



Special/Study Session Meeting
6:00 p.m., Monday, November 20, 2017
Conference Room
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

STUDY SESSION MINUTES

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on November 20, 2017, in Farmington City Hall, Farmington, MI. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Steve Schneemann.

1. ROLL CALL

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

City Administration Present

City Clerk Halberstadt
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Schultz
City Treasurer Weber
Controller Norgard

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move to approve the agenda as presented.

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment was heard.

4. MIDC DISCUSSION

Present: David Walsh, Administrator 47th District Court

David Walsh provided information about the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC). Michigan is not meeting its constitutional obligation in regards to criminal defense services for indigent adults.

Representatives from Farmington, Farmington Hills, and the 47th District Court met to draft a plan to meet standards for compliance set by the MDIC. It was determined that the cost of implementation would be \$172,000 and the burden is on the MIDC to find the funding.

Walsh discussed the four standards, with attention to standard 4: Counsel at first appearance. At district court level there has never been counsel at first appearance. This will change the way the court is structured. With this new standard, the court will need to provide house counsel at arraignments. There will need to be a creation of a House Counsel provided at arraignments. Indigents can waive representation, but if their freedom is in jeopardy counsel must be provided.

Responding to Galvin, Walsh stated the current indigent defense costs is \$150 per case and representation at first appearance is not provided.

Bowman clarified that the funding for implementation of the new standards will come from the state.

Schneemann inquired about the proposal cost. Walsh stated he anticipates that a lot of the plan will get kicked back for modification, therefore the pricing was liberal.

5. PLANTE MORAN ANNUAL AUDIT PRESENTATION

Present: Kari Shea and Dave Helisek, Plante Moran

Schneemann introduced Dave Helisek and Kari Shea, who presented the results of the Farmington audit for year ended June 30, 2017.

Helisek advised Plante Moran, once again, was able to give the City's financial statements an unmodified opinion which is the highest level of assurance that can be given. He stated that means the statements as presented fairly reflect the financial position of the City as of June 30, 2017. He mentioned there were no difficulties performing the audit. He praised Treasurer Weber and Controller Norgard for their efforts.

Shea provided an audit presentation covering General Fund revenues and expenses, revenues and expenses by governmental activities, and Water and Sewer Fund cash flows. Shea advised that the City's General Fund ended with a \$2.6 million balance. Shea noted that 18.4% of the fund is unassigned, which is under 25% achieved in previous years.

Responding to a question by Galvin, Weber provided some examples of charges for services, which include franchise fees, cell tower fees, water and sewer fund, etc. Galvin noted that these charges were down this year and wondered if this should be considered when working on the next budget.

Galvin noted that the financial statement discussed pension obligations. He would like to see charts and graphs with historical references included in the presentation. Helisek stated that Plante Moran puts whatever the City deems important into the graph package and going forward it can be included.

Schneemann also would like to see if there is a way to track how well the OPEB bond is covering costs.

Discussion followed regarding the General Fund balance and the Capital Improvement fund.

Helisek stated the City is in a position to start planning Capital Improvement Projects.

Helisek briefly reviewed Plante Moran's official letter to the City including general information regarding the audit process and legislative and informational items. He discussed the need for communication between Council and Plante Moran. He advised Council to reach out and give input on what they would like included in the audit process.

Responding to a question by Taylor, Norgard stated the audit would be on the City's website after the meeting and Shea said it would be on the state's website as well.

Responding to Schneemann, Helisek compared Farmington to other communities and stated the City is doing well, especially with OPEB.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was heard.

7. COUNCIL COMMENT

No Council Comment was heard.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Steve Schneemann, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: December 18, 2018