



Special City Council Meeting
5:30 p.m., August 17, 2026
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on August 17, 2026 at 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 6:00 p.m. by Mayor LaRussa.

1. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Johnna Balk	Mayor Pro-Tem	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor	Present	
Kevin Parkins	Councilmember	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present:
City Manager, David Murphy
City Clerk, Meaghan Bachman
City Attorney, Tom Schultz
OHM Advisors, Austin Downie

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously 5-0

3. Public Comment

No members of the public spoke.

4. Agreement with Farmington Hills and the USDA for Deer Management

The agenda packet presented an agreement with the City of Farmington Hills and the United States Department of Agriculture for deer management within the City of Farmington. The proposed program provides for annual deer-management activities, donation of harvested deer to local food banks, collection of deer-population and impact data, and continued City participation in the Southeast Michigan Urban Deer Coalition.

Motion by Taylor
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to adopt the agreement with the City of Farmington Hills and the USDA for deer management within the City of Farmington and authorize the City Manager to sign the written agreements, subject to the City Attorney's final review.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

5. Other Business

Council discussed item 7-B First reading of Amendments to Article 7, Sec. 35-105(D), Article 14, Sec. 36-172 and Article Sec. 35-252 of the Zoning Ordinance – these amendments are intended to modify certain parking requirements and to include a definition of “gross usable area”.

Council concluded a discussion regarding parking requirements, gross usable floor area, and the potential application of mixed-use development standards outside the Central Business District. Councilmember Schneemann stated for the record that continued growth in downtown housing and residential density would place increasing pressure on public parking and could cause parking to spill onto nearby residential streets. He noted that, if downtown development is highly successful, a future Council may need to address downtown parking capacity.

Council discussed placing the principal shopping district renewal resolution on an upcoming agenda. It was noted that the resolution would be the first of five resolutions required to renew the principal shopping district special assessment.

6. Public Comment

No members of the public spoke.

7. City Council Comment

No Council comments were offered before the closed session.

8. Closed Session

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Schneemann

Resolved, move to enter closed session for the purpose of considering confidential written correspondence from the City Attorney.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Balk, LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann, and Taylor. Nays: None. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to exit closed session and reconvene the open meeting.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Upon reconvening, Mayor LaRussa distributed materials from a recent SEMCOG General Assembly meeting. He noted that Farmington was featured in SEMCOG's year-in-review publication and shared a regional land-use map created from data provided by communities throughout the seven-county region.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Taylor
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 PM.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Joe LaRussa, Mayor

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk