

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, March 7, 2005, in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Campbell.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bush, Campbell, Knol, Mitchell.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** McShane.

**CITY ADMINISTRATION:** Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, City Manager Pastue.

**DISCUSSION WITH STATE SENATOR GILDA JACOBS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVE ALDO VAGNOZZI**

Representative Vagnozzi discussed two liquor license bills he has introduced that would protect city owned licenses.

Councilmember Mitchell stated that he would like to see legislation that would allow cities to acquire more licenses in order to facilitate economic development.

Representative Vagnozzi asked if there were any other issues that Council would like to discuss. In response, City Manager Pastue requested assistance in obtaining aggregate sales tax data from the Department of Treasury.

Representative Vagnozzi noted that the state has proposed a reduction in the Single Business Tax from 2% to 1.2%. He further noted that the state is seeking a 2-billion dollar bond issue to fund recruitment of high tech companies to the state and for funding of highway construction and repair. He advised that under education funding, the state is proposing an increase of \$175 per pupil and an additional \$50 per high school student.

Responding to a question, he stated that the revenue to cover the school increases would come from increases in insurance taxes.

Senator Jacobs arrived at 7:11 p.m.

Senator Jacobs stated that for the past three years the Michigan Economic Development Commission has been working on the Corridor Improvement Authority that would allow communities to create a Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) in areas 30 years or older, such as Grand River in Farmington. Responding to a question, she stated that the TIFA is not limited to "core communities".

SPECIAL MEETING -2-  
March 7, 2005

Senator Jacobs expressed hope that the liquor license bill will move forward. She stated that the proposed bill would provide cities the ability to grant extra liquor licenses based on their total commercial and residential growth. She further stated that there is a formula under the proposed bill for small cities that is based on economic growth. She noted that with the proposed legislation a license could not be taken out of a community.

Discussion followed regarding various aspects of liquor control measures.

Representative Vagnozzi spoke about two other bills he has introduced concerning elections. He stated that one of the bills would allow early voting up to ten days prior to an election and the other would provide for "no reason" Absent Voter ballots. Discussion followed regarding how these bills would be implemented.

Pastue noted with all the projects and activities in Farmington, the City seems unable to find the right "niche" under the "Cool Cities" program. He stated that a \$50,000 to \$100,000 catalyst grant would make a significant impact on the downtown.

Representative Vagnozzi suggested a meeting with representatives from the State during the March Michigan Municipal League conference concerning the "Cool Cities" program.

Council thanked Representative Vagnozzi and Senator Jacobs for their updates and continued support.

**INTERVIEW FOR FARMINGTON AREA COMMISSION ON AGING**

Council interviewed Jane Frost to fill an open position on the Farmington Area Commission on Aging.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

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Arnold T. Campbell, Mayor

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Patsy K. Cantrell, City Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED: MARCH 21, 2005

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Susan K. Halberstadt, Recording Secretary