

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 26, 2019 – 7:30 PM  
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER

The regular meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Massey at 7:31 p.m.

Council Members Present: Bridges, Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey, Rich and Steckloff

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Boyer, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Mekjian, Directors Barr, Monico and Schnackel and City Attorney Joppich

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Massey introduced friends J. T. and Diana Cowden from The Colony, Texas who led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, to approve the agenda as published.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Steckloff:

**PROCLAMATION  
Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month  
September 2019**

**WHEREAS,** ovarian cancer is one of the most common cancers among women, and the American Cancer Society estimates that in the United States in 2019 about 22,530 new cases of ovarian cancer will be diagnosed and there will be about 13,980 deaths from the disease; and

**WHEREAS,** ovarian cancer, which is rarely caught in the early stages, mainly develops in older women, with about half of the women diagnosed at age 63 or older; and

**WHEREAS,** a woman's risk of getting ovarian cancer during her lifetime is about 1 in 78 and ovarian cancer ranks fifth in cancer deaths among women, accounting for more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system; and

**WHEREAS,** increased public awareness of the symptoms and risk factors of ovarian cancer, which include a family history of other types of genetically-related cancers, will enhance chances of early detection and increase survival rates; and

**WHEREAS,** more ovarian cancer research will help to develop better diagnostic tools and improved therapies, thereby offering women the opportunity to win their battle against this most deadly of all gynecologic cancers.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Ken Massey, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as **Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month** in the City of Farmington Hills and encourage every woman to become educated about the symptoms and risk factors of ovarian cancer.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Bruce and accepted by Fran Brown:

**PROCLAMATION  
Suicide Prevention Awareness Month  
September 2019**

**WHEREAS,** more than 47,000 lives are lost annually to suicide, or approximately one every 13 minutes, and it is estimated that for every suicide, there are as many as 25 suicide attempts; and

**WHEREAS,** depression and suicide span all demographics and all income levels, and 90% of those dying by suicide have a potentially treatable mental illness, if they can be connected with the right resources; and

**WHEREAS,** suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people ages 15 to 34, and the tenth leading cause of all deaths in the U.S.; and

**WHEREAS,** we can reduce these disturbing numbers through public awareness, education, and treatment, which are all crucial to preventing this tragic problem that causes loss of life and terrible suffering for the families and loved ones left behind; and

**WHEREAS,** Farmington S.A.F.E. (Suicide Awareness For Everyone) is dedicated to making a difference by empowering community members, bringing the topics of depression and suicide out into the open for discussion, and connecting those who need assistance to the many resources available.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Ken Massey, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** in the City of Farmington Hills and encourage community members to “Talk About It” in order to raise awareness of depression and suicide and work together to prevent this tragic loss, which greatly impacts families and communities.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH SUSTAINABLE FARMINGTON HILLS TIP OF THE MONTH**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Lerner and accepted by Firefighter Jim Etzin:

**PROCLAMATION  
National Recovery Month  
September 2019**

- WHEREAS,** according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, in 2017 an estimated 20.7 million people in the United States ages 12 or older needed substance use treatment; and
- WHEREAS,** an estimated 2.1 million people had an opioid use disorder, which includes 1.7 million people with a prescription pain reliever disorder and 700,000 people with a heroin use disorder; and
- WHEREAS,** the federal Centers for Disease Control reported that more than 72,000 Americans, a record number, died in 2017 from drug overdoses, and Michigan's drug overdose rates are higher than the national average with more deaths now from drug overdoses than from car crashes in our state; and
- WHEREAS,** substance use disorders occur when the recurrent use of alcohol and/or drugs causes clinically or functionally significant impairment, such as health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school or home; and
- WHEREAS,** stigma and stereotypes often keep people from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life; and
- WHEREAS,** substance use disorder recovery efforts benefit both individuals and their communities by focusing on the person's ability to live, work, learn, and fully contribute to society.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Ken Massey, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as **National Recovery Month** in the City of Farmington Hills and call upon our citizens, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to increase their awareness and understanding of substance use and the need for appropriate and accessible services to promote recovery.

**SUSTAINABLE FARMINGTON HILLS COMMISSION TIP OF THE MONTH**

The following Tip of the Month was read by Councilmember Bruce:

Sustainable Farmington Hills  
Tip of the Month  
August, 2019

Becoming more sustainable in your day to day activities isn't as difficult as some may think. Here are a few tips to help you get started:

1. Put up a no junk mail sign on your letterbox to limit the amount of paper waste.
2. Pay bills online and choose the paperless paying option.
3. Instead of purchasing single use batteries, invest in rechargeable batteries.

4. Open up your blinds and use as much natural light as possible before switching on your light bulbs. Same for your air conditioner and fans!

For more tips and information, visit [www.sustainablefh.com](http://www.sustainablefh.com)

**PRESENTATION FROM RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVE TRUDY SMITH REGARDING THE UPCOMING “BATTLE OF THE BADGES” BLOOD DRIVE AT THE WILLIAM COSTICK CENTER ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2019**

Trudy Smith, representing the Red Cross thanked the Mayor and Council, staff, high schools and community for their continued support of the blood drive efforts and mentioned the upcoming Battle of the Badges Blood Drive on September 4, 2019 at the Costick Activities Center from 8am until 8pm.

Marcia Gershenson, Oakland County Commissioner, announced the appointment of David Coulter as the new County Executive.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence acknowledged at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, to approve Consent Agenda items #10 and #11.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Knol, to approve Consent Agenda item #12.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: STECKLOFF

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

The following residents spoke on behalf of Councilmember Theresa Rich who had been disqualified from appearing on the November 5, 2019 ballot and requesting that she be placed back on the ballot.

Naomi Joyrich, Pond Ridge  
Khaya Davidson, Glen Creek  
Susie Simonenko, Steele  
Brian Maddaford, Marklawn  
Sreela Datta, Marc Dr  
Angie Smith, Saratoga Cr

Pearl Thomas, Paramount Ct  
Gabriel Costanzo, Walled Lake MI  
Yvonne Posey-Gilchrest, Abington  
John Paul Torres, Waterford School Board Trustee  
Mark Steckloff, Castle Ct  
Mary Newlin, Lundy  
Kelly Goldberg, High Valley

Attorney Steve Joppich acknowledged that a complaint was filed by Councilmember Rich in the Oakland County Circuit Court in this matter per her right and the City has filed a response as has the County Clerk who was also named on the complaint. The motion is being heard on an expedited basis and will be before Judge Warren this coming Thursday. The City Clerk has been asked not to comment since this is a matter of litigation at this time.

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following comments/announcements were made:

- A Vaping 101 –What Students need to Know Seminar will be held twice at the two area public high schools by way of a grant received through St. Joseph Mercy.
- Mention of the Muslim Community Mosque volleyball event held between members of the Mosque and the Police Department
- Samantha Seimer, Economic Development Director, was awarded the Michigan Economic Development Association President’s Award for 2019
- Acknowledgement of new Eagle Scout Sterling who celebrated his Court of Honor this past Saturday with 33 merit badges received
- Council and staff participated in a laser tag event at which the Guinness Book of World Records was present and 2 world records were broken that day.

### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

City Manager Boyer provided the following update:

- Trash will be delayed due to the Labor Day holiday
- Status of construction projects

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AN APPOINTMENT TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION.**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby confirms the Mayor’s recommendation to appoint James Paulson to the Historic District Commission with the term ending February 1, 2022.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF LOT 118 OF ASSESSOR’S GRAND RIVER HOMESSTATE SUB TO RYAN SNABES. CMR 8-19-90**

Gary Mekjian, Assistant City Manager, explained that the property was obtained by the City through tax reversion and since the City had no use for the property, staff contacted the adjacent property owner who expressed interest in purchasing the property. A signed purchase agreement was obtained and staff is recommending approval of the ordinance to convey the property to the adjacent property owner and authorization of the City Manager to sign the quit claim deed prepared by the City Attorney.

MOTION by Lerner, support by Bruce, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the INTRODUCTION of an Ordinance authorizing the conveyance of the property located at T1N, R9E, SEC 35 Assesor’s Grand River Homesstate Sub Lot 118, being Parcel #22-23-35-281-005 (vacant land) to Ryan Snabes, as well as authorize the City Manager to sign the Quit Claim Deed conveying the property to Ryan Snabes for the sum of \$1,500.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF  
 Nays: NONE  
 Absent: NONE  
 Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AWARD OF COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION BIDS #1 TO VARIOUS CONTRACTORS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,715,281. CMR 8-19-91**

Director Ellen Schnackel stated that plans are underway for the repurposing of Harrison High School into the new Community Center. She introduced Andy Fountain, Senior Consultant for Plante Moran Cresa and Owner’s Representative for the project.

Mr. Fountain explained that the Bid Package #1 for the community center project included 5 categories as well as fees associated with the construction manager services and contingencies for the project. This award is in the total amount of \$2,715,281 and the work is anticipated to commence October 1, 2019 and the project is slated to conclude in September, 2020.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager and Colasanti Construction Services to approve contracts in the following amounts for the Community Center Renovation Bids #1:

Item	Award Amount	Contractor(s)
Demolition	\$756,370	Adamo Demolition, Detroit MI
Concrete Work	\$405,083	DSP Contractors
Structural & Misc. Steel	\$388,164	Sav’s Welding, Taylor, MI
Glass & Glazing (Building Enclosure)	\$276,557	Edward’s Glass Company
Elevator	\$148,250	Kone Elevator
Construction Management Services	\$510,256	Colasanti Construction Services
Bid Pack #1 Design & Construction Contingency	\$39,488	Colasanti Construction Services
Temporary Heat Allowance	\$30,000	Colasanti Construction Services
Project Contingency	\$161,113	Allowance
<b>BID PACK #1 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,715,281</b>	

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE AWARD OF BID FOR PRINTING AND MAILING OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES GUIDE TO INDIANA PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC. FOR A TWO (2) YEAR TERM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,661.60; WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS. CMR 8-19-92**

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the award of bid for the Printing and Mailing of the Special Services Activities Guide to Indiana Printing and Publishing Company, Inc. for a two (2) year term in the amount of \$44,661.60 annually with three (3) additional one (1) year renewal options at a 1% increase per year beginning in year 3 upon mutual consent of the City and vendor.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF TWO REQUESTS FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER SECTION 10.01A OF THE CITY CODE.**

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the request for employment under Section 10.01A of the City Code for Marisa Phillips as an Ice Arena Attendant for the Special Services Department. Marisa Phillips is the daughter of Maria Phillips who is the On-Ice Learn to Skate Instructor in the Special Services Department.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the request for employment under Section 10.01A of the City Code for Alexander Todebush as an Ice Arena Attendant for the Special Services Department. Alexander Todebush is the brother of Evan Todebush who is the Zamboni Driver in the Special Services Department.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2019.**

MOTION by Bruce, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the regular session meeting minutes of August 12, 2019, as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: STECKLOFF

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The regular session meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk