



Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, February 1, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on February 1, 2021, as a Virtual Meeting via Zoom, an electronic meeting platform. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976 and electronically as authorized under the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.261, et seq., as amended by HB 1108, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, protect the public health, and provide essential protections to vulnerable Michiganders by limiting in-person contact and the number of people interacting at public gatherings.

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 | |
| Dave DeLind | Councilmember | Present | |
| Joe LaRussa | Mayor Pro Tem | Present | |
| Steve Schneemann | Councilmember | Present | |
| Maria Taylor | Councilmember | Present | |

City Administration Present

City Clerk Mullison
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Schultz

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move to approve the regular meeting agenda adding Item 2a. Public Comment.**

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

a. Public Comment

No public comment was heard.

3. CONSIDERATION TO SELECT A CONTRACTOR TO CONDUCT A TREE INVENTORY IN THE CITY OF FARMINGTON

City Manager Murphy requested approval for a tree inventory with a summary to be performed on approximately 4,000 trees. The City wrote for and received a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources 2021 Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program to help pay for a tree inventory. The grant is for 50% of the cost of the inventory up to \$8,000. The total cost of the Inventory (up to 4,000 trees) is \$15,700.

A tree inventory will identify sick trees that might cause damage to people and property, determine the type and location of trees to plant to ensure proper health and diversity, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of maintenance plans, show the benefits of our urban forest, and improve the City's ability to receive future tree grants.

Schneemann commented that a tree inventory was overdue and he was glad for the opportunity. Bowman noted that Davey Resource Group had already been contracted in our area by DTE, so they are familiar with Farmington neighborhoods.

Move to approve Davey Resource Group Inc. Auburn Hills, MI to perform the Tree Inventory and to have the City Attorney prepare a contract between the City of Farmington and Davey Resource Group, Inc. for the work to be done with the approval of the City Manager.**

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| RESULT: | APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Taylor, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | DeLind, Councilmember |
| AYES: | DeLind, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman |

4. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2021 DDA COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR, TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS, STREET CLOSURES AND SIDEWALK

On behalf of the Downtown Farmington business community, the Downtown Development Authority requested that the City Council adopt a resolution approving the 2021 community events calendar, temporary liquor license applications, and street closures.

Council discussed why certain dates were chosen and whether restrictions from the pandemic might impact plans.

Move to adopt resolution approving the 2021 DDA community events calendar, temporary liquor license applications, street closures, and designated sidewalk shopping dates as presented.**

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| RESULT: | APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | DeLind, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | Taylor, Councilmember |

5. SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION: FOUNDERS FESTIVAL

Mayor Bowman introduced Julie Law of 360 Productions to present a request for a Special Event in July 2021. Dates of the Founders Festival, entertainment planned, specific event locations, road closures, community engagement, and applications for temporary liquor licenses were discussed. The event is planned for July 15-17, 2021.

In response to a question from Taylor, Law said that interaction with local Farmington businesses is yet to come. Engaging sponsors from the past and getting the event's footprint approved needed to come first.

Schneemann welcomed Law and noted that he was excited that the event was being planned for the downtown. He gave sincere thanks to Bowman for putting all of this together.

LaRussa asked Murphy what the detour route might be for the proposed Farmington Road closure. Bowman said the same routes used in past years were in the plan. LaRussa asked what Law's confidence level was to get enough vendors for area planned, and Law responded that she felt very confident. She also said that they are watching the State for indicators as to when or whether the event might be cancelled, and that they would probably pull the plug 30-45 days out. LaRussa was pleased with the layout and plan so far.

Move to adopt resolution approving the 2021 Founders Festival which includes approving event locations, authorizing road closures and applications for temporary liquor licenses.**

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

6. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was heard.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

8. COUNCIL COMMENT

LaRussa informed Council about information from a recent SEMCOG Broadband Roundtable he was able to attend. He also asked whether a summary of the economic impact of more people residing in downtown Farmington existed. He requested an Economic Impact Analysis be done.

Taylor agreed with LaRussa about the EIA. She thanked Council for agreeing to add a second public comment going forward. She also suggested that there might be a need for a broadband consortium with nearby communities.

Bowman appreciated all the support for Founders Festival and expressed her excitement for the event.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Mary Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: February 16, 2021

******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.