



FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on March 16, 2015, 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

Director Christiansen
Director Demers
City Clerk Halberstadt
City Manager Pastue

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MJ Hrutkay, Mary Martin Service Award nominee, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Bsharah, representing the American Red Cross and Midwest Recycling, requested City Council permit the temporary placement of collection containers at various locations throughout the City.

Council concurred to study this issue at a future special study session.

Brian Golden, 33414 Oakland Street, invited the community to watch a documentary on Armenian music in the Detroit area. The film will be shown later that evening at 9:30 p.m. on Channel 56. He was the Editor and Director of Photography and Ara Topouzian was the Producer of the film.

Joe Manti, owner of The Cheese Lady, expressed concern regarding enforcement of the timed parking outlined in the Traffic Control Order scheduled for Council

consideration later in the agenda. He noted over the past weekend cars remained in the same spaces in front of his business for long periods of time.

Annabelle Gabel, 23089 Violet, spoke about Mr. Topouzian and his wife Della, a wonderful couple who were formerly involved in our community.

Maria Showich-Gallup, Librarian with the Farmington Community Library, thanked the Council for allowing the Library to use the pavilion over the summer for a number of activities.

4. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Minutes of the City Council - Special - Jan 27, 2015 7:00 PM**
- B. Minutes of the City Council - Special - Feb 2, 2015 6:00 PM**
- C. Minutes of the City Council - Special - Feb 16, 2015 6:00 PM**
- D. Minutes of the City Council - Regular - Feb 16, 2015 7:00 PM**
- E. Farmington Monthly Payments Report, February 2015**
- F. February Public Safety Report**
- G. Hero Day/Farmington Public Library**
- H. Pavilion Story Time**
- I. Family Fun in Riley Park**
- J. American Cancer Society Relay for Life**
- K. Farmington Family YMCA Easter Egg Hunt**
- L. Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month**
- M. Consideration to Authorize the Purchase of Two Police Patrol Vehicles**
- N. Consideration to Appoint Marian Schulte to the Farmington Area Commission on Aging**

5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

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

6. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Mary Martin Service Award Nominees Recognition

Annette Knowles, Assistant to the City Manager, provided a background on the Mary Martin Service Award. She announced the 2015 nominees who were not present:

Larry Kilner, Martin Wojtkiewicz, Melissa McKenna Flores and Agnes (Micki) Skrzycki.

Knowles then introduced those nominees who were in attendance:

Brian Cafmeyer, Valerie Hoffman, Art Mikkola, and MJ Hrutkay

Council thanked the nominees for their volunteerism and commitment to the community.

B. Consideration to Approve Haitian Art and Craft Festival

Administration requested Council approve a special event request for a Haitian Art and Craft Festival scheduled for July 11 and 12 in Riley Park.

Pastue provided an overview of the event. He noted that he and Director Demers met with the event organizers to discuss logistics for the event. He was very impressed with their level planning.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Pastue stated the event is subject to the clean-up fee, but a number of volunteers will be on hand to assist in that effort.

Responding to a question from Cowley, Pastue advised all future events will comply with the recently approved PUD Agreement with Kimco. He stated the event will use a portion of Riley Park and the pavilion.

Cowley questioned how much of the parking will be closed due to the Fresh Thyme construction. Pastue responded he is unsure regarding the timetable for construction.

Cowley expressed support for the event and a desire to have it held in Farmington. He stated the issue is parking, especially with the possibility of construction. He suggested Council needs to start thinking about events in the downtown and the kind of pressure they will put on the business infrastructure. In his opinion this event should be held in Shiawassee Park. He stated Council has failed to develop a strategy for the kinds of events that should be held in the

downtown. He questioned whether the City is actually penalizing businesses who pay taxes by allowing some of these events in the downtown.

Responding to a question from Cowley, Pastue stated the intent was not to make this an annual event.

Christiansen pointed out the main parking area will not be impacted by Fresh Thyme construction.

McShane stated Cowley made a good point regarding the need for Council to address and develop a strategy for future events and parking. She requested assistance from the DDA in providing signage for event parking. She stated the DDA could also help in showing vendors and event staff where to park.

McShane encouraged organizers of the event to contact the Multicultural Multiracial (MCMR) Community Council for their input and support. She expressed strong support for this family event and is looking forward to experiencing all of the planned activities. She wished them success in their effort.

Scott noted this event has an aggressive plan for the short time frame of Saturday evening through Sunday. He expressed concern regarding the noise from the Sunday morning events in light of the Church being right across the street. He also pointed out the Church will need 100+ parking spaces for their services.

Pastue stated he will share with the organizers the times of the church services and possibly the music could be altered as a result.

Motion to approve a special event request to hold a Haitian Art and Craft Festival in Riley Park/Sundquist Pavilion scheduled for Saturday, July 11, 2015, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Sunday, July 12th, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

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

C. Bark in the Park

City Administration requested Council approval of a special event request to hold "Bark in the Park", in Riley Park on Sunday, May 17, 2015.

Schneemann requested clarification regarding whether or not the south parking lot would be closed for the event.

Pastue responded that based on the recently approved PUD agreement with KIMCO the south parking lot could not be closed. He will ensure event organizers are aware of this fact.

Organizers ensured a clean-up protocol would be in place.

Motion to approve an outdoor special event request to hold "Bark in the Park" in the Riley Park/Sundquist Pavilion on Sunday, May 17, 2015, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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

D. Presentation of 2014 Annual Report

Director Demers presented the 2014 Public Safety Annual Report that included a review of major crime data, major case summaries, community policing programs, new technologies and an overview of the Public Safety Department.

Galvin thanked Director Demers for an excellent presentation.

Responding to a question from McShane, Demers stated the performance of Christine Schutz, Liaison Officer to Farmington High School, has resulted in a significant reduction in crime. He noted she will be retiring soon and they are preparing to find her replacement before the end of the school year.

McShane praised Director Demers for his outstanding report and expressed pride in the Public Safety Department.

Cowley praised Director Demers for his report. He is happy to hear Public Safety is focused on increased apartment complex patrol. He expressed concern regarding the number of medical calls and asked if this is a single location problem.

Demers responded the department has seen an increased number of calls to the Farmington Healthcare facility.

Responding to a question from Cowley, Demers advised a minimum of two officers respond to medical calls, but more often than not one officer is freed up to go back into service.

Cowley expressed concern regarding the impact of future senior healthcare facilities on Public Safety.

Scott questioned the reasons for the increased Public Safety runs to Farmington Healthcare. He recognized Demers for his excellent presentation skills.

Pastue will provide Council with a report regarding reasons for the uptick in DPS runs to the healthcare facility and possible solutions.

Schneemann expressed his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the Public Safety Department.

Galvin questioned whether there are any other "hot spots" around the city where a high number of citations are issued.

Demers responded not one part of the City is more affected than another.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was heard.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to Approve New Small Wine Maker License for the Farmington Brewing Company, 33336 Grand River Avenue

Present: Jason Hendricks and Jason Schwab, owners of the Farmington Brewing Company

City Administration advised correspondence was received from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) that the Farmington Brewing Company is requesting a new small wine maker license.

Responding to a question from McShane, Hendricks stated they made the decision to process wine in order to expand the business.

Discussion followed regarding the types of wines that will be processed.

Motion to adopt a Michigan Liquor Control Commission resolution approving a new small wine maker license for the Farmington Brewing Company located at 33336 Grand River Avenue. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION NO. 03-15-005].

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

B. Consideration to Adopt Budget Policies

City Administration advised at the study session held on March 2, a set of proposed budget policies that formalize past practices was presented. The policies address objectives associated with developing the annual budget, revenue policies, including property taxes, establishing minimum fund balance levels, debt service policies, and expenditures. A set of formally adopted policies is viewed as a positive by rating agencies.

McShane expressed support for adopting a formal budget policy. She stated it shows transparency to the community. She noted it is a good guideline and template for developing a budget.

Galvin recognized Pastue for his excellent work on the budget over the last 11 years, especially during the recession. He asked regarding flagship policies included in the proposed budget policy that Farmington has historically followed.

Pastue responded some of those policies include: maintain a high level of service, avoid long term deficit spending, maintain a constant millage rate, continue investment in infrastructure and maintain a AA bond rating. He noted the City needs to identify a steady flow of money to the Capital Improvement Fund. He stated the City's policy to maintain a 25% fund balance gets the greatest attention from rating agencies, along with long term budget planning.

Galvin advised future adherence to these budget policies falls to City Council.

Motion to adopt budget policies for the City of Farmington as presented.
[SEE ATTACHED BUDGET POLICIES].

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

C. Public Participation Plan

City Administration advised at the March 2 Study Session, the City Council reviewed the public participation plan guidelines presented by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) as part of the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) program. As discussed, in many ways the City already employs many elements of the plan necessary to formally adopt as part of the RRC program. It is necessary to adopt this Public Participation Policy before the end of March to stay on track with the City's RRC certification process.

Scott pointed out the City has already been following most of what is included in this public participation plan. It was good the City did not need to make any substantial changes.

Motion to adopt a resolution to approve a public participation plan for planning and community development projects and programs. **[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION NO. 03-15-006].**

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

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

D. Traffic Control Order

City Administration advised the City received a request from the Groves Shopping Center to establish time limited parking on Grove Street. City Administration is recommending that a two-hour parking limit be approved along the east curb line of Grove Street from Orchard Street to Grand River Avenue.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Demers stated his department is working on a number of programs that would increase enforcement of parking in the downtown. He recognized it is the responsibility of the Public Safety Department to ensure time limits are enforced. He encouraged business owners to call his department if they have any parking issues or concerns.

Pastue advised the Downtown Parking Ad Hoc Committee report that will be presented at the April 6th Study Session will provide detail on enforcement solutions.

Galvin stressed the importance of educating the consumers regarding changes to parking in the downtown.

Pastue stated education and communication of changes in parking will be a significant part of the responsibilities of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Cowley discussed the issue of the lack of a formalized plan in place for employee parking. He stated the City needs to provide designated employee parking that is well lit and safe.

Motion to adopt a resolution to amend City Traffic Control Orders that establishes a two-hour parking limit on the east curb line of Grove Street from Orchard Street to Grand River Avenue. [SEE ATTACHED TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER RESOLUTION].

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

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg Cowley, Steve Schneemann
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

9. DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Halberstadt announced the City Clerk's office is now receiving Absent Voter applications for the May 5, 2015 election.

Christiansen thanked Council for their approval of the Public Participation Plan. He provided an update on three Planned Unit Developments in the City. He discussed two important meetings scheduled that week. The first will be held on Wednesday evening regarding the Grand River Corridor Improvement vision plan. He stated the second meeting on Thursday will be held with stakeholders to discuss opportunities at the 10 Mile and Orchard Lake intersection.

Discussion followed regarding the configuration of the construction site for Fresh Thyme and communication to businesses regarding plans.

Schultz advised a license will be issued to Kimco who will be responsible for the lane construction work and will therefore have control over where closures will take place.

Demers announced that after 35 years of service, Carole Lukas, Administrative Assistant in the Department of Public Safety, is retiring at the end of the month. He invited Council to an Open House in her honor on Thursday, March 26th, 1-4PM, in the Public Safety offices.

Pastue announced yard waste collection will begin on April 13, 2015.

10.COUNCIL COMMENT

McShane cited a recent occurrence in another community where DTE clear cut a residential property of 50 trees. She stated only trees within 15 feet of wires are to be removed, but in this case they removed trees within 25 feet of the wires. She describe a revised program implemented by DTE to ensure this type of mass tree removal does not occur again.

McShane stated with this revised plan, DTE will be marking trees with an X or O and will allow for public comment as to the value of each tree. She noted residents, as part of their electric bill, pay for tree cutting. She stated the DTE program is entitled "The Vegetation Management Program." She would like the City to be proactive before trees are cut down. She requested the City invite DTE Representative, Mike Palchesko, to give a short presentation on how they will administer the tree cutting program in Farmington.

Pastue responded he will invite Mr. Palchesko to give a short presentation before Council at the April 20, 2015 meeting.

Scott expressed concern regarding the IT service provided by Farmington Hills to City Hall. He does not understand why we still do not have Wi-Fi. He also noted difficulty in accessing email on his I-Pad. He expressed hope that city staff can function and serve the public with the present IT service.

Pastue responded city staff is pleased with Farmington Hills IT staff and the service they have provided. He stated there are a number of issues associated with the delay in getting Wi-Fi.

11.ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting.

<p>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember SECONDER: Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott</p>

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

William E. Galvin, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: _____