

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 – 7:30 PM

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Barnett at 7:35pm.

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 Monico and Schnackel and City Attorney Joppich

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Alex Hamilton, Warner Middle School Student, led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA**

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, to approve the agenda as amended with removing Item #5 under the Consent Agenda for discussion.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING ALEX HAMILTON FOR HIS VIDEO HIGHLIGHTIN LIFE IN FARMINGTON HILLS:**

The following Proclamation was read by Council Member Strickfaden and accepted by Alex Hamilton:

**PROCLAMATION**

**Alex Hamilton**

*Amateur Videographer and Budding Cinematographer*

**WHEREAS,** Farmington Hills resident Alex Hamilton created a spectacular video highlighting the high quality of life here in the City of Farmington Hills; and

**WHEREAS,** Alex is officially being recognized for his resourcefulness, imagination, videography talent, and film editing skills; and

**WHEREAS,** Alex Hamilton is currently 14 years old and an eighth grader at Warner Middle School; and

**WHEREAS,** Alex is a member of his school's cross-country team and track team, and is a member of the Farmington Soccer Club travel team; and

**WHEREAS,** he is active in Youth United and has participated in community service projects at CARES and is a member of the Mission Committee at the

Orchard United Methodist Church where he gives back to this community and makes our world a better place.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Vicki Barnett, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize **Alex Hamilton** for taking the initiative to create a video about the City of Farmington Hills and share it with City officials who were impressed with his abilities and appreciated his time and effort spent on behalf of showcasing our community.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

City Council acknowledged several emails regarding road projects and/or traffic issues that were passed on to the appropriate staff.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Newlin, to approve consent agenda items #6-#10 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 items #11 and #12 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

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION REGARDING TEMPORARY OUTDOOR SALES EVENT LICENSE AUTHORIZATION AND REQUIREMENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Attorney Joppich explained that this resolution was discussed at the study session earlier this evening and it would extend the temporary outdoor sales event licensing authorization and requirements due to the pandemic and delta variant. He noted that at the study session the following amendments were suggested: to remove some language in one paragraph and to extend the temporary licensing to December 31, 2021.

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the resolution with the following changes:

Removing the words “and deadly from the 6<sup>th</sup> “Whereas” paragraph and extending the deadline to December 31, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

**RESOLUTION NO. R-166-21**

**RESOLUTION REGARDING TEMPORARY OUTDOOR SALES EVENT LICENSE  
AUTHORIZATION AND REQUIREMENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, attended remotely and held electronically from the City Council Chambers on September 13, 2021, at 7:30 o'clock 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 Councilperson Massey and supported by Councilperson Bridges:

**WHEREAS**, throughout 2020, the State of Michigan and the City of Farmington Hills has issued various emergency declarations, resolutions, orders, and rules relating to the Coronavirus pandemic, some of which included temporary restrictions on the use of places of public accommodation in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, at one point in time during 2020, the state relaxed its restrictions and allowed places of public accommodation, such as bars and restaurants, to partially re-open, at which time the City adopted Resolution R-108-20, dated June 8, 2020, temporarily authorizing the extension of certain permitted uses into outdoor spaces not otherwise allowed to be used for such businesses, because of — and only because of — the occupancy limitations and social distancing requirements necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, in November, 2020, the State of Michigan experienced a high and rapidly increasing rate of spread of COVID-19, and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (“MDHH”) issued an order that implemented state restrictions that resulted in restaurant and bar businesses in the City to again either close their business or be open only for limited outdoor service and carry-out service and also affected the operations of other businesses in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 22, 2021, the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services issued an order that relaxed the restrictions on food service establishments again permitting the gradual and partial reopening of food service establishments within the City subject to limitations on occupancy, requirements for social distancing, and other restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the above developments since the adoption of Resolution R-108-20 and the reasons and explanations provided in said Resolution, the City Council adopted Resolution R-17-21, which renewed and re-adopted the temporary authorizations provided under Resolution R-108-20 for the extension of certain permitted uses into outdoor spaces not otherwise allowed to be used, because of — and only because of — the occupancy limitations and social distancing requirements necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, and for no other purpose or duration; and

**WHEREAS**, subsequent to R-17-21, vaccinations for COVID-19 were deployed and have been distributed and administered across the country, including Michigan and Farmington Hills, but a new and more contagious ~~and deadly~~ variant of the COVID-19 virus has since spread across the country causing extreme public health concerns especially among the unvaccinated, the elderly, persons at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to health conditions, and population under 12 years of age who cannot be vaccinated;

**WHEREAS**, based on the above developments since the adoption of Resolution R-17-21 and recognizing that the temporary authorizations provided under that Resolution have expired, and also recognizing that the CDC and MDCH have issued guidelines calling for restaurants and other indoor establishments open to the public to provide for masks, social distancing and other spacing protections, and further recognizing that restaurants may be concerned and want to cater to customers who are either not vaccinated or who would not patronize an establishment with indoor-only service due to health concerns, the City Council wishes to renew and re-adopt the temporary authorizations provided under Resolution R-17-21 for the extension of certain permitted uses into outdoor spaces not otherwise allowed to be used, because of — and only because of — the occupancy limitations and social distancing requirements necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the above considerations, and for no other purpose.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that City Council renews, restates, and re-adopts paragraphs 1-8 of its Resolution R-108-20 herein by this reference and as if fully set forth herein, except it shall not apply to barber shops and beauty salons and except for subparagraphs 4.b.ii and 4.d and paragraph 5 which are amended and restated to read as follows:

4.b.ii. Compliance with any and all Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) COVID-19 guidelines and recommendations for social distancing, party size limitations, spacing, and masking in bars/restaurants and retail businesses (this requirement applies regardless of the fact that the CDC and MDCH recommendations and guidelines are not legally mandated).

4.d. A license approved under this Resolution shall expire and the permitted temporary outdoor business uses shall immediately cease and be discontinued on the same date that the authorizations set forth in this Resolution are no longer effective or are revoked (see paragraph 5).

5. The authorizations set forth in this Resolution shall remain effective until the earlier of the following: (a) ~~October~~ December 31, 2021; (b) the City adopts an ordinance or ordinances relating to the subject matter of this Resolution; or (c) the City Council revokes or amends this Resolution.

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

NAYES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

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

Dia Mason, Staff Attorney with Fair Housing Center of Metropolitan Detroit, explained that for over 40 years the Fair Housing Center has served communities including Farmington Hills to assist residents with fair housing complaints and resolution and answer questions of the city and residents on all matters concerning fair housing. All services are provided free of charge and various pamphlets are being provided this evening to the city to have available for residents.

Suzanne Zimmerman, resident, requested all citizens to please spade or neuter their cats and dogs.

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

The following council member comments and announcements were made:

- The City Clerk has received over 9,500 requests for absentee ballots that are currently being processed and will be mailed out on September 23, 2021.
- Recognition of the 911 ceremony hosted by the Groves Walker Post 346 and thanking Command Post Commander for his service.
- Condolences to Councilmember Bridged on the passing of his mother. Councilmember Bridges thanked everyone for their condolences.

#### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

City Manager Mekjian provided the following update:

- The Battle of the Badges Blood Drive is scheduled for September 15, 2021 from 8am-8pm at the Costick Activities Center
- DTE is hosting two open houses to discuss power outages with residents – they are scheduled for September 22, 2021 at the north pavilion at Heritage Park and September 29, 2021 at Riley Skate Park; both from 5pm – 7:30pm.
- An educational public meeting with the Michigan DNR is scheduled for September 21, 2021 at the Hawk Community Center from 6:30pm-8:30pm to discuss urban deer management.
- The City-Wide Open House is scheduled for October 3, 2021 from Noon – 3pm.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**CONSIDERATION OF POSTPONING PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT 2, 2021 (SARAH FISHER HOME) TO THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING (PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED TO NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 9, 2021)**

Mayor Barnett explained that this item was previously postponed to no later than September 13, 2021; however, the proponent has asked for another postponement to the September 27, 2021 Council meeting.

Councilmember Knol suggested postponing to a date in October so they could come back any time prior to that date and Council would not have to postpone again if they were not ready on the September 27<sup>th</sup>.

MOTION by Knol, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby postpones the consideration of approval of Planned Unit Development 2, 2021 located at 27400 Twelve Mile Road to on or before the October 25, 2021 City Council meeting.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby confirms the Mayor's recommendation of the appointment of Marc Thomas to the Committee to Increase Voter Participation with a term ending February 1, 2023.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF THE STATE DISASTER CONTINGENCY FUND GRANT RESOLUTION. CMR 9-21-85**

**STATE DISASTER CONTINGENCY FUND GRANT  
RESOLUTION**

BE IT RESOLVED BY The City Council (1) OF The City of Farmington Hills (2).

WHEREAS, The City of Farmington Hills (2), Michigan, is a political subdivision within the State of Michigan with an official Emergency Operations plan in compliance with Section 19 of the Emergency Management Act, Act 390, Public Acts of 1976, as amended.

WHEREAS, The City of Farmington Hills (2), sustained severe losses of major proportions brought on by the severe thunderstorm cells and successive rains (3) resulting in the following conditions: Catastrophic damage to tree's destroyed the electrical and fiber optic grid to approximately 65% of the city while rendering much of the City right of way impassable. The successive heavy rains caused widespread flooding which washed out or damaged many roads and culverts. City facilities also sustained flooding and water damage. (4)

WHEREAS, The City Council (1) certifies that the City of Farmington Hills (5) Emergency Operations Plan was implemented at the onset of the disaster at 16:42 on July 7, 2021 (6) and all applicable disaster relief forces identified therein were exhausted. The Department of Public Works requested

WHEREAS, as a direct result of the disaster, public damage and expenditures were extraordinary and place an unreasonably great financial burden on The City of Farmington Hills (2) totaling \$834,665.34 (7).


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The City Council (1) requests the Governor authorize a grant to the City of Farmington Hills (2) from the State Disaster Contingency Fund pursuant to Section 1 9, Act 390, Public Acts of 1976, as amended.

FURTHERMORE, Gary Mekjian (8) is authorized to execute for and in behalf of The City of Farmington Hills (2) the application for financial assistance and to provide to the State any information required for that purpose.

Action taken and incorporated in the minutes of a meeting of

Farmington Hills City Council (name of governing body)

on September 13, 2021 (date)

Attest: Pam Smith  (name of clerk)

- NOTES: (1) Insert name of governing body (City Council, County Board of Commissioners, Township Board, etc.)  
(2) Insert name of political subdivision (City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Township of N/A, etc.)  
(3) Insert the type of disaster (tornado, flood, explosion, etc.)  
(4) Insert a brief description of the effects of the disaster on the community.  
(5) County governments and municipalities under 10,000 population insert the term "county"; municipalities over 10,000 population insert the term "municipal" if they maintain a separate plan; or the term "county/municipal" if they are included in the county plan.  
(6) Insert the time and date the plan was implemented.  
(7) Insert the total dollar value of eligible disaster expenditures and costs (from Section 3 of the application).  
(8) Insert the name of the applicant's agent who is authorized to act for and on behalf of the political subdivision.
-

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER SECTION 10.01A OF THE CITY CHARTER FOR A HAWK GYMNASIUM COORDINATOR**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the request for employment under Section 10.01A of the City Charter for Dominic Nunn as a Hawk Gymnasium Coordinator in the Special Services Department. Dominic is the son of Stanley Nunn, who is an Audio-Visual Assistant in the Special Services Department.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF LIVESCAN SYSTEM SOFTWARE AND SERVICES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO IDEMIA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,222. CMR 9-21-86**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order to Idemia to purchase the software for integrating LiveScan solution software and services in the amount of \$30,222.00.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT FOR POLICE VEHICLE ACCESSORIES TO WINDER POLICE EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,843.45. CMR 9-21-87**

MOTON by Bridges, 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 \$29,843.45 to Winder Police Equipment with all the terms and conditions of previously awarded bid from the Oakland County contract.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE CITY HALL ELECTRICAL MODIFICATION PROJECT TO ALLIED BUILDING SERVICE COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$145,000. CMR 9-21-88**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the award of City Hall Electrical Modifications Project to Allied Building Service Company of Detroit, Inc., in the amount of \$145,000; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the contract on behalf of the City.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 23, 2021**

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council study session meeting minutes of August 23, 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 AUGUST 23, 2021**

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council regular session meeting minutes of August 23, 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**

The attorney report was accepted by Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:12pm.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk