

MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 12, 2021 – 7:30 PM

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Barnett at 7:43pm.

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

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Mekjian, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Valentine, Directors Gardiner and Monico and City Attorney Joppich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dave Walsh, 47th District Court Administrator, led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA

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

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STRICKFADEN

Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

PROCLAMATION HONORING 47TH DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATOR DAVE WALSH FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

The following Proclamation was read by Mayor Barnett and accepted by Dave Walsh, 47th District Court Administrator:

PROCLAMATION

47th District Court Administrator Dave Walsh

In Recognition of Exemplary Service to the Citizens of Farmington Hills

July 12, 2021

WHEREAS, Court Administrator Dave Walsh has served the 47th District Court and the Cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington with honor and distinction for 25 years; and

WHEREAS, along with Judges Marla Parker, James Brady, and the late Frederick Harris, he helped make the 47th District Court a model for courts around Michigan, ensuring access, equality, fairness, integrity, and accountability; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Dave Walsh strived to build positive relationships between the Court, the governments of Farmington Hills and Farmington, and the community with a commitment to building public trust and confidence in the Court as an accountable separate branch of government; and

WHEREAS, through his dedication to his profession, he has helped colleagues and support staff throughout the State of Michigan through a variety of training initiatives including chairing the Michigan Court Managers Conference for nine years, and working with the Michigan Judicial Institute to develop and serve as faculty for the Michigan Court Support Staff Certification Program; and

WHEREAS, he contributed to a legacy for the community as the Project Manager for the design and construction of the 47th District Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, Dave Walsh was recognized by his colleagues in the Michigan Court Administration Association by having the organization's Distinguished Service Award named in his honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Vicki Barnett, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby honor and thank **47th District Court Administrator Dave Walsh** for his loyal service to the people of our City, and encourage everyone to recognize and celebrate this highly respected member of our community.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was acknowledged relating to the following:

- Rental of the Heritage Park stage
- The deer population and issues residents are experiencing in Quaker Hills Subdivision
- Power outages

Mayor Barnett stated that the city has addressed the power outages with DTE and she has a call in to the Public Service Commission. She stated that with regard to the deer population, this is a regional issue and Council will be holding preliminary discussions on this topic at their July 26, 2021 study session meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bridges, support by Newlin, to approve consent agenda item #6, as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STRICKFADEN

Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, to approve consent agenda items #7 and #8, as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STRICKFADEN

Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: BRIDGES

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Jeff Aleman, White Hall, suggested that the HAWK consider partnering with Renew Active - United Healthcare to help offset the cost of facility passes for seniors.

Rosalyn Goldberg, West Bloomfield resident, spoke on Ranked Choice Voting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following comments and announcements were made:

- Commended city staff on their response to the storm and timely updates from the City Manager
- Requested information on the financial status of SiFi, the company that is proposed to be providing city-wide broadband
- Requested a report on rezoning or other developments taking place in the city
- Commented on how nice it was to see neighbors helping each other after the storm
- Thank you to State legislators for reaching out to the community after the storm

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Mekjian provided the following update:

- Synopsis of the storm event of July 7, 2021
- Expanded residential debris pick up due to the storm from the city right-of-way through July 23, 2021 at 4:30pm
- Importance of communication during such events and how residents can sign up for FHAlert from the home page of the city's website to receive notification of local emergency events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE C-4-2021 AMENDING CITY CODE, CHAPTER 34, "ZONING", TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ORDER TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT PARCEL ID 23-21-376-021 FROM B-3, GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT TO LI-1, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT; REZONING REQUEST 2-3-2021; AND APPROVAL OF SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION

Ed Gardiner, Director of Planning and Community Development, explained that City Council introduced this ordinance at their last meeting to rezone property from B-3, General Business to LI-1, Light Industrial District in order to allow for an expansion of an existing business. He stated that enactment is the next step in the process.

MOTION by Massey, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves ENACTMENT of an ordinance amending City Code, Chapter 34, "Zoning", to amend the official Zoning Map in order to rezone the property located at Parcel ID 23-21-376-021 from B-3, General Business District to LI-1, Light Industrial District, Rezoning Request 2-3-2021, and approval of summary for publication.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2, 2021 LOCATED AT 27400 TWELVE MILE ROAD (POSTPONED FROM MAY 24, 2021).

Ed Gardiner, Planning and Community Development Director, explained that applicant has requested further postponement of this Plan to August 9, 2021, in order to allow him to review the changes proposed by Council at their May 24, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held on the time frame for it returning to City Council to allow the applicant sufficient time and so Council would not have to postpone action any further.

MOTION by Knol, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby postpones consideration of approval of Planned Unit Development 2, 2021 located at 27400 Twelve Mile Road to no later than September 13, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION DECLARING LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY (JULY 7, 2021 STORM).

Mayor Barnett explained the reason for the local state of emergency due to the July 7, 2021 storm.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

RESOLUTION REGARDING DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY (JULY 7, 2021 STORM)

RESOLUTION NO. R-128-21

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, held in the Farmington Hills City Hall on the 12th day of July 2021 at 7:30 p.m., with those present and absent being,

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

ABSENT: NONE

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Councilmember Bridges and supported by Councilmember Strickfaden,

PREAMBLE:

- A. On July 7, 2021, the City of Farmington Hills experienced a significant storm event caused by a severe thunderstorm cell with high winds. As a result of this situation, the following conditions were encountered:

- A widespread power outage across 65 percent of the City.
 - Many neighborhoods have been left impassable due to downed trees and power lines.
 - Estimated time to clear the City "right-of-way" is 3-4 weeks from the date of the storm event.
 - Power Road has been washed out and all gravel roads need to be regraded.
 - Numerous City facilities have no power and have sustained flooding and water damage.
 - The City established a cooling location at the Costick Center located at 28600 W. Eleven Mile Road.
 - Catastrophic damages to countless trees, buildings, and other property throughout the City.
- B. The storm event is unparalleled in recent memory, and the City of Farmington Hills as well as other public and private entities and individuals are expected to incur great costs in connection with the widespread and severe property damage and the resulting clean-up. The City has already incurred costs for contractors and for overtime of its own personnel, and such costs are expected to continue and expand for the next several weeks.
- C. The City's resources have been and will continue to be overwhelmed by the severity and magnitude of the storm event, and the City believes that State assistance and other outside resources are necessary to effectively respond to, and recover from, the impacts of this emergency.
- D. Due to the above situation and circumstances, under the State of Michigan's Emergency Management Act, MCL 30.410, and also under Chapter 10 of the Farmington Hills City Code, the Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills declared a Local State of Emergency and the City's emergency operations plan has been activated and local resources are being utilized to the fullest extent possible to address the emergency.
- E. Under the Emergency Management Act, the Mayor's Declaration of a Local State of Emergency is limited to seven (7) days unless the City Council consents to the continuation of that Declaration.
- F. The City Council agrees with the Mayor's Declaration and finds it appropriate to continue such Declaration until its termination as set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND DECLARED, under and pursuant to the authority contained at § 3 of the Home Rule Cities Act, MCL 117.3(j), authorizing cities to provide for the public health and safety of persons; the Emergency Management Act, Public Act 390 of 1976; and the City's Emergency Preparedness Ordinance, Chapter 10 of the Code of Ordinances:

1. There continues to be a city-wide Local State of Emergency in the City due to the facts, circumstances, and considerations described above, and City Council hereby consents to the continuation of Mayor Barnett's Declaration of Local State of Emergency as set forth in and subject to this Resolution.
2. The City of Farmington Hills Emergency Preparedness Plan shall continue to be implemented to ensure that local and state resources are used to the fullest extent possible for all purposes permitted under and in accordance with the Emergency Management Act and Chapter 10 of the City Code, as and when necessary, to respond to or protect City citizens, businesses, personnel, and property relative to the declared local State of Emergency.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2021.**

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council study session meeting minutes of June 28, 2021.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2021.**

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council regular session meeting minutes of June 28, 2021.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None.

ATTORNEY REPORT

City Council received the Attorney Report.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:49pm.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk