

MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2020 – 7:30 PM
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER

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

Council Members Present: Barnett, Boleware, Bridges, Knol, Massey, Newlin and Steckloff

Council Members Absent: None

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Samuel LaFave, Boy Scout Troop #45, led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA

MOTION by Massey, support by Steckloff, to approve the regular session meeting agenda as published.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

SUSTAINABLE FARMINGTON HILLS TIP OF THE MONTH

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

Sustainable Farmington Hills
Tip of the Month
February, 2020

What may seem like a small contribution - a tiny flower pot can provide valuable habitat for pollinators like hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies, which help flowers pollinate.

Here are a few tips to help our pollinator friends thrive this spring & summer:

1. The best pollinator gardens contain a diverse range of flowering plants. Pollinators need a varied diet to be healthy. Additionally, good plant diversity reduces pest problems. Diverse gardens support more natural enemies, which are insects that eat pests.
2. Plant native plants! It is advantageous to use native plants because they are most useful for native pollinators. Native plants that are well-adapted to your local environment don't require much water or care.
3. Another benefit of native plants is that they have deep root structures, which help prevent erosion of soil in your yard!

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

PRESENTATION OF HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Historic District Commission Annual Report was provided by the Chair, Ken Klemmer.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was acknowledged:

- E-mail regarding goals setting session

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

There was no consent agenda items discussed.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

There were no public questions or comments.

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following comments/announcements were made:

- Acknowledgement of Special Services Family Fit Day

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

There was no update provided by the City Manager.

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE GRAVEL ROAD CONVERSION TO HARD SURFACE PAVEMENT FOR HULL ROAD. CMR 2-20-25

Karen Mondora, Director of Public Services, described the proposed project and process for submitting petitions to convert a gravel road to hard surface. She noted that petitions submitted for the project initially included 63% of the residents in favor of the project. Following the preliminary engineering and informational meeting held the second petition submitted had 54.5% of the residents in favor of the project. City water and sewer is already available in the area.

Mayor Barnett opened the public hearing.

Laurie Montgomery, Hull Road, noted that her home was heavily impacted by the Power Road construction, which still is not fully resolved and while she is not against the paving, she would prefer that it not happen this year.

Bruce Antaya, Hull Road, indicated he was in favor of the paving and added he would hope that a contractor other than the one that did the Power Road construction project would be used.

Brian Longman, Hull Road, stated that he is in the process of building a home on Hull Road and questioned the effect the paving would have on property taxes and if the pavement would be paid by the city or through a special assessment.

Mayor Barnett explained that the residents passed a city-wide road millage so the project is funded through that and by the property taxes paid by the residents. She added that a staff member would speak with him directly on his question regarding the effect on his particular property taxes.

Al Farnstrom, Hull Road, expressed that he is in favor of the paving as he is tired of the dirt and mud.

Larry Rogosin, Hull, concurred with Mr. Farnstrom's comments and is in favor of the paving.

Vanessa Cushieri, Hull Road, stated that she was one of the residents who routed the petitions for the paving project and she knows of an additional 3 neighbors that had not signed the second petition but were in favor. She added that she is a walker and it is really difficult on the dirt roads.

Stacy Paul, Hull Road, expressed that she is in favor of the paving. She is having extensive remodeling done on her home and feels the paving will improve property values.

Mayor Barnett acknowledged letters from the following residents in favor of the paving project:

Mark Adler
Terry and Kelly Van Wert

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the conversion of Hull Road from gravel to hard surface; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes City staff to identify a specific project schedule for this conversion consistent with the Capital Improvement Program and within the City's Local Road budget and also accounting for any specific issues presented by this conversion.

Director Mondora explained the process for the gravel road conversion projects that have been approved by City Council and confirmed that the construction schedule has not yet been set and that it will take several years to complete all of the projects identified and approved to date.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

OAKLAND COUNTY TREASURER UPDATE

Andy Meisner mentioned the upcoming deadline of March 31st for property tax foreclosure and county resources and programs available to residents who are delinquent on various county programs including the delinquent tax programs and tax foreclosure deadlines, small business program and local government investment pool for managing public funds.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

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

Broadband Task Force

Aaron Paluzzi	Length of Term: 1 year extension	Term ending: April 1, 2021
Mark Seals	1 year extension	April 1, 2021

Building Appeals Board

Frank Reid	Length of Term: 2 year	Term ending: February 1, 2022
William Paquette	2 year	February 1, 2022
John Trafelet	3 year	February 1, 2023
John Goshorn	3 year	February 1, 2023

Fire Appeals Board

Frank Reid	Length of Term: 2 year	Term ending: February 1, 2022
William Paquette	2 year	February 1, 2022
John Trafelet	3 year	February 1, 2023
John Goshorn	3 year	February 1, 2023

International Property Maintenance Code Board

Frank Reid	Length of Term: 2 year	Term ending: February 1, 2022
William Paquette	2 year	February 1, 2022
John Trafelet	3 year	February 1, 2023
John Goshorn	3 year	February 1, 2023

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AWARD OF COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION BID PACK #3 TO VARIOUS CONTRACTORS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,014,784. CMR 2-20-26

Andy Fountain, Owner Representative for the Project, explained the bid process and the items included in Bid Pack #3 for the Community Center project. He noted that the total bid pack #3 amount recommended is \$1,014,784.

MOTION by Massey, support by Boleware, 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 Bid Pack #3:

Item	Award Amount	Contractor(s)
Roofing	\$903,600 Price includes \$50,000 allowance to replace roof decking as needed	Royal Roofing, Orion, MI
Lockers	\$59,400	Steel Equipment Co., Pontiac, MI
Construction Management Services- including Bonds, Insurance and Fee	\$32,524	Colasanti Construction Services (utilizing Industrial Fence for Temporary Fencing)
Bid Pack #3 Design & Construction Contingency	\$19,260	Colasanti Construction Services
BID PACK #3 TOTAL	\$1,014,784	

MOTION CARRIED 6-1 (Steckloff opposed).

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE 2020 GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE MICHIGAN INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION.

Attorney Joppich explained the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission program implemented by the City and grant agreement that helps to facilitate that program. He noted that a similar grant agreement was approved by City Council last year and this is the current year grant agreement before them for consideration this evening.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves entering into the 2020 Grant Contract with the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC), Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the City of Farmington.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH OAKLAND COUNTY FOR APPOINTMENTS OF ARRAIGNMENT-ONLY ATTORNEYS TO COMPLY WITH THE MICHIGAN INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION ACT.

Attorney Joppich explained that implementation of the grant previously discussed allows for this Interlocal Agreement with Oakland County to appointments and arraignment-only attorneys in which the city agrees to pay for in-jail arraignments.

MOTION by Knol, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves entering into the Interlocal Agreement between Oakland County and the City of Farmington Hills for Appointments of Arraignment-Only Attorneys in the Oakland County Jail to comply with the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Act.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSENT JUDGMENT FOR 31440 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY TO PERMIT THE CONVERSION OF THE FORMER COMPUWARE WELLNESS CENTER TO OFFICE WITH TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND TESTING USE. CMR 2-20-27

Director Gardiner explained that the proposed amendment to consent judgment was previously discussed with City Council in a study session meeting and would allow for the conversion of the wellness center to office at this location. He noted that revised site and landscape plans have been submitted showing minor changes to the building to better accommodate the use of the building. Mr. Gardiner explained that two homeowners associations were party to the consent judgment and both have submitted letters of approval for the proposed amendment.

Attorney Dennis Cowan, representing Redico, stated that they were before City Council two weeks ago at a study session with this proposal and within 9 days reached an agreement with regard to the consent judgment language with the partners involved and the city. He further explained the proposed amendment and changes and improvements to the site to which they have agreed. He respectfully requested City Council approval and added that the City Attorney was involved with the proposed language for the amendment.

Larry Rogosin, Hull, inquired about the type of testing that would be done at this facility as he was concerned with noise.

Attorney Cowan responded it would be testing of electrical components so it would not be creating noise for the surrounding residents.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves an amendment to the Consent Judgment for 31440 Northwestern Highway to permit research, testing, design, and experimental product development; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council directs the City Attorney to execute and record the proposed amendment to the Consent Judgment.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE FARMINGTON HILLS MUNICIPAL BROADBAND TASK FORCE.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

RESOLUTION NO. R-52-20

RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE FARMINGTON HILLS MUNICIPAL BROADBAND TASK FORCE

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, held on February 24, 2020, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, with those present and absent being,

PRESENT: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF

ABSENT: NONE

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Councilmember Massey and supported by Councilmember Newlin:

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2018, City Council adopted a resolution (R-62-18) establishing the Broadband Task Force for the purpose and with the objective of studying and reporting to City Council any available options and the necessary undertakings in order to establish a municipal broadband system and services in the City of Farmington Hills, potential obstacles or issues involved with doing so, and the possibility of public-private partnerships and interlocal partnerships for the provision of municipal broadband services; and

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2019, City Council extended the expiration term of the Task Force from February 1, 2019 to August 1, 2019 as the Task Force required more time to carry out its purpose and objectives and report back to City Council; and

WHEREAS, on July 22, 2019, City Council extended the expiration term of the Task Force from August 1, 2019 to April 1, 2020 as the City had issued a Request For Proposal for Municipal Broadband

Network Assessment and Feasibility Analysis for the Cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills and the Task Force would be participating in the RFP process and presentation to City Council; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2020, City Council awarded a contract for the Municipal Broadband Network Assessment and Feasibility Analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force will be participating in the network assessment and feasibility analysis process and final presentation to City Council and; therefore, is requesting an extension of a one year term from its last term expiration of April 1, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, that the term of the Broadband Task Force, set to expire on April 1, 2020, is hereby extended until April 1, 2021.

AYES: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN & STECKLOFF
NAYES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTENTIONS: NONE

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF GRANTING AN EASEMENT TO CONSUMERS ENERGY ON MIDDLEBELT ROAD AT BELFAST STREET. CMR 2-20-28

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to sign the attached easement document for the 12 foot wide Gas Facilities Easement on Lot 2 of the Brookside Park Subdivision to allow Consumers Energy to install, operate and maintain a natural gas main.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2020.

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council study session meeting minutes of February 10, 2020.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2020.**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council regular session meeting minutes of February 10, 2020.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

CLOSED SESSION

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO CONSULT WITH THE CITY'S ATTORNEYS REGARDING PRIVILEGED ATTORNEY-CLIENT CORRESPONDENCE UNDER MCL 15.268(H) AND PENDING LITIGATION DEWARD V FARMINGTON HILLS UNDER MCL 15.268(E). (NOTE: COUNCIL MAY RETURN TO OPEN SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CLOSED SESSION)

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, to approve entering into a closed session to consult with the City's Attorneys regarding privileged attorney-client correspondence under MCL 15.268(h) and pending litigation *Deward v Farmington Hills* under MCL 15.268(e).

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

City Council returned to the regular open session meeting at 9:28pm.

MOTION by Massey, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby directs the City Attorney to proceed with Option "B" as he presented in closed session with respect to the settlement proposal from the plaintiff in the case of DeWard vs. City of Farmington Hills.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Bridges, support by Steckloff, to adjourn the regular session meeting at 9:29pm.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk