulz
Treasurer Weber

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chris Barr, recipient of the 2013 DDA Mary Martin Service Award, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

4. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Greg Cowley, Councilmember
SECONDER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

1. **Minutes of the City Council - Special - Jan 25, 2014 9:00 AM**
2. **Minutes of the City Council - Special Study Session - Feb 17, 2014 6:30 PM**
3. **Minutes of the City Council - Regular - Feb 17, 2014 7:00 PM**
4. **Farmington Monthly Payments Report February 2014**
5. **Farmington Public Safety Monthly Report February 2014**
6. **Special Event Request – American Cancer Society Relay for Life**
7. **Special Event Request - Spring Egg Hunt/Farmington Area Junior Chamber**

5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as amended, removing Item No. 8-1, Consideration to Approve Construction Estimate No. 8 and Change Order No. 5 for the 2013 Streetscape & Utilities Improvements, under New Business.

RESULT: **APPROVED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

6. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. 2013 DDA Mary Martin Service Award Recipient - Chris Barr

Mayor Galvin recognized Chris Barr as recipient of the 2013 DDA Mary Martin Service Award and congratulated him for his service to the community. He reviewed the list of candidates who were also nominated for the award.

Cowley provided background on the Mary Martin Service Award. He indicated this is the ninth year for the award. He noted Chris Barr and his daughter are mainstays at the Farmers Market. He also congratulated Chris on his award.

Mr. Barr expressed appreciation for the award and spoke about his volunteer activities with the DDA.

2. Commission on Aging Presentation - Jane Frost

Jane Frost, representing the Commission on Aging, was present to provide an update on Commission goals and activities.

McShane questioned how the Commission is reaching out and communicating with different ethnic groups in the community.

Frost responded a survey going out to residents 50 and over will provide a reading on the different ethnic groups in the area. She noted the Commission was invited by the Farmington Community Library to participate in the development of a strategic plan to address community diversity.

McShane questioned how the Commission is reaching out to seniors living in their homes.

Marsha Koet, Program Supervisor of the Senior Division, discussed various resources to reach seniors in their homes including: neighbors, Public Safety, discharge planners at hospitals ways, etc. She stated there is not one good answer for reaching them.

Discussion followed regarding transportation provided to seniors including the use of the SMART connector bus and dial-a-ride.

Galvin thanked the Commission members for their service to the City.

3. Farmington Area Arts Commission Presentation Nancy Coumoundouros, Jennifer Berkemeier and Cindy Carleton

Cindy Carleton, representing the Arts Commission, was present to provide an update on Commission goals and activities.

McShane requested the Commission's assistance in establishing public art in areas throughout the City.

Carleton responded the Commission would love to get involved in that kind of initiative.

Galvin asked about the recent film festival held in the community.

Carleton responded the film festival was the idea of Kickstart Farmington. She stated the Commission helped publicize the event and held a preview party. She noted two of the films were shown to sold out audiences. She stated not only was the event a huge success, but it also brought recognition and support to several non-profit agencies.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Consideration to Adopt Ordinance #C-775-2014 Amending Chapter 25 of the City Code, Zoning Ordinance, Pertaining to Outdoor Displays, Sales and Storage in Commercial Districts

City Administration reviewed and recommended approval of proposed ordinance regarding outdoor displays, sales and storage. Changes that were incorporated

as a result of Council discussion were also identified.

Motion to adopt Ordinance C-775-2014 amending Chapter 35 of the City Code, Zoning Ordinance, regarding outdoor displays, sales, and storage in commercial districts to include the following changes as discussed in the study session: outdoor storage of propane tanks would be permitted at service stations, hardware and convenience stores, provided stipulations in Item No. 8 of the ordinance are met; and tanks shall not be larger than the standard 20-pound tank size. [SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE]

The votes were taken in the following order: Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott, Cowley.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

2. Consideration to Adopt Ordinance #C-776-2014 Amending Chapter 20, Offenses, Article X, Offenses Relating to Animals, Adding a New Section Dealing with the Number of Dogs and Cats Permitted

City Administration recommended approval of ordinance and discussed reasons for ordinance.

Motion to adopt Ordinance C-776-2014 amending Chapter 20 of the City Code, Article X, adding a new section regarding the number of dogs and cats permitted. [SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE].

The votes were taken in the following order: McShane, Schneemann, Scott, Cowley, Galvin.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Jeff Scott, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

8. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration to Approve Proposal Regarding Grand River Traffic Analysis

City Administration noted at the last study session Council discussed a traffic analysis proposal from Orchard Hiltz & McCliment that would provide data

necessary to determine whether Grand River can be modified to incorporate more parking, bike lanes, etc. No changes to the proposal have been made since the study session.

Cowley asked if there would be a need for another traffic analysis if a parking structure was built in the downtown.

Pastue responded that as redevelopment continues more analyses may be necessary.

McShane pointed out the subject of bike paths is not included in the proposed analysis.

Pastue responded the first part of the analysis is to determine if the number of lanes can be reduced on Grand River. He stated based on the result of that analysis, the next step will be to evaluate how to use the surplus right-of-way.

McShane stressed the importance of walking paths and bike lanes in our community, especially in attracting young families.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Pastue stated the City does not yet have a commitment from the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) for a \$10k contribution.

Christiansen advised the CIA has set aside funds for the analysis.

Scott stated as a member of the CIA and joint taskforce, one of their goals is to ensure there is not overlap in analyses of Grand River. He also stressed the importance of bike lanes and making Farmington a more pedestrian friendly community.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Pastue stated it will likely take several months before the analysis is completed and reported back to Council. He noted the finished report will be submitted to MDOT.

Motion to approve a proposal submitted by Orchard Hiltz & McCliment (OHM) to conduct a traffic analysis along Grand River from Shiawassee Road east to Orchard Lake Road.

The votes were taken in the following order: Scott, Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann.

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Jeff Scott, Councilmember
SECONDER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

2. Consideration to Schedule Public Hearing to Vacate Third Street and Cass Street in Delos Davis Subdivision

City Administration requested Council schedule a public hearing to vacate Third Street and Cass Street in the Delos Davis Subdivision.

Galvin commented Farmington Public School initiated a process last month to begin clearing title for the Maxfield Training Center property. He stated the City will provide any assistance towards that effort to facilitate placing that property on the market.

Motion to adopt a resolution to schedule a public hearing for Monday, April 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers to consider vacating Third Street and Cass Street in the Delos Davis subdivision.

[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Greg Cowley, Councilmember
SECONDER: Jeff Scott, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

9. DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Eudy cautioned drivers to be aware of city crews patching roads.

Halberstadt announced the Mansion will re-open on Sunday, April 6th and invited the public to view the new exhibits and quilts that will be on display.

10. COUNCIL COMMENT

Scott noted that with all the snow and plowing, the roads kept getting smaller and smaller. He stated on a couple of occasions he could barely get his car through, let alone an emergency vehicle. He suggested the city take a look at how to control on-street parking.

Pastue discussed the process for declaring a snow emergency. He commented this year there has been so much snow that it cannot be pushed back far enough.

Scott congratulated the Farmington High School hockey team for winning the state championship. He invited the public to attend a celebration at the Sundquist Pavilion on Wednesday, March 19th at 6:30pm.

McShane asked about scheduling a date for a joint training session for Council, Planning Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals members.

Pastue responded possible dates would be April 14th or 28th.

Cowley noted City Council was invited by the Farmington School Board to provide input in the recruitment of a new superintendent.

Cowley stated his perspective has not changed since the last school bond proposal was turned down by voters. He discussed the importance of attracting young families and developers to the community. He does not support raising taxes since he believes they are already too high. He suggested the Schools "tread water" until an outstanding millage expires in 2-3 years. At that time it can be put back on the ballot for renewal.

Cowley advised what he is looking for in the next superintendent is experience with multi-year budgeting. It is crucial that the school system works with the city to get properties back on the tax roll. He stated the next superintendent needs to pay attention to fiscal management; transparency is important; need to manage legacy costs; and should have a good track record of turnaround. He does not believe anyone in the existing regime is qualified for the position. He stressed the importance of this decision and expressed support for whatever decision is made.

Galvin spoke about action Farmington Public School has taken on vacant school properties. He pointed out the school board will review proposals for the development of the Flanders property at their next meeting. He noted that included in the bid for proposals that went out was a list of incentives to contractors from the City. He looked forward to the schools taking the first step on that site.

11.ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

William E. Galvin, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: _____