

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
August 17, 2009

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, August 17, 2009, in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by Mayor Knol.

PRESENT: Buck, Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright.

ABSENT: None.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: Director Gushman, City Clerk Halberstadt, City Manager Pastue, Attorney Schultz, Deputy Director Schulz and Treasurer Weber.

CONSENT AGENDA

08-09-165 MOTION by Wiggins, seconded by McShane, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- A. Special meeting minutes of July 20, 2009
- B. Regular meeting minutes of July 20, 2009
- C. City of Farmington Monthly Payments Report – July 2009
- D. Public Safety Monthly Report – July 2009
- E. Request for “Tag Days” – Fundraising Event

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

08-09-166 MOTION by Wiggins, seconded by Wright, to approve the agenda as amended; adding Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families Rubber Duck Race under Presentations/Public Hearings. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

RUBBER DUCK RACE – FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES - Ed Cleland

Ed Cleland, representing the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families, was present to discuss the success of the recent Rubber Duck Race and to thank Council for their continued support of the event.

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION – FEMA AWARD

Emergency Preparedness Commission members: Mike Sweeney, Chair, Norene Yuskowatz, Vice-Chair, Tim Tukak and Ken Murray, presented Council with a 2009 National Citizen Corps Achievement Award received by the Commission from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

McShane commended the Commission for the excellent education they provide to the community.

Responding to a question from Wiggins, Mr. Sweeney stated currently there are two openings on the commission.

PUBLIC SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Deputy Director Schulz, representing the Emergency Preparedness Commission, provided a safety tip of the month reminding all families with school age children to make sure they update their children's emergency contact cards and to review emergency procedures with their families.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Consideration to Approve Temporary Liquor License for Harvest Moon Dance

08-09-167 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Buck, to approve the Downtown Development Authority's application for a temporary liquor license for the Harvest Moon Dance scheduled for Friday, October 2, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Sundquist Pavilion and Riley Park. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Consideration to Authorize Public Safety Department to Apply for Closure of Grand River Avenue on October 24 for Streetscape Grand Opening Activities

RESOLUTION 08-09-168 Motion by Wright, seconded by Wiggins, to authorize the Public Safety Department to apply to the Michigan Department of Transportation for closure of Grand River Avenue on Saturday, October 24, 2009 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the Streetscape Grand Opening activities. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Responding to a question, Deputy Director Schulz stated the DDA has consulted with his department concerning this event. He further confirmed Grand River would be closed from Farmington Road to Grove Street.

DDA Update, Executive Director Annette Knowles

Executive Director Knowles provided an update on current activities and upcoming events in the Downtown District. She discussed the success of the

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Founders Festival, record attendance at RhythMZ in Riley Park, and Family Fun in Riley Park, an event co-sponsored by the Farmington Library. She spoke about the excitement surrounding the Streetscape Project and the success of "Its Happening" campaign that promotes the project, downtown events and merchants.

Regarding future activities, Knowles advised some of the responsibility for maintenance of the downtown was transferred to the DDA as of July 1st. She stated a familiarization tour with real estate agents is planned for October 13th. She further noted the upcoming Harvest Moon event in October and Holly Days in December.

Knowles stated they have been working with the IDeA Project and examining whether the current DDA logo reflects the recommendations made in the branding study.

Knowles discussed ongoing economic restructuring activities including: researching a business incubator for Farmington, Build Out Loan Program, business assistance teams and an intensive level historic survey.

Buck stated Director Knowles, DDA staff, board, and volunteers have done a magnificent job in furthering the success of the downtown.

McShane also congratulated Director Knowles on the many projects and events the DDA has undertaken over the last couple of years. She stated the DDA has made the City a better place in which to live.

Knowles expressed appreciation for Council's continued support of DDA events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was heard.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE SMART AGREEMENT FOR TRANSFER OF MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY CREDITS

RESOLUTION 08-09-169 Motion by McShane, seconded by Wiggins, to approve and authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) to receive municipal credits in the amount of \$9,796.00 for FY 2009-10; to provide funding for the senior and handicapped transportation system operated through the City of Farmington Hills; and to receive community credit funds of \$ 14,297.00 to be transferred to the City of Farmington Hills transportation program for expanded community transportation services. **[SEE ATTACHED AGREEMENT].**

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ROLL CALL

Ayes: Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright, Buck.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT OAKLAND COUNTY WEST NILE GRANT

RESOLUTION 08-09-170 Motion by Wiggins, seconded by Buck, to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a reimbursement request to Oakland County in the amount of \$1,933.80 under the West Nile Virus Fund program. [\[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION\]](#).

ROLL CALL

Ayes: McShane, Wiggins, Wright, Buck, Knol.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Responding to a question from Councilmember McShane, City Manager Pastue stated he is unaware of any West Nile virus cases in the City.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENERGY OFFICE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Pastue requested Council delay action on approval of the Southeast Michigan Regional Energy Office Participation Agreement until the City Attorney has a chance to review an intergovernmental agreement referred to in the agreement. He would like to discuss this agreement at the September 8, 2009 meeting.

CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT MICHIGAN GREEN COMMUNITIES CHALLENGE RESOLUTION

08-09-171 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Buck, to adopt a resolution accepting the Michigan Green Communities Challenge and pledging to work toward achieving the goals of the Basic Challenge over the next three years. [\[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION\]](#). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE #3 FOR THE GRAND RIVER STREETScape AND WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

RESOLUTION 08-09-172 Motion by Buck, seconded by Wright, to approve payment of Construction Estimate #3 to Peter A. Basile Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$154,812.21 for work completed on the Grand River Streetscape and Water Main Improvement Project.

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ROLL CALL

Ayes: Wiggins, Wright, Buck, Knol, McShane.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO REIMBURSE FOR EXPENDITURES RELATED TO WATER SYSTEM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS

RESOLUTION 08-09-173 Motion by McShane, seconded by Wiggins, to adopt a resolution declaring intent to reimburse the Water and Sewer Fund for Water System capital improvement projects with bond proceeds. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Wright, Buck, Knol, McShane, Wiggins.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT PROPOSALS REGARDING REMOVAL OF ABANDONED POOL AT 21359 BIRCHWOOD

RESOLUTION 08-09-174 Motion by Wiggins, seconded by McShane, to accept the low proposal from J.R. Mathews, Inc. in the amount of \$6,800 to remove an abandoned pool at 21359 Birchwood.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Buck, Director Gushman stated the pool needed to be removed because it is part of an abandoned home and there is no way to secure it. He stated the bank had been notified with no result leaving the City with no option but to obtain a court order for removal.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Buck, Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Downtown Development Authority

08-09-175 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Buck, to appoint Walt Gajewski to the Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors to complete an unexpired term ending February 28, 2011. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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Farmington Area Arts Commission

Council concurred to delay appointment until the candidate has had an opportunity to attend a meeting of the Arts Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Wright asked whether the reduced ticket price at the Civic Theatre had an impact on attendance.

Pastue responded attendance is more a function of the movie than the ticket price. He advised the theatre experienced low attendance for several weeks, but noted during that time the movies were not very good.

Wright wondered if the City should eliminate the strategy of reduced prices since its impact on attendance is minimal. He noted there was limited promotion on the reduced prices.

Knol concurred with returning theatre ticket prices to old rates, especially since the north side of the Streetscape has been completed and that is why they were reduced in the first place.

Buck noted in the July 20, 2009 minutes it was stated that the Industrial Waste Control (IWC) charge would have an impact on residents depending on the size of their meter. He advised following the meeting further research was conducted and it was found that this charge would have no impact on residents.

Wiggins announced the annual "Taste of the Farms" fundraiser is scheduled for Thursday, September 24th at the Finnish Cultural Center on Eight Mile Road.

ADJOURNMENT

08-09-176 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Wiggins, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Valerie S. Knol, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

APPROVED: September 21, 2009