

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
MARCH 26, 2018 – 7:30 PM
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER

The regular meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Massey at 7:33 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, Directors Barr, Gardiner, Monico and Schnackel, Fire Chief Unruh and City Attorney Joppich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Joseph Miller led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Rich requested the postponement of Consent Agenda item #8, Consideration of approval of appointments to various boards and commissions, as she requested additional information on the applicants but had not yet received that information.

MOTION by Rich, support by Steckloff, to approve the agenda with the elimination of item #8, Consideration of approval of appointments to various boards and commissions.

MOTION FAILED 3-4 (Bruce, Knol, Lerner and Massey opposed).

It was noted that the Mayor has sole authority to make recommendations for appointments to boards and commissions.

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-2 (Steckloff and Rich opposed).

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JOSEPH MILLER FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Knol and accepted by Joseph Miller:

PROCLAMATION

Joseph Miller

In Recognition of Exemplary Service to Farmington Hills

WHEREAS, Joseph Miller gave his knowledge and expertise to the Parks and Recreation Commission, serving with distinction for over twenty-four years including time spent serving as the Chairperson, during eight terms from 1994 through 2018; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Miller shared his dedication to children's athletic programs through serving as a member of the Ice Arena Advisory Committee, as Vice Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Sports Complex, as the President of the

Farmington Soccer Club, and as the Coach in Chief of the Western Suburban Soccer League; and

WHEREAS, he has a Master's Degree in Business from Nova University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and a Master's Degree in Engineering from the University of Louisville in Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Miller has worked for ZF TRW for 34 years, currently serving as the Chief Engineer for System Safety, and he and his wife Connie are longtime residents of Farmington Hills; and

WHEREAS, during his time of exemplary service to the community, Joseph Miller also served as a member of the Mayor's Committee for Unmet Family Needs and was actively involved in the passage of every Parks and Recreation millage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Ken Massey, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize and thank **Joseph Miller** for his many years of enhancing the quality of life in our community and offer my sincere gratitude for the loyal service of this highly dedicated and well regarded individual.

Joseph Miller thanked the Mayor and Council for the proclamation and spoke of the accomplishments that took place during his time on the Commission.

SUSTAINABLE FARMINGTON HILLS TIP OF THE MONTH

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

**Sustainable Farmington Hills
Tip of the Month**

Spring is upon us and Earth day is coming up on April 22nd. What will you do to help create a more sustainable environment for yourself and others? If you're looking for some ideas to be more Green this spring, checkout some of the tips below:

- 1) Use reusable cloths for your spring cleaning. Instead of using one-use items like paper towels and mop pads, use old t-shirts and rags that you can wash and use again.
- 2) Grow your own organic garden. You can save money on produce by growing your own food in the comfort of your home or backyard. You can also help the survival of important pollinators like Monarchs and Honey Bees by planting pollinator friendly plants around the border of your gardens or in your yard.
- 3) Bring a reusable water bottle or bring a mug to the office, or to school to help eliminate the need for styrofoam/plastic cups or plastic water bottles.

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

PRESENTATION FROM SUBURBAN MOBILITY AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION (SMART)

Robert Cramer, Deputy General Manager at SMART, presented a brief history of SMART, an overview of the services they provide to Oakland County, their service layers, current progress, future initiatives and programs, and details about SMART in Farmington Hills. He noted that since the millage passed in

2014 they have balanced their budget, replaced all fixed route fleets and are continually upgrading their small buses. He stated that they launched the SMART Mobile app which gives real time information as to where the bus located. He added that the initiatives they are working on and plans for the future include improved access to as many employment centers as possible, mobile payment system and an adopt-a-stop program.

Councilmember Rich asked if someone were to take a SMART bus from OCC Campus to downtown how much would it cost and how long would it take. Mr. Cramer responded that it would be \$2.50 each direction and if you buy a monthly pass, to use 4-5 days, it would be \$82 and it is about 35-40 minutes to downtown.

Councilmember Lerner noted that the City lost the route that goes down Orchard Lake Rd, which connected the south half of the City to the north half, it used to run from OCC to Grand River, so if SMART is looking at how to better serve this community, connecting the north and south would be helpful, particularly because people that are going to OCC for classes frequently do not have transportation.

Mr. Cramer commented that they met with OCC last week to discuss how all of their campuses work together and emphasis was placed on OCC as a place where a lot of students need to go for many different programs. He added that Councilmember Lerner had an excellent comment.

Councilmember Bridges asked about opt-out communities and what is the effort to try to get them to opt-in. Mr. Cramer responded that they are always available to speak to communities that want to learn more about SMART and how SMART can customize solutions to each community. He stated that if a community wanted to join, procedurally the elected officials are the ones that would need to make the motion to join and it would then go on a ballot for the voters to approve the millage.

Councilmember Bridges asked how SMART would work with the proposal put forth by County Executive Evans. Mr. Cramer responded that the plan that came out from Executive Evans had a number of changes from the last proposal and he believes there is plenty that is good and other things that are not so good. He stated that it seems to build on SMART's existing networks and from that standpoint more services would be better.

Councilmember Bridges commented that SMART has done a good job of being responsive to Farmington Hills needs over the years.

Councilmember Knol commented that on routes 851 and 805 approximately 60% of the residents inbound to Detroit were Farmington/Farmington Hills and asked where the other 40% were from as they are getting on at a Farmington Hills stop. Mr. Cramer responded that he does not have those numbers with him this evening but he will get that information to Council.

Mayor Massey thanked Mr. Cramer for the presentation and asked where they stand with bus upgrades for the dial-a-ride program. Mr. Cramer responded that they placed an order for 47 small buses and at least one if not more are for the Farmington/Farmington Hills program and they hope to have them by the end of summer.

City Manager Boyer stated that 3 were coming to Farmington Hills.

Mayor Massey commented that his personal preference before discussing another authority (RTA) and another tax, perhaps they should look at merging DDOT and SMART. He noted that he met with

Congresswoman Lawrence and made the same suggestion to her and she was going to look at finding the funding to be able to study that.

Mr. Cramer mentioned that he has been with SMART for 7 years and has heard of the feuding between SMART and DDOT or lack of cooperation and he can say that SMART and DDOT has formed a great working relationship.

PRESENTATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Beth Rae O'Donnell presented the 2017 Planning Commission Annual Report to City Council and gave an overview of the Commissions work done in 2017.

PRESENTATION OF BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Carol Posby provided the City Council with the Beautification Commission 2017 Annual Report, noting their accomplishments in 2017 and highlights for 2018. She stated that the Litter Walk is scheduled for April 21st, the Spring Plant Swap will be on May 18th, the annual Costick Center flower planting will be sometime in June, the Fall Plant Swap on September 15th and the 33rd Annual Awards Ceremony on October 25th.

Councilmember Knol thanked the Commission for their time and dedication.

Mayor Massey also thanked the Commission for all they do to keep the community beautiful.

CORRESPONDENCE

Councilmember Lerner acknowledged the following:

- Letter from Susanne Paul regarding the Library
- Letter from McDonalds regarding their new commitment to the climate
- Letter from Condominium Management Associates LLC discussing landscaping issues in front of their condominiums

Mayor Massey acknowledged the following:

- Letter from Oakland County Clerk's Office regarding a resolution regarding the GLWA
- Email regarding Spectrum having a monopoly in the City. Mayor Massey stated that the answer is no and the City is open to any franchise that wants to provide service to the community; however cost of infrastructure is prohibitive. He added that Council seeks franchise agreements and current options for residents include AT&T and in Farmington there is WOW at the south end.

City Manager Boyer stated that the City is an open community to other franchises and they have had communications with Comcast for the business side and hope they look to expand to residential.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bruce, support by Steckloff, to approve the Consent Agenda items #9-11 and #13-15.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

MOTION by Lerner, support by Knol, to approve the 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

Lauren and Wayne Powers, Quaker Valley Lane, commented on the fire of November 12, 2017 in which they lost their home as well as their family pets. They noted they had concerns for safety in the cul-de-sac in relation to water and sewer and implore that the City Council make them whole again.

Mary Newlin, Lundy St, announced that she will be running again for City Council and suggested that the meeting agenda be presented on the overhead screens for the audience to see.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Rich mentioned that she spent an evening with Dispatch and as always she was impressed with how they do their work and last week she went to the MLL conference and was able to host members of the MYC, who represent the City very well.

Councilmember Lerner commented that back in January they discussed fiber networks in the City and formed an advisory committee to look into City owned fiber and what the City can do to bring more high speed fiber into the City. He noted that the committee is looking for a people who are knowledgeable about fiber internet, especially someone with a CFHP or OSP or someone that is network certified. He informed those who are instead to send a letter of interest to the Mayor.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Boyer made the following announcements:

- City offices will close Friday March 30th at noon for Good Friday
- Yard waste collection will begin the week of April 9th and end the week of December 3rd
- Oakland County Road Commission will start work on Maple between Drake and Halsted therefore 13 Mile and 14 Mile will be picking up in traffic.

NEW BUSINESS

TRANSMITTAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (CIP) FOR FISCAL YEARS 2018/2019 - 2023/2024.

Planner Mark Stec stated that the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a strategic planning tool that prioritizes the City's capital needs and the goal of the plan is to help guide Council during the budgeting process as well as to implement the goals and policies of Farmington Hills and meet the expectations of its residents. He explained that preparation of the CIP is mandated by the Michigan Planning and Enabling Act and the City Charter requires that the Planning Commission prepare the plan annually and provide to City Council in April to be used during the budgeting process. He noted that the Planning Commission held their public hearing on March 15, 2018, at which time they approved the plan and transmittal to Council. This evening Council is being asked to consider and accept the plan. Mr. Stec summarized the projects proposed under the CIP plan.

Mayor Massey commented that Council has gone through the CIP plan and noted that it is a 5 year rolling plan. He asked where residents can get a copy of the plan. Mr. Stec responded that the plan is available on the City's website under the Government tab under Resources.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby confirms the Mayor's recommendation to appoint the following individuals to various City Boards and Commissions:

Economic Development Corporation

	Length of Term:	Term ending:
Mary Martin	6 year term	February 1, 2024
Kimberly Lindsey-Feagin	filling unexpired term	February 1, 2022

Library Board of Trustees

	Length of Term:	Term ending:
Mark Brucki	filling unexpired term	February 1, 2021
Paul Huyck	filling unexpired term	February 1, 2019

Parks and Recreation Commission

	Length of Term:	Term ending:
Don Fritz	filling unexpired term	February 1, 2019

Farmington Area Arts Commission

	Length of Term:	Term ending:
Sean Deason	filling unexpired term	February 1, 2021

Planning Commission

	Length of Term:	Term ending:
Robert Turner	filling unexpired term	February 1, 2019

Historic District Commission

	Length of Term:	Term ending:
Melanie Goerke	filling unexpired term	February 1, 2020

Councilmember Rich commented that it is her understanding that there are more candidates than openings for some positions and over the weekend she asked City staff for a listing of those that have expressed interest and she was told the information would not be available until Tuesday. She stated that her concern with this vote is that there are 2 openings to the Library Board and previously during a Study Session members of Council had concerns about transparency provided by the Library Board and it now feels that they are having a lack of transparency with this vote. She stated that she feels it would be hypocritical to vote yes without the knowledge of the other candidates and she is uncomfortable with the lack of transparency and will be voting no on this item.

Councilmember Steckloff stated she agreed, however she does not have an issue with any of the recommended candidates but she would like to know who else applied and she is only voting no because they cannot postpone the item.

