

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
APRIL 28, 2014 – 7:30 PM
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER**

The regular meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Brickner at 7:30 p.m.

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

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Brock, City Clerk Smith, Assistant Manager Boyer, Directors Gardiner, Gajda, Geinzer, Lasley, and Mekjian, Chief Nebus, and City Attorney Joppich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tanji Grant, Co-Chair of the Community Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council (MCMR) Steering Committee led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, to approve the agenda as published.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 1, 2014 AS “GLOBAL LOVE DAY”

The proclamation was read by Councilmember Steckloff and received by Mayor Brickner.

**PROCLAMATION
Global Love Day
May 1, 2014**

WHEREAS, t

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WHEREAS, the City of Farmington Hills showcases this belief through our new water tower design, which encourages all people to “Live Farmington Hills and Love Farmington Hills;” and

WHEREAS, t

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Barry Brickner, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2014 as **Global Love Day** and encourage all citizens to observe this day that honors the cause of Global Love, World Peace, and Universal Joy.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 2014 AS “MENTAL HEALTH MONTH”

The proclamation was read by Councilmember Massey and accepted by Kristen Burke from Oakland County Mental Health. Ms. Burke thanked the City of Farmington Hills for helping Oakland County Mental Health recognize May as Mental Health Month.

**PROCLAMATION
Mental Health Month
May 2014**

- WHEREAS,** one in five Americans will experience a mental health illness that requires treatment at some point in their lives; and
- WHEREAS,** one in 10 children has a serious emotional disturbance that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance use, jail or even suicide; and
- WHEREAS,** stigma and stereotypes associated with mental illness often keep those living with such an illness from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life and help them manage the illness effectively; and
- WHEREAS,** mental illness is a biologically-based brain disorder that cannot be overcome through will power and is not related to a person’s character or intelligence; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Institute of Mental Health reports that mental disorders are the leading cause of disability in the United States and Canada for ages 15 to 44; and
- WHEREAS,** mental health is critical for our individual well-being and vitality, as well as that of our families, businesses, and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Barry Brickner, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim May 2014 as **Mental Health Month** in the City of Farmington Hills and call upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to help increase the awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people to promote recovery.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MULTICULTURAL/MULTIRACIAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL (MCMR) STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER/CO-CHAIR TANJI GRANT

The proclamation was read by Councilmember Bridges and accepted by Tanji Grant. Ms. Grant stated that she has been a resident of Farmington Hills for 23 years and the reason she moved here was because of the diversity. She raised two sons in this community and it has been a pleasure to be involved in a multicultural and multiracial community and also on the Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council. Ms. Grant thanked Mayor Brickner, City Council, and City Manager Brock for this proclamation.

PROCLAMATION
In Recognition of Exemplary Service to the Community
Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council (MCMR)
Steering Committee Member/Co-Chair
Tanji Grant

WHEREAS, Tanji Grant has served the Cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington with honor and distinction in the roles of member and Co-Chair of the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council; and

WHEREAS, Tanji Grant played an important role in creating community awareness about diversity and the need to celebrate our differences and embrace our commonalities; and

WHEREAS, as Chair of the Rainbow Breakfast Committee for three years, and as an organizer of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day events for over five years, Tanji Grant helped to promote racial and cultural understanding in the community; and

WHEREAS, Tanji Grant is a long-time resident of Farmington Hills, and is a Professional Real Estate Consultant with Keller Williams Realty, where she has worked since 1986; and

WHEREAS, Tanji Grant has devoted her time and talent to our community and has helped to ensure that people of all backgrounds feel welcomed and accepted in our cities, schools, and neighborhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Barry Brickner, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize **Tanji Grant** for her dedication to the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

COMMISSION FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY “TIP OF THE MONTH”

Commission for Energy and Environmental Sustainability
Tip of the Month
April 28, 2014
Read by Randy Bruce

The City of Farmington Hills will compete for the [Georgetown University Energy Prize](#), a national competition that challenges communities across the U.S. to rethink their energy use. At a press conference in Washington, D.C. on April 23, Farmington Hills was announced as one of more than 50 communities competing for the prize.

