

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
FEBRUARY 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 7:34 p.m.

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

Council Members Absent: Bridges

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Paul Blizman led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**SUSTAINABLE FARMINGTON HILLS TIP OF THE MONTH**

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

**Sustainable Farmington Hills  
Tip of the Month**

New year, new resolutions. Try these tips via [ase.org](http://ase.org) to stick to your energy saving resolutions:

1. Turn the lights off - how often is a light left on in a room no one is in?
2. Heat and cool your home efficiently – seal any air leaks that could be letting your warm or cold air out and replace furnace and air conditioner filters.
3. Install LED lights – “They last at least 25 times longer and consume 75 percent less electricity than incandescent bulbs.”
4. Wash with cold – using warm water to wash your clothes uses most of the washing machines energy; using cold water will reduce your energy usage.

For more information please visit [www.sustainablefh.com](http://www.sustainablefh.com).

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING PAUL BLIZMAN FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Bruce and accepted by Paul Blizman:

**PROCLAMATION  
Paul Blizman**

***In Recognition of Exemplary Service to Farmington Hills***

**WHEREAS,** Paul Blizman gave his knowledge and expertise to the Planning Commission, serving with distinction for over thirty years during eleven terms from 1987

through 2017, and also served as the Chairperson from 1991 through 1994 and again from 2002 through 2003; and

**WHEREAS,** Paul Blizman shared his interest and dedication to historic preservation through two terms and six years of service to the Historic District Commission from 1985 through 1991; and

**WHEREAS,** Paul Blizman is an estate planning and real estate investment attorney with offices in the City, and Paul and his wife Lee, a retired City employee, are longtime residents of Farmington Hills; and

**WHEREAS,** he is a graduate of the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, and the Detroit College of Law; and

**WHEREAS,** during his time of exemplary service to the City, Paul Blizman also served on the Farmington Hills Energy Committee, the After School Program Funding Committee, and the Farmington Hills Ad Hoc Ethics Committee, plus he served as a Trustee for the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Children, Youth and Families.

**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 **Paul Blizman** 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.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING GLEN FLEISCHHACKER FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Knol and accepted by staff on behalf of Mr. Fleischhacker:

**PROCLAMATION**

**Glen Fleischhacker**

*In Recognition of Exemplary Service to Farmington Hills*

**WHEREAS,** Glen Fleischhacker gave his knowledge and expertise to the Planning Commission, serving with distinction for over twenty-five years during nine terms from 1992 through 2018, and also served as the Chairperson from 1997 through 1999; and

**WHEREAS,** Glen Fleischhacker also helped to secure and maintain the desirability of our City through three terms and seven years of service to the Zoning Board of Appeals from 2006 through 2013, and also served as the Chairperson from 2009 through 2010; and

**WHEREAS,** Glen Fleischhacker, who grew up in Farmington Hills and is a graduate of Farmington Public Schools, spent his career working in sales, marketing, and operations and is now retired from his job at Delta Dental; and

**WHEREAS,** during his time of exemplary service to the City, Glen Fleischhacker was a member of the Michigan Society of Planning Officials and participated in professional development and continuing education courses; and

**WHEREAS,** Glen and his wife Kay are longtime residents of Farmington Hills who have now retired to northern Michigan.

**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 **Glen Fleischhacker** for his powerful role in the evolution of the community and offer my sincere gratitude for the loyal service of this highly-dedicated and well-regarded individual.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Massey acknowledged emails received regarding roads

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, to approve the Consent Agenda as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF

Nays: NONE

Absent: BRIDGES

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

There were no public questions or comments.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Massey commented on the Florida shooting and that thoughts are going out to those families involved.

Councilmember Rich thanked Council for their support of her training at the Michigan Municipal League and congratulated the Library on a successful Red Carpet Gala event.

Councilmember Lerner mentioned that Money Magazine announced the Top 50 Cities to live in the United States and Farmington Hills was announced as the #1 City in which to live.

Mayor Massey mentioned the following events:

- Farmington SAFE meeting March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Council Chamber
- Chamber Chili Cook-off 1-4pm on March 10<sup>th</sup> at Cowley's in Farmington

### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

City Manager Boyer made the following announcements:

- Senior Division is seeking volunteers for their Meals on Wheels Program
- Road repairs are underway due to the weather

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE C-4-2018 TO AMEND THE FARMINGTON HILLS CITY CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 28, "SWIMMING POOLS," SECTION 28-26, "DEFINITIONS," AND SECTION 28-40, "POOL DEMOLITION," TO AMEND PROCEDURES FOR ABATING NUISANCE POOLS; AND APPROVAL OF SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION.**

Ed Gardiner, Director of Planning and Community Development, explained that on February 12, 2018, City Council introduced this ordinance that provides for alternatives and standards to address nuisance pools. There have been no changes since the introduction and the next step in the process would be for City Council to enact the ordinance.

MOTION by Rich, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the ENACTMENT of Ordinance C-4-2018 to amend the Farmington Hills City Code by amending Chapter 28, "Swimming Pools," Section 28-26, "Definitions," and Section 28-36, "Abatement," and adding a new Section 28-40, "Pool Demolition," to amend procedures for abating nuisance pools; and approval of summary for publication.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF

Nays: NONE

Absent: BRIDGES

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF THE REVISED BOARD OF REVIEW GUIDELINES FOR POVERTY EXEMPTION REVIEW. CMR 2-18-12**

Matt Dingman, City Assessor, explained that Michigan Compiled Law allows for local units of government, through Board of Review, to reduce part or all of a homeowner's property tax liability on the their principal residence due to reasons of poverty. Before Council this evening was an amendment to the City's Poverty Exemption Guidelines that are necessary due to changes in statute, case law, State Tax Commission guidelines and adjustments in the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. The city's income guidelines are approximately 20-25% above that of the federal guidelines.

Mayor Massey explained that this issue was discussed at tonight's study session meeting and the policy was first adopted in 1995 and is being updated to reflect current procedures and changes in law.

In response to Councilmember Rich, City Assessor Dingman further explained Section V with regard to asset guidelines. He noted that state law requires an asset test; however, in the past 4-5 years he does not recall anyone that has been denied based on the asset test alone and typically are denied based on the income test.

Councilmember Rich expressed concern with the following language: "The value of all assets of the applicant shall not exceed five (5) times the annual household income of the applicant or those contributing to the expenses of the household". She was concerned that someone's income could significantly drop due to job loss or other circumstances and they would then not meet the criteria.

Assessor Dingman explained that the Board of Review can depart from the guidelines but there has to be substantial and compelling reasons such as a job loss, substantial medical bills or other unforeseen circumstances at no fault of their own.

Dr. Rich inquired where that latitude was spelled out in the proposed guidelines. Mr. Dingman pointed out specific language in Section IV of the policy and noted that language was also in the state statute that would apply throughout the guidelines.

Attorney Joppich confirmed that by law that language would apply throughout the proposed guidelines.

Councilmember Steckloff commented she still had questions with regard to the proposed guidelines and would like to discuss this further at another study session meeting.

Attorney Joppich clarified that some changes were suggested at the study session meeting and that the revised version has been presented to Council just prior to this regular meeting for consideration and action.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the adoption of the revised Board of Review “Guidelines for Poverty Exemption Review,” dated February 26, 2018, for use in compliance with Public Act 390 of 1994, and authorizes the Board of Review, on Council’s behalf, to annually update and revise the “Household Income” amounts stated in Section IV of the Guidelines in order to maintain the same percentage difference between the City’s Household Income amounts and the federal poverty standards as adjusted annually by the federal government.

MOTION CARRIED 4-2 (Rich and Steckloff opposed).

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

MOTION by Lerner, 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 and Commissions:

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

	<b>Length of Term:</b>	<b>Term ending:</b>
Michael O’Connell	filling unexpired term - Alternate	February 1, 2019
Daniel Irvin	filling unexpired term - Alternate	February 1, 2020

**Farmington Area Arts Commission**

	<b>Length of Term:</b>	<b>Term ending:</b>
Veena Joshi	3 year term - Alternate	February 1, 2021

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 2018 PAVEMENT RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT ON 13 MILE ROAD, FROM DRAKE ROAD TO FARMINGTON ROAD. CMR 2-18-13**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to enter into Agreement #17-5565 on behalf of the City with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the reconstruction and resurfacing of 13 Mile Road from Drake Road to Farmington Road.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE 13 MILE ROAD SANITARY SEWER PAYBACK DISTRICT. CMR 2-18-14**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the 13 Mile Road Sanitary Sewer Payback District with the final costs being determined upon completion of construction; and approves that the funds be utilized from the City of Farmington Hills Sanitary Sewer Reserve Fund to construct these improvements, with these costs to be reimbursed by the benefitting properties within the proposed payback district; and approves that the City fund 100% of the 194 feet of lateral sewer just west of Marvin Road estimated at \$59,428, which provides an outfall for the payback sewer.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF THE REVISED CITY INVESTMENT POLICY. CMR 2-18-15**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby adopts the revised City of Farmington Hills Investment Policy, as attached, to conform with Public Act 196 of 1997 regulating the investment of surplus funds by a political subdivision of the State, as well as Public Act 20, as amended by Public Act 308 of 2008.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLIC ROADS FOR THE HALSTED HOLLOW NORTH SUBDIVISION. CMR 2-18-16**

**RESOLUTION R-26-18  
ADDITION TO CITY STREET SYSTEM**

At a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, held at the City Hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018, at 7:34pm., Eastern Standard Time.

Present: Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey, Rich and Steckloff  
Absent: Bridges

The following resolution was offered by Councilmember Knol and supported by Councilmember Steckloff:

WHEREAS the City of Farmington Hills has acquired title to various streets within Halsted Hollows North in Section 32, and

WHEREAS it is necessary to furnish certain information to the State of Michigan to place these streets within the City's local street system for the purpose of obtaining funds under Act 51, P.A. of 1951.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that

1. The legal description and design drawings of said streets are described as: Refer to attached descriptions and maps.
2. Said streets are located within the City's right-of-way and are in and under the control of the City of Farmington Hills.
3. Said streets are public streets and are for public street purposes.
4. Said streets are accepted into the City's local street system.

Adopted: Yeas: Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey, Rich and Steckloff  
Nays: None  
Absent: Bridges

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLIC ROADS FOR THE FOREST AT WOODDALE SUBDIVISION. CMR 2-18-17**

**RESOLUTION R-27-18  
ADDITION TO CITY STREET SYSTEM**

At a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, held at the City Hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018, at 7:34pm, Eastern Standard Time.

Present: Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey, Rich and Steckloff  
Absent: Bridges

The following resolution was offered by Councilmember Knol and supported by Councilmember Steckloff:

WHEREAS the City of Farmington Hills has acquired title to various streets within Forest at Wooddale in Section 9, and

WHEREAS it is necessary to furnish certain information to the State of Michigan to place these streets within the City's local street system for the purpose of obtaining funds under Act 51, P.A. of 1951.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that

1. The legal description and design drawings of said streets are described as: Refer to attached descriptions and maps.
2. Said streets are located within the City's right-of-way and are in and under the control of the City of Farmington Hills.
3. Said streets are public streets and are for public street purposes.
4. Said streets are accepted into the City's local street system.

Adopted:       Yeas:           Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey, Rich and Steckloff  
                  Nays:           None  
                  Absent:        Bridges

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE DRAKE ROAD REHABILITATION PROJECT FROM GRAND RIVER AVENUE TO 11 MILE ROAD TO PRO-LINE ASPHALT PAVING CORPORATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$619,503.60. CMR 2-18-18**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the Drake Road Rehabilitation Project be awarded to the lowest competent bidder, Pro-Line Asphalt Paving Corporation in the amount of \$619,503.60; and authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the contract on behalf of the City.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL TO PURCHASE CANINE AND TRAINING THROUGH K9ATF IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,500. CMR 2-18-19**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order to K9ATF in the amount of \$11,500 for the purchase of a canine and training.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FOR THE 2018 KONA CHEESECAKE RUN TO BE HELD AT THE FARMINGTON HILLS YMCA ON SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018.**



MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves a Special Event Permit for the 2018 Kona Cheesecake Run to be held on Sunday, April 15, 2018 from 9am-11am, subject to the following terms:

- The race will begin at 9:00am and should be concluded by 11:00am
- The route is mainly in residential areas of the city
- There will be a brief road closure of Farmington Road for this event
- There will be 1000 to 1500 runners/walkers
- There will be approximately 100 race volunteers
- There will be 45 race marshals wearing reflective safety vest directing runners and stopping runners at intersections throughout the course & at least one marshal at every intersection in the subdivision
- Traffic in the subdivision will not be impeded
- The tent at the site will be in a grassy area
- Attendees will be shuttled to the event from Oakland Community College
- There will be medical staff on scene at two different first aid stations on the course
- The applicant agrees paying the cost of four Police Officers on overtime at the rate of \$52.55 for a period of 2.5 hours and for one Sergeant, at the overtime rate of \$60.46 for 2.5 hours
- Any pre-race announcements done over the PA system are required to be kept at a low volume and no music is permitted prior to 9:00am and at that point, must be played at a level not to disturb the neighbors
- Cones and signs to direct the runners will be set up along the route but they will not be in the roadway and will not interfere with traffic
- Fire lanes shall be properly maintained
- Egress from the facility shall not be blocked or restricted
- The event shall comply with the minimum Fire Prevention Code requirements
- An inspection shall be scheduled for the site and tent prior to the beginning of the event

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF

Nays: NONE

Absent: BRIDGES

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 13, 2018**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the study session meeting minutes of February 13, 2018 as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF

Nays: NONE

Absent: BRIDGES

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF  
FEBRUARY 13, 2018.**

MOTION by Knol, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the regular meeting minutes of February 13, 2018 as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Massey adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk