



Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, December 20, 2021
Council Chambers
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on December 20, 2021 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 7:02 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	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

Director Christiansen
DDA Executive Director Knight
Assistant Superintendent Leach
City Clerk Mullison
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Saarela

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Walt Gajewski.

3. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Accept City of Farmington Board and Commission Minutes
- B. City of Farmington Minutes
 - a. November 15, 2021 Special
 - b. November 15, 2021 Regular
 - c. December 6, 2021 Special
- C. Farmington Monthly Payments Report
- D. Farmington Public Safety Monthly Report

Move to approve the consent agenda with one correction in the November 15, 2021 Council Minutes Roll Call.**

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

4. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Move to approve the regular agenda presented.**

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sarah Davies, 23120 Violet, Chair of the Farmington Beautification Committee, reminded about the Holiday Lights contest and also hoped Council would confirm new members for their committee later in this meeting.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Farmington Farmers and Artisans Market Presentation

Market Manager Walt Gajewski updated Council on happenings from the 2020 and 2021 Market seasons and spoke about the immediate plans for the 2022 Market.

LaRussa thanked Gajewski and his volunteers and said that he was not surprised to hear the accolades and celebrations announced by Gajewski due to the quality of the Market and its offerings. He cited the Market as a positive impact for Farmington year after year.

Bowman highlighted Public Safety participation at the Market and the success of the newly added Walkabouts. She also loved the addition of the Market Street to this year's Founders Festival.

Move to approve the Farmington Farmers Market for Saturdays in 2022 starting May 7th to October 29th with a provisional date on Saturday, November 5th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

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

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Resolution to participate in the National Opioid Litigation Settlement

City Attorney Saarela explained that the City was eligible to participate in a settlement arising out of the opioid crisis involving states and municipalities all over the country that have been affected by it. Any funds received from the settlements that have been reached against the three largest pharmaceutical distributors, McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen and one manufacturer, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and its parent company Johnson & Johnson must be spent on opioid remediation, which is defined in the settlement agreements. If a majority of the governments that sued the companies do not accept the settlement, the proposed deal will fail, and litigation will continue.

City administration recommended participation in the settlements, understanding that the likelihood of the City filing its own claims against the defendants was low.

Move to approve the Resolution to participate in the National Opioid Litigation settlement, agreeing to the terms of the settlements and the release of claims against the companies named in the litigation, and authorizing the City Manager to register the City on the settlement website and take such further action as is necessary to receive the settlement funds.**

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

B. Resolution to extend usage of outdoor seating and temporary expanded areas

Director Christiansen requested that the special event authorization and requirements for reopening certain retail and restaurant/bar businesses in light of the COVID-19 pandemic be extended to April 14, 2022. He noted that City staff will update standards and procedures to

implement the continued authorization to include any updated and or amended health, safety, and welfare standards, including but not limited to ADA Compliance requirements and outdoor heating safety regulations.

Move to adopt a Resolution extending Resolution 06-20-016 regarding relaxation of certain requirements for reopening retail and restaurant/bar businesses in light of COVID-19 Pandemic from October 31, 2021 to April 14, 2022.**

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

C. Appointments to the Farmington Beautification Committee

Murphy requested that two vacancies be filled on the Farmington Beautification Committee.

Move to appoint Alana Abdal and Sandy Smallish to serve 3-year terms on the Farmington Beautification Committee with the terms to end June 30, 2024.**

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

D. Consideration of extension of Inspection Period under Agreement to Purchase and Develop Property related to the Maxfield Training Center and Grand River/Thomas Street parcels

Murphy introduced Jim Clark of Robertson Brothers, who was seeking an extension of the inspection period because the condition of the slope on the north side of the site leading down to the river is still being reviewed. A four-month extension effectively results in an extension of all dates under the previously signed Purchase Agreement (PA).

Clark answered questions from Council about previous testing done, reasons for the delay, stabilizing the bank, consideration of alternate path sites, and the viability of a scaled-down number of units if the condition of the bank proves to be an issue. In response to a query by LaRussa, Clark said that he could not promise that this four-month extension would be enough time to do the engineering studies they need to do.

Bowman requested clarification on the letter attached** that referenced a “pedestrian conveyance” analysis that would take another two months and approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 to complete. Clark said that what to do, who pays for it, and who designs it is unclear since their proposal was accepted with a trolley system and not a switchback path. He suggested that a study session with Council might be needed to get a better definition of exactly what the City is looking for before a new proposal is made.

Schneemann commented that Clark had not known about the hill conditions when the PA was signed, and it was noted that he has been directly involved in the negotiations as the Council representative on the team. Schneemann relayed thoughts about moving east with the pathway and ideas about working more with the topography. In response to a concern expressed by LaRussa, Clark said that he thought that there had been excellent communication between the City and his group and that he believed that one board member doesn't bind a city. He indicated that Council had been very clear that they had to be approached with any new thoughts or opinions, which was what he was doing here.

Discussion ensued about whether it would be quicker for the City to do some of the studies and services discussed at this meeting. City administration indicated that they did not have any better or faster connections than the developer had.

Move to approve a four-month extension to the inspection period under the Agreement to Purchase and Develop Property, and authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to finalize the correspondence amendment to the Purchase Agreement to be signed by the Mayor and City Clerk.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [3-2]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Balk, Councilmember
AYES:	Balk, Schneemann, Taylor
NAYS:	Bowman, LaRussa

E. Consideration to approve pay application for Drake Park improvements

Assistant Superintendent Leach requested a fourth payment for a project that includes improvements to Drake Park, Flanders Park, and City Hall.

Move to approve Payment Application No.4 in the amount of \$977.00 for Drake Park Improvements to Asphalt Specialist Incorporated (ASI).**

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

F. Consideration to approve construction estimate for the Oakland Street Reconstruction-Water Main Replacement

Leach asked for payment for work completed in November 2021 for the Oakland Street Reconstruction project.

Move to approve payment to V.I.L. Construction Incorporated for Construction Estimate No. 3 in the amount of \$227,503.18 for the Oakland Street Reconstruction-Water Main Replacement Project **

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

G. Consideration to ratify payment to D’Angelo Brothers Incorporated for the emergency sanitary sewer repair on Oakland Street

Leach recommended payment to D’Angelo Brothers Incorporated for emergency sanitary sewer repair near 34101 Oakland Street.

Move to ratify payment to D’Angelo Brothers Incorporated for the emergency sanitary sewer repair on Oakland Street in the amount of \$16,520.**

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

H. Consideration to approve payment to Pipeline Management for protruding tap removal, sewer cleaning and CCTV of the sanitary sewer on Oakland Street

Due to several items identified by Orchard Hiltz & McCliment (OHM) during the Oakland Street road reconstruction, OHM recommended having Pipeline Management cut out protruding taps, clean, and CCTV the entire length of sanitary sewer prior to placing the wearing course of asphalt. Leach noted the devices and procedure used to accomplish this, specifying some of the difficulties encountered.

Move to approve payment to Pipeline Management in the amount of \$25,597.25 for protruding tap removal, sewer cleaning and CCTV of the sanitary sewer on Oakland Street.**

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

I. Consideration to approve payment application for Shiawassee and Drake Park restroom improvements

Leach recommended payment for restroom improvements in progress at both Drake and Shiawassee parks.

Move to approve Payment Application No. 2 in the amount of \$85,309.88 for the Shiawassee & Drake Park Restroom Improvement to Summit Company.**

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

J. Consideration to approve payment to Luigi Ferdinandi & Son Cement Company for the Farmington 2020 Sidewalk Program

Leach submitted a balancing change order for the Farmington 2020/21 Sidewalk Program and has requested Luigi Ferdinandi & Son Cement Company to provide updated unit pricing to potentially extend the sidewalk improvement contract an additional year.

Move to approve payment to Luigi Ferdinandi & Son Cement Company, Change Order No.3, Construction Estimate No.4, in the amount of \$39,921.85 for the Farmington 2020 Sidewalk Program.**

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

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Kramer, 24105 Twin Valley Court, asked Council to have consideration for anyone coming in to build at the Maxfield site because the hill is changing. She questioned whether other developers would have been as diligent in their studies as Robertson Brothers and noted that extensions are to be expected in this economy.

9. CITY COUNCIL COMMENT

LaRussa wished residents Happy Holidays and mentioned the Beautification Committee map for the holiday decorating contest. He said that he was grateful for his colleagues and noted that it had been a very difficult year of challenges, but that he felt that Farmington rose to the occasion as it always does. He looked forward to 2022 and the transformational projects that are planned.

Balk seconded LaRussa and thanked City Administration and staff for numerous meetings and tours as well as thanking her fellow councilmembers for assistance to get up to speed as a new councilmember. She also encouraged the community to join in the holiday events and celebrations.

Bowman wished a safe and happy new year to everyone.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Mary J. Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: January 18, 2022

**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.