



Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 5, 2023
Council Chambers
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on September 5, 2023, at Farmington City Hall, 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 7:04 p.m. by Mayor Bowman.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Johnna Balk	Councilmember	Present	
Sara Bowman	Mayor	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Excused	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

City Manager Murphy
City Clerk Bachman
City Attorney Schultz
Public Safety Director Houhanisin
Planning and Building Director Christiansen
Assistant to the City Manager Melissa Andrade

2. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Move to approve the regular agenda as presented. **

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Balk, Councilmember

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Pamela Gerald spoke regarding an upcoming event on September 14, 2023, at the Hawk. The event will bring awareness to suicide and suicide prevention. She encouraged all to attend.

Victoria Kerby, 34935 Oakland Street, spoke to Council about the benefits of keeping backyard chickens.

4. FARMINGTON BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Maria Taylor, City Councilmember presented this agenda item and spoke of Farmington’s 200th anniversary in 2024 and proposed a plan for a yearlong Bicentennial Celebration. She introduced the committee and outlined the plan and recommendations. Other members of the committee spoke, presenting ideas, calendar of events, recommended activities, and the budget.

Move to approve the Farmington Bicentennial Steering Committee’s recommendations and budget amendment proposal as presented in the amount of \$49,000 and extend the authority of the Farmington Bicentennial Steering Committee from July 31, 2024 to December 31, 2024 to support implementation throughout the bicentennial year. **

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

5. SUNDQUIST PAVILION AND RILEY PARK AUDIO SYSTEM UPGRADE

Melissa Andrade, Assistant to the City Manager presented this agenda item. She noted three quotes were received to replace the 20-year-old system and recommended contracting with the proposal in the middle range of cost, provided by Sound Planning Communications.

Move to approve the quote from Sound Planning Communications to upgrade the audio system at Riley Park Pavilion in the amount of \$14,787.37. Funding will be allocated through the proceeds from the Fiscal Year 22/23 Farmers Market. **

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Balk, Councilmember
AYES:	Bowman, LaRussa, Taylor, Balk

6. FARMGOV.COM UPGRADE AND REDESIGN

Melissa Andrade, Assistant to the City Manager presented this agenda item. She noted the current municipal website is overdue for a technology upgrade to improve usability, accessibility, and overall appearance. The upgrade will be provided by Muniweb, the current website developer for the city.

Move to approve the proposed agreement from our current website developer, Municipal Web Services (Muniweb) for the update and redesign of the City Website in the amount of \$15,300. **

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

7. RENTAL ORDINANCE

Kevin Christiansen, Planning and Building Department Director presented this agenda item. This was the second and final reading of the ordinance. The ordinance will create a procedure to register and inspect single family and two-family rental and vacant residential properties.

To adopt Ordinance C-809-2023 Amending Article IX of the Farmington City Code of Ordinances to Include Registration and Inspections for all Single and Two-Family Rental and Vacant Residential Properties - SECOND READING. **

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Balk, Councilmember
AYES:	Taylor, Balk, Bowman, LaRussa,

8. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

City Council previously interviewed three candidates for a vacancy on the Planning Commission. After some discussion, a motion was made to appoint DeWayne Gray for a three-year term to expire on June 30, 2026.

Move to appoint DeWayne Gray to the Farmington Planning Commission for a 3-year term ending June 30, 2026. **

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Balk, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	Balk, Bowman, LaRussa, Taylor

9. OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager David Murphy noted he received a letter from the cable provider, Charter Communications. It was noted that Disney will no longer partner with Charter Communications.

10. CITY COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember Balk spoke regarding the bushes that were removed and told a heartwarming story that included her young neighbor, reflecting on the removal.

Councilmember Taylor thanked everyone for supporting the Bicentennial efforts and noted she is very excited for this celebration and mentioned a Bicentennial will not be seen again in her lifetime. Taylor spoke of the letter addressed to City Council from Public Safety Director Bob Houhanisin, regarding Superior Ambulance services. Councilmember Taylor asked if the letter could be shared with the public. Mayor Bowman suggested the letter could be tailored for public viewing, with an update on how things are going and the progress that has been made. Mayor Bowman asked the City Attorney to draft a public correspondence.

Mayor Pro Tem LaRussa passed out charts and graphs regarding DTE and the metrics that are used to represent frequency and the duration of outage. DTE has a target to have no more than 1 ½ outages per circuit, per year. He noted overall, the frequencies are going down, but the duration is still a concern. Mayor Pro Tem LaRussa calculated a formula to understand what the year ahead would look like. He summarized the data that was presented to the Council and proposed another discussion on the next steps with DTE to support the residents that are impacted with outages.

Mayor Bowman noted she will not be able to attend the 9/11 Memorial and apologized of her absence due to an out-of-town trip.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk

Approval Date:

******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.