The Georgetown University Energy Prize is open to U.S. communities with a population between 5,000 and 250,000. Farmington Hills will work closely with the City of Farmington, Farmington Public Schools, Consumers Energy, DTE Energy, and local experts to develop an energy efficiency/sustainability plan before June 30, 2014. The competition will conclude in 2017, when one winning community is awarded a \$5 million prize for use on energy efficiency programs.

The Commission for Energy and Environmental Sustainability will be working diligently over the next two months with Community Stakeholders to begin the application process and start framing the City's energy savings plan. Watch for more information on how you can participate.

For more information and tips, visit www.sustainablefh.com.

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce thanked Assistant to the City Manager Nate Geinzer for all of the hard work he has put into the Georgetown University Energy Prize.

Mr. Geinzer stated that he and two other delegates went to Washington D.C. for the Georgetown University Energy Prize Launch Event as one of the original communities that submitted a letter of interest. While at the event they received tips and special training and Farmington Hills and Farmington were featured as part of the panel discussion at the press conference. Mr. Geinzer feels that Farmington Hills has a good start as far as a profile in this competition and he looks forward to competing hard in this challenge.

PRESENTATION OF WATER TOWER AWARD FROM MICHIGAN CONCRETE ASSOCIATION

Ms. Carrie Sutton, Michigan Concrete Association, presented an Award of Achievement recognizing the City of Farmington Hills Water Tower Project. She explained that this project competed against at least a dozen unique concrete projects across the state, and the judges felt that this was an amazing project that was well coordinated with many people working together to make it successful. Ms. Sutton also noted that along with the City the concrete contractor Landmark Structures, the supplier Superior Materials, the engineer OHM and Oakland County Water Resources were also recognized for partnering on this unique project.

Director of Public Services Mekjian thanked the Michigan Concrete Association for recognizing the Water Tower as "The Structural Project of the Year". Mr. Mekjian also thanked Mayor Brickner, City Council and City Manager Brock for their leadership and continued support.

PRESENTATION OF BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Carol Posby, Co-chairperson of the Beautification Commission, presented the following 2013 Annual Report:

Beautification Commission 2013 Accomplishments

- Maintained membership and is active in the Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan and the statewide Keep Michigan Beautiful Organization.
- 2013 Earth Day celebration is a highlight is the 2013 accomplishments because the commission felt 1 day was not long enough to recognize the importance of fostering environmental stewardship in the community so they developed a week long calendar of environmentally focused events including:
 - Water Conservation Day with Oakland County Water Commissioner, Jim Nash
 - Free showing of The Lorax at the Civic Theatre
 - The Litter Walk Clean-up
 - The Clean-up and planting of 150 White Pine saplings by students at Hillside Elementary
- Annual Flower Planting Project in the Costick Center Courtyard was held in June
- Two plant swaps were held at the Heritage Park Nature Center in May and September
- 28th Annual Beautification Ceremony was held on October 24th at the Costick Center

Beautification Commission 2014 Goals

- Annual Litter Walk Clean-up Event was held this past Saturday
- Tree City USA Certification and Arbor Day Tree Planting was also held last week in conjunction with the City's Earth Day Celebration
- Spring Plant Swap is scheduled for May 17th at Heritage Park
- Annual Costick Center planting will be held in June
- Fall Plant Swap is scheduled for September 13th
- Annual Awards Ceremony will be on October 23rd

In 2013 there were 2 new subcommittees formed:

- The Beautification Commission has joined with the Committee for Energy and Environmental Sustainability to explore opportunities to initiate and participate in projects that include identifying and preserving wild life corridors. The Commission will also be promoting public awareness regarding water quality and stream bank stabilization issues and identifying opportunities for expansion of riparian buffers.
- They are investigating the development and roll-out of an Adopt-A-Road initiative similar to the current Oakland County program.

Ms. Posby thanked Charmain Kettler-Schmult for all of her work and support she provides for the Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE

Councilmember Steckloff stated that she did get correspondence and forwarded it to City Manager Brock.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Massey, support by Lerner, to approve the Consent Agenda as published.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Bastuba, Folsom Road, stated that he received a letter from the Library asking for donations because they are low on funds. He commented that all penal fines from the court should be going to the Library.

Councilmember Lerner explained that the letter came from The Friends of the Library, which is a 501(c)3 (non-profit) organization that raises money for the Library.

City Attorney Joppich responded that it is his understanding that not all fines, but a portion of certain types of fines go to the Library.

Mr. Bastuba asked for the law that states homes can be taken from people who do not pay their taxes.

City Attorney Joppich stated that there are statutes in place that address these issues and that provide very detailed procedures in the event that an individual property owner has a problem paying their taxes.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- Evan Murphy received his Eagle Scout Award this week. He is a part of Troop #110.
- Farmington SAFE (Suicide Awareness for Everyone) is funded through a Memorial Fund and they are having a fundraiser sponsored by Grand Tavern on June 10th from 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. The cost for a full spaghetti dinner is \$14.99. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction.
- The Earth Day Celebration was a great family event that was well attended and held on April 22nd.
- Beverly Ellis who has been on the Arts Commission for 33 years has announced her retirement from the Commission.
- Arts Festival is this week starting on May 1st and Art After Dark will be held on May 2nd.
- Saturday, May 3rd there will be a Bowl-a-thon for Special Olympics at Drakeshire Lanes.
- South Farmington Little League Baseball is having a parade at Shiawassee Park on May 3rd.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Brock provided the following update:

- Family Fun Art Event on Sunday, May 4th at the Costick Center from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 12 Mile is under construction. Northbound is closed and Southbound will have some delays. 10 Mile between Orchard Lake and Farmington Road is also closed.
- Budget Sessions are scheduled for April 29th and April 30th. They will be held in the Community Room and everyone is welcome to attend.
- National Day of Prayer on May 1, 2014.

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM PROJECTED USE OF FUNDS FOR 2014/2015, AND THE FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN CMR4-14-45

Charmaine Kettler-Schmult from the Community Development Department stated that the issue before Council is for consideration of approval of the Community Development Block Grant funds, the annual use of the funds and the five-year consolidated plan. She noted that the public hearing is a Federal requirement in order to receive the funds, which must benefit low and moderate income persons as defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. She noted that this year's funding has been reduced by 8% and the City has received \$327,885. It is anticipated that the City will receive an additional \$35,000 in program income in repayment of deferred loans and carryover from this year is approximately \$27,610. The total budget is anticipated to be \$379,495. Ms. Kettler-Schmult explained that there has been a modification to the breakdown of the funds due to the new partnership with Oakland County in the form of the Home Consortium. Olde Town Park has been targeted for the Capital Improvement Project this year, which is located in the southeast quadrant of the City. She stated that the park was originally developed in 1976 and is in need of an update including fencing and handicapped accessibility. In addition, within the administration category HAVEN and Common Ground have both requested funding.

Councilmember Bridges stated that he is happy that the City is considering putting some resources into Olde Town Park. He inquired how the Administration costs are defined.

Ms. Kettler-Schmult stated that Administration costs cover staff and benefits and the City's contributions for Fair Housing. She stated that in the past, it has also included funding for any non-profit organizations such as HAVEN and Common Ground; and a small amount is allocated for supplies.

Mayor Brickner opened the Public Hearing.

Connie Monahan from HAVEN thanked the Mayor and City Council for past support, which has allowed them to serve 190 people in 2012/13 from Farmington Hills and 159 so far in the 2013/14 year. She mentioned that the Farmington Hills High Risk Response Team won an award from Oakland County this year and that team is co-run by HAVEN. Ms. Monahan thanked the Council again for their support and asked for their continued support this year.

Mayor Brickner closed the Public Hearing as there was nobody else wishing to speak.

MOTION by Lerner, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the Community Development Block Grant Program budget to include: 1)\$135,000 for housing rehabilitation, 2)\$152,195 for capital improvements, and 3)\$92,300 for program administration to include \$5,000 to Haven and \$2,000 to Common Ground; and approves the capital improvement portion of the budget for park improvements to include accessibility improvements at Olde Town Park (Independence and Waldron) \$152,195; and approves the Five-Year Consolidated Plan; and authorizes the City Manager to prepare and submit an application for Community Development Block Grant funds to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by May 16, 2014.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE C-3-2014 AMENDING CHAPTER 34, "ZONING," SECTION 34-2.2, "DEFINITIONS," SECTION 34-4.20.4, "SPECIAL LAND USES NOT OTHERWISE PERMITTED,; SECTION 34-7.14.6.E, "TEMPORARY USES," AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 34-4.56, "SEASONAL OUTDOOR SALES," FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING AND REVISING THE CITY'S REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO SEASONAL OUTDOOR SALES; AND APPROVAL OF SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION.

Planning and Community Development Director Gardiner explained that the proposed zoning ordinance amendment provides for zoning regulations for seasonal outdoor sales such as Christmas Tree Sales, Pumpkin Sales and Fireworks. He stated that this ordinance was introduced by City Council at their last meeting and no changes were proposed at that time. If City Council approves the enactment of the Ordinance, it would become effective in 21 days.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the ENACTMENT of Ordinance C-3-2014 to amend the Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances for the purpose of clarifying and revising the City's zoning regulations applicable to Seasonal Outdoor Sales by amending Chapter 34, "Zoning," Sections 34-2.2, "Definitions," 34-4.20.4, "Special Land Uses Not Otherwise Permitted," and 34-7.14.6.E, "Temporary Uses," and by adding a new Section 34-4.56, "Seasonal Outdoor Sales," to Chapter 34, "Zoning;" and approval of summary for publication.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY AND STECKLOFF

Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE C-4-2014 AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 22, "SALES," ARTICLE III, CHRISTMAS TREE AND HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN SALES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING AND REVISING THE CITY'S LICENSING REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO SEASONAL OUTDOOR SALES; AND APPROVAL OF SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION.

Director Gardiner stated that this is a companion amendment to the zoning ordinance that was just enacted and provides for licensing regulations for the seasonal outdoors sales events. He noted that this Ordinance was also introduced at the last City Council meeting and no changes were proposed; and it would become effective in 21 days if enacted.

MOTION by Steckloff, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the ENACTMENT of Ordinance C-4-2014 to amend the Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances for the purpose of clarifying and revising the City's licensing regulations applicable to Seasonal Outdoor Sales by amending Chapter 22, "Sales," Article III, "Christmas Tree and Halloween Pumpkin Sales;" and approval of summary for publication.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE 2014 CITYWIDE TREE PLANTING AND LANDSCAPING PROGRAM TO R.C. TUTTLE REFINISHING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,108.00 CMR 4-14-46

MOTION by Massey, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the award of contract in the amount of \$24,108.00 to R.C. Tuttle Refinishing, lowest qualified bidder, for the 2014 Citywide Tree and Landscape Program; and authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to sign the contract on behalf of the City of Farmington Hills.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF PROPOSAL FOR AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO INNOVATIVE COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,904.00 CMR 4-14-47

MOTION by Massey, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order to Innovative Communications for audio/video systems for the Police Department in the amount of \$39,904.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

RECOMMENDED CANCELING THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 26, 2014 IN HONOR OF MEMORIAL DAY

MOTION by Massey, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby cancels the regular City Council meeting of May 26, 2014 in honor of Memorial Day.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF QUARTERLY INVESTMENT AND THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORTS

MOTION by Massey, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby acknowledges the quarterly investment and third quarter financial summary reports.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2014

MOTION by Massey, support by Lerner, that the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council Study Session meeting minutes of April 21, 2014.

Roll Call Vote

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2014

MOTION by Massey, support by Lerner, that the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council Regular meeting minutes of April 28, 2014.

Roll Call Vote

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Brickner mentioned potential topics for the next regular City Council meeting of May 12, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Brickner adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk

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