Councilmember Lerner commented that it is his understanding that it has been the exclusive purview of the Mayor to nominate persons to sit on boards, commissions or committees; it does not belong to Council. He stated that they have never discussed sharing the letters of interest of those who were not appointed and he does not see value in that as Council is not allowed to nominate, only the Mayor so whether or not they see applicants who were not nominated, he is not sure what value that brings to the discussion.

Councilmember Knol commented that when you run for Mayor one of your duties is to make nominations to boards and commissions and he is able to review a variety of resumes and put forth a nomination based on who he feels are the best candidates. She stated that Council has the resumes and letters of interest of those put forth by the Mayor well in advance of the meeting and she has reviewed them all and all seem well qualified.

Councilmember Bruce stated that he agreed with Councilmembers Lerner and Knol and the role of Council is to advise and consent and he does not want to see this process politicized.

Councilmember Bridges stated he also agreed and asked the Mayor to consider the fact that there has been some strain within the Library Board over what has happened over the last month or so.

Mayor Massey commented that the process has been long standing and when people are willing to put themselves out there as a volunteer to serve the community, he feels it is not acceptable to debate them publically.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER AND MASSEY

Nays: RICH AND STECKLOFF

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 5-2.

Some of the appointees introduced themselves.

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE FEES FOR TRANSPORTATION OF PATIENTS TO THE HOSPITAL BY THE FARMINGTON HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT. CMR 3-18-26

MOTION by Bruce, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the following recommended fees for transportation of patients to the hospital via FHFD apparatus:

FARMINGTON HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT				
Level of Service	Current Fees	Suggested Fees	Proposed Fees	Proposed Increase
ALS Emergency	\$550.00	\$600.00-\$750.00	\$600.00	\$50.00
ALS II Emergency	\$755.00	\$800.00-\$900.00	\$800.00	\$45.00
ALS Non-Emergency	\$475.00	\$450.00-\$500.00	\$475.00	\$0.00
BLS Emergency	\$450.00	\$500.00-\$600.00	\$500.00	\$50.00
BLS Non-Emergency	\$410.00	\$325.00-\$425.00	\$410.00	\$0.00
Mileage	\$12.57	\$14.00-\$16.50	\$14.00	\$1.43

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 AWARD OF BID FOR AN ENCLOSED EQUIPMENT TRANSPORT TRAILER TO AMERICAN TRAILER MART IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,325.00. CMR 3-18-27

MOTION by Bruce, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order for a 28' Aluminum Frame Enclosed Equipment Trailer to American Trailer Mart in the amount of \$11,325.00.

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 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE 2018 SPRING/SUMMER CITYWIDE PLANTING PROGRAM TO GREG DAVIS LANDSCAPING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,330.00. CMR 3-18-28

MOTION by Bruce, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the award of contract in the amount of \$21,330.00 to Greg Davis Landscaping, lowest qualified bidder, for the 2018 Spring/Summer Citywide Planting Program; and authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to sign the contract on behalf of the City of Farmington Hills and issue a purchase order for the same.

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 JOINT MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2018.

MOTION by Lerner, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the joint meeting minutes of February 28, 2018 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.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2018.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the study session meeting minutes of March 12, 2018 as submitted.

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 MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2018.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the regular meeting minutes of March 12, 2018 as submitted.

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 ENTERING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR SESSION TO DISCUSS PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves entering into an executive session immediately following the regular session to discuss purchase of properties.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECONVENE THE REGULAR MEETING FOLLOWING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ITEM #16

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF TWO (2) AGREEMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF PROPERTIES.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves and authorizes the City Manager to execute on behalf of the City the two purchase agreements presented with the City Attorney's Memorandum dated March 22, 2018, for the City's acquisition of the Harrison High School Property and the former William Grace Elementary School vacant property from Farmington Public Schools; and to further authorize the City Manager to undertake the due diligence and execute, at or in connection with the closings on such property purchases, and all documents necessary for purposes of consummating the City's acquisition of such properties according to the terms of the purchase agreements.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Massey adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 9:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk