

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER  
NOVEMBER 14, 2022 – 7:30 PM

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Newlin at 7:32pm.

Council Members Present: Boleware, Bridges, Bruce, Massey, and Newlin

Council Members Absent: Barnett and Knol

Others Present: City Manager Mekjian, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Valentine, Directors Brockway, Kettler-Schmult, Monico and Winn, Fire Chief Unruh and City Attorney Joppich

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pro-Tem Newlin led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA**

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO MAYOR PRO-TEM RANDY BRUCE**

City Clerk Smith administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Pro-Tem Randy Bruce.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR VICKIE SULLEN-WINN**

City Manager Mekjian introduced Communications Director Vickie Sullen-Winn. Director Winn thanked Council and staff for the introduction and provided her background and experience in this field and commented that she looks forward to bringing that experience to Farmington Hills to create a more informed and engaged community.

City Council welcomed Vickie Winn to her new role with the city.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 26, 2022 AS SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Bridges and accepted by Sue Arlen, Chamber Director:

**PROCLAMATION  
Small Business Saturday®  
November 26, 2022**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Farmington Hills celebrates our local small businesses and recognizes that they create jobs, boost the local economy, and help to preserve our community; and

**WHEREAS,** according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are 32.5 million small businesses in the United States that represent 99% of all firms with paid

employees, are responsible for 64% of net new jobs, and create 1.5 million new jobs annually; and

**WHEREAS,** small business sales have reached 80% of pre-pandemic levels, but as our lives have largely returned to normal, the economic effects among the smallest of small businesses still linger; and

**WHEREAS,** consumers who shop on Small Business Saturday® are making a conscious commitment to support small, independently owned businesses and make purchases with a positive social, economic, and environmental impact; and

**WHEREAS,** for every dollar spent at local small businesses, an average of 67 cents stays in the community, so consumers should shop or eat at independently owned businesses and purchase gift cards for local businesses, not just during the holiday season but year-round.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that I, Vicki Barnett, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim November 26, 2022 as **Small Business Saturday®** and urge our residents to support small businesses annually on the Saturday after Thanksgiving and throughout the entire year.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2022 AS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Newlin and accepted by Assistant City Manager Valentine:

**PROCLAMATION  
Native American Heritage Month  
November 2022**

**WHEREAS,** Native Americans are a diverse group of people with a rich and multifaceted system of governments, languages, religions, values, and traditions; and

**WHEREAS,** Michigan is home to 12 federally recognized Indian tribes, which are sovereign governments that exercise their own direct jurisdiction over their members and their territory; and

**WHEREAS,** Michigan has several significant Native American cultural sites including the **Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways in Mount Pleasant, the Besser Museum for Northwest Michigan in Alpena, the Andrew J. Blackbird Museum in Harbor Springs, and the Potawatomi Heritage Center in Wilson;** and

**WHEREAS,** we have a rich past and a bright future thanks to the varied contributions of the many tribes who have lived in Michigan, including our state's three largest tribes - the Ojibwe (also called Chippewa), the Odawa (also called Ottawa), and the Potawatomi (also called the Bode'wadmi); and

**WHEREAS,** Native Americans continue to be influential in all areas of life in Michigan including government, business, the arts, medicine, education, law enforcement, and the military; and

**WHEREAS,** Farmington Hills represents a place where diverse people from all backgrounds live and work together, giving us opportunities to honor our differences and celebrate our similarities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Vicki Barnett, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim November 2022 as **Native American Heritage Month** in Farmington Hills and urge all citizens to learn about Native American heritage and culture and to celebrate the vast contributions of the first Americans.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence acknowledged.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, to approve consent agenda as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, MASSEY, AND NEWLIN

Nays: NONE

Absent: BARNETT AND KNOL

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Pam Gerald, resident, commented on the forum regarding community policing at the HAWK and expressed concern over why the Farmington Hills Police Chief and Farmington Public Safety Officers were not invited and the overall presentation.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

City Council mentioned the following events:

- Complimented Special Services on their Veteran's Day event

#### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

City Manager Mekjian provided the following update:

- A Neighborhood Watch meeting scheduled for November 21 at 7pm in the Council Chamber
- The Holiday Lighting Ceremony will be held on Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at City Hall
- Yard waste collection will end the week of December 12-16, 2022
- A joint meeting with City Council, Farmington City Council and Farmington School Board is scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Maxfield Training Center

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO CONSENT JUDGMENT NO. 54 FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF 14 MILE ROAD AND FARMINGTON ROAD.**

Charmaine Kettler-Schmult, Director of Planning and Community Development, explained that the request before City Council is for an amendment to a consent judgment to allow for a 7-foot high fence to be installed to replace a masonry wall that deteriorated and was part of the initial consent judgment. She noted that the adjacent homeowner's association has been contacted and they do not object to the

proposal. The City Attorney's Office has prepared and reviewed the proposed amendment before City Council.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bruce acknowledged Corbin Miller who requested to speak on this issue.

Mr. Miller, Hitching Post Ct., expressed concern over the proposed fence that was to replace the masonry wall as well as the communication regarding the proposal. He stated that he was the one who contacted the city over a year ago regarding the deteriorating wall but there has been little communication to him since other than being requested to sign in favor of the amended consent judgment. He stated that he would prefer a masonry wall over the proposed fence but if this is approved this evening, he would ask that the fence is installed as soon as possible.

Director Kettler-Schmult stated that she would look into the communication between the city and Mr. Miller. It was pointed out that the city had been working with the homeowners association who should have also been in contact with the residents.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bruce inquired if the fence could be painted a different color. Attorney Joppich explained that the parties agreed on a fence that would match an existing fence on the property so any deviations would require for the parties to agree and then it would have to come back to City Council for approval.

Councilmember Newlin expressed concern that the proposed fence would not provide for the same privacy and noise control as the previous masonry wall. Director Kettler-Schmult responded that there should not be a significant difference with the noise and pointed out that the proposed wall would be a foot higher than the previous masonry wall that should help with noise abatement.

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager and City Attorney to sign on behalf of the City the Stipulation and Order to Amend Consent Judgment and submit same to the Court for entry in the case of Pineview Office Center Association, Successor to Robert and Carol Chapa vs. City of Farmington Hills, Successor to Township of Farmington, Oakland County Circuit Court Case No. 72-83546.

MOTION CARRIED 4-1 (Newlin opposed).

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY FOR THE JULY 6, 2023 CELEBRATION TO PYROTECNICO FIREWORKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000.00. CMR 11-22-104**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order to Pyrotecnico Fireworks for the July 6, 2023 celebration for \$35,000.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF PROPOSALS FOR AS NEEDED CITY OFFICE FURNISHINGS TO SMART BUSINESS SOURCE FOR ONE YEAR; WITH EXTENSIONS. CMR 11-22-105**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve all budgeted purchase orders for office furnishings to Smart Business Source for one (1) year with one or more administration-approved extensions not to exceed a total of four (4) additional years, under the same terms and conditions, through mutual consent by the City of Farmington Hills and each awarded vendor.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR FIREFIGHTER PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR TO PHOENIX SAFETY OUTFITTERS AND CONWAY SHIELD; WITH EXTENSIONS. CMR 11-22-106**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve all budgeted purchases for fire fighter personal protective equipment for a period of one (1) year with one or more administration-approved extensions not to exceed a total of four (4) additional one year periods to the following companies:

1. Phoenix Safety Outfitters for Dragon Fire Alpha X Gloves, FireCraft Phoenix Structural Gloves
2. Conway Shield for Cairns 880, 1044 Helmet and Cairns 664 Invader with Tuff Shield

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR POLICE VEHICLE ACCESSORIES TO WINDER POLICE EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,660.75. CMR 11-22-107**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby waives the formal bid requirements and authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order for Police Vehicle Equipment in the amount of \$37,660.75 to Winder Police Equipment with all the terms and conditions of previously awarded bid from Oakland County contract.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES WITH LAMBERT GLOBAL IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000. CMR 11-22-108**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve all invoices for Lambert Global, for Crisis Communications Services in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2022**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the study session meeting minutes of October 24, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2022.**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the regular session meeting minutes of October 24, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2022.**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the special meeting minutes of October 27, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

The attorney report was received by Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:13pm.

MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk