



Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, April 6, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on April 6, 2020, as a Virtual Meeting via Zoom, an electronic meeting platform. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976 and electronically as authorized by Executive Order 2020-15 signed by Governor Whitmer on March 18, 2020, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, protect the public health, and provide essential protections to vulnerable Michiganders by limiting in-person contact and the number of people interacting at public gatherings.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Bowman.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Sara Bowman	Mayor	Present	
Dave DeLind	Councilmember	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

Director Demers
City Clerk Mullison
City Manager Murphy
City Attorney Schultz
Director Weber

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move to approve the regular meeting agenda as presented.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Schneemann, Councilmember
SECONDER:	DeLind, Councilmember
AYES:	LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, DeLind

4. INFRASTRUCTURE BOND ISSUE

City Manager Murphy initiated discussion regarding the Administration's recommendation to issue the 2020 Capital Improvement Bonds for the maximum amount of \$4,000,000. On December 16, 2019 the City Council approved a resolution for the 2020 Capital Improvement Bonds to finance water and sewer and road improvement projects for a maximum amount of \$4,000,000. City Administration was budgeting the amount to borrow to be \$3,700,000. With COVID 19 causing problems with our current budget and not knowing how it will affect the 2020/2021 budget, Administration is recommending to bond for the maximum amount of \$4,000,000. The additional amount will be used to pay for the Caddell Drain, which is going to cost the City of Farmington approximately \$476,000. The money we were going to use to pay for the Caddell Drain can then be used to help cover the unknown costs that may be incurred due to COVID 19.

He noted that the source of repayment for the bonds will be: \$2,000,000 of bonds will be repaid by water and sewer revenues, \$1,500,000 of bonds will be repaid by Act 51 revenues, and \$500,000 of bonds will be repaid by the 2 mill capital improvement levy. This amounts to approximately \$65,000 per year in debt service.

Schneemann asked what some of the COVID costs might be, and Murphy listed expected loss of revenue from Roads Fund, paying employees for time off, and revenue sharing would be down. He indicated that some monies might be recoverable, but that was an unknown at this time. LaRussa asked about previous prioritization of the millage money between capital and non-capital uses because of COVID costs, and Murphy agreed that this would be a return to more of a 50/50 split. Bowman asked how the projected \$65,000 debt service was different than the previous request. Weber explained how the repayment would be accomplished. Schneemann also asked about the current bond market and Weber commented on market volatility, historic lows for interest rates, uncertainty about the desire to buy municipal bonds. He explained how the sale would occur, stating that the City has a bond attorney and a financial advisor to aid in any decisions. When asked about a contingency plan, Weber answered that bonds in the amount of \$3,500,000 would still be issued to pay for the Freedom Road project which will start soon, as well as the Bel Aire sewer lining and improvements which are scheduled to be bid out this week.

5. HIDTA GRANT RESOