



Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, February 3, 2020
Conference Room
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on February 3, 2020, at 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 Bowman.

1. Roll Call

| Attendee Name | Title | Status | Arrived |
|------------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Sara Bowman | Mayor | Present | |
| Joe LaRussa | Mayor Pro Tem | Present | |
| Steve Schneemann | Councilmember | Present | |
| Maria Taylor | Councilmember | Absent | |

City Administration Present

Director Christiansen (left at 8:05 pm)
City Clerk Mullison
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Schultz

2. Approval of Agenda

Move to approve the regular meeting agenda as presented.**

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Schneemann, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem |

3. Public Comment

No public comment was heard.

4. Board and Commission Interview

A. Chris Halas – Downtown Development Authority Board

Halas was interviewed for an open business representative position on the DDA Board. He was asked about what challenges he might face and what strengths he would bring to the board. He spoke about Farmington's autonomy and identity and how Farmington might grow that with projects and volunteer efforts. He cited a balanced effort between the city and the DDA, and that a healthy relationship between the two begins with transparency, open lines of communication, and mutual respect between Council and DDA. When asked what was right about this opportunity over other volunteer opportunities, he said that he hoped to continue on the Parking Committee if he is also appointed to the DDA Board.

Move to appoint Chris Halas to fill a downtown business representative seat on the Downtown Development Authority for a 4-year term ending February 28, 2024.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem |
| SECONDER: | Schneemann, Councilmember |

5. Farmington Farmers Market Presentation and 2020 Calendar

Market Master Walt Gajewski gave a presentation highlighting the local growers and suppliers to the Farmington Farmers Market and how the Market supports our farmers. Highlights of the presentation included market goals and objectives, parking agreements and plans, farm inspections, and reducing plastic use. The Farmington Farmers Market is looking forward to welcoming its 1,000,000th customer somewhere in the middle of the season. Opening day will be May 16th and the market will be open on Saturdays through October 31st. He reminded Council that the Market was self-sustaining, though it relies on city administration, resident volunteers, and sponsors for much of the support needed for a successful season. Gajewski concluded his presentation by showing a video about Saturday life in a Michigan downtown.

LaRussa asked Gajewski about the grassy conditions of the North side of the Pavilion and whether its condition is detrimental to the Market. Gajewski described how and when the sod is laid and when the Market actually makes use on the North side park area. Schneemann asked how the City and the DDA could assist in making the market even better. Gajewski mentioned the DDA bag program from past years. He would like to see more participation from businesses to sponsor giveaways to keep people in town longer and coming back more. Bowman was happy to hear about Gajewski's plastics initiative, but suggested QR codes or electronic coupons for businesses and sponsors instead of paper handouts to further reduce waste.

Move to approve the 2020 dates of the Farmington Farmers and Artisans Market to be held weekly in Riley Park and Sundquist Pavilion.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Schneemann, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem |

Mayor Bowman declared a recess at 8:05 pm. The meeting was called back to order at 8:08 pm.

6. Discuss Current Status of Infrastructure Projects

City Manager Murphy initiated a discussion on the current status of several infrastructure projects that are being paid for out of special millage funds as well as additional projects that Council may want to include this fiscal year. His comments included projects to be completed by this summer and projects postponed such as the Downtown and Drake Park parking lots and Shiawassee Park improvements. He offered several options and Council discussed whether redeploying the funds to new projects like sidewalk repair and road patching or saving the funds for future years was preferable. Council explored the topic and feedback was given to Murphy in order to prioritize upcoming projects.

7. Consideration to Accept the Resignation of Sharon Bernath from the Historical Commission

Murphy read a resignation letter from Sharon Bernath. She has served on the Historical Commission for 10 years and in 2018, she was presented with the Dick Carvell Award. Bowman hoped that Bernath could still stay engaged with the Governor Warner Mansion, as she has been an integral part of activities there for many years.

Move to accept the resignation of Sharon Bernath from the Historical Commission.**

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Schneemann, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem |

8. Approve Resolution to Adopt Fee Schedule

Murphy introduced a resolution to adopt a fee schedule pertaining to a Telecommunications Ordinance passed last year about wireless facilities, wireless support structures, and utility poles in public right-of-way. This fee schedule sets fees related to the City's review and issuance of permits, as provided and allowed by law.

Move to approve resolution setting fees for wireless facilities, wireless support structures, and utility poles in public right-of-way.**

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem |
| SECONDER: | Schneemann, Councilmember |

9. Other Business

Murphy distributed a list of appointment times for upcoming interviews to fill the current Council vacancy.

10. Public Comment

No public comment was heard.

11. Council Comment

No council comment was heard.

12. Closed Session– Discuss Negotiation of Collective Bargaining Agreement

Move to enter closed session to discuss negotiation of Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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

Council entered closed session at 8:40 p.m.

Move to exit closed session.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Schneemann, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem |

Council exited closed session at 8:57 p.m.

Move to approve the tentative collective bargaining agreement with the COAM as presented and instruct the City Manager to finalize the agreement and authorize him to sign it.

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

13. Adjournment

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Schneemann, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | LaRussa, Councilmember |

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Mary Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: February 18, 2020

******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.