



Special/Study Session Meeting
6:00 p.m., Monday, October 16, 2017
Conference Room
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

STUDY SESSION MINUTES

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on October 16, 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 6:00 PM by Mayor William Galvin.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Sara Bowman	Councilmember	Present	
Greg Cowley	Councilmember	Present	
William Galvin	Mayor	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Jeff Scott	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

Director Christiansen
Director Demers
City Clerk Halberstadt
City Manager Murphy

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Councilmember Cowley
SECONDER:	Councilmember Scott
AYES:	Bowman, Cowley, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

4. FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' HEADLEE RESTORATION PROPOSAL PRESENTATION

Present: George Heitsch, Superintendent
Diane Bauman, Director of School/Community Relations

Superintendent Heitsch provided information about the Headlee Restoration Proposal that will be on the November 7, 2017 ballot. He stated that this restoration will not affect the citizen's primary residence, but will impact Farmington businesses \$3500.

Schneemann would like to know how the \$3500 breaks down per business. Murphy stated he will provide that information to Schneemann.

Schneemann asked how the proposal has been received. Heitsch said that while the public supports the schools, voters are uncomfortable voting on an issue where they are asking business to pay taxes when they don't have a voice.

Bowman stated there is some confusion amongst voters due to the millage that was just passed a few years ago. However, she believes Heitsch is doing a good job getting the message out.

5. DISCUSSION: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 19, ARTICLE VII OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON CODE OF ORDINANCES, ALARM SYSTEMS

Demers discussed the history of the proposed ordinance and recommended changes.

Demers stated that there are, on average, 330 false alarms per year which costs the city roughly \$4600. The existing ordinance allows one false alarm per 30 days and then it resets; only after 4 false alarms are businesses/homeowners held accountable. He stated that other municipalities are going with the calendar year standard- 2 or more false alarms result in incremental fines. The proposed ordinance will set standards for installation of alarms and require all new and existing alarms be registered with the city.

Responding to Cowley, Demers stated most false alarms are from businesses. He believes poor maintenance is the cause.

Responding to Scott, Demers stated that typically the alarm company will contact the police if the alarm has been triggered. It is up to the police to contact the key holders, which results in time and money loss in the case of a false alarm.

Scott noted the fee schedule is listed in the existing ordinance. Murphy clarified that the fee schedule should not be included to allow for ease of use.

Scott believes it is good to incentivize businesses to upgrade their alarm systems.

Galvin stated he would rather have the officers patrolling the streets than responding to false alarms.

Responding to Cowley, Demers confirmed that a letter would go out to businesses/homeowners with information relative to the new ordinance.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Murphy handed out prepared motions for the regular meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding traffic issues on Grand River and the timing of lights.

7. COUNCIL COMMENT

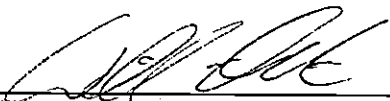
No council comment was heard.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.



William E. Galvin, Mayor



Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: November 20, 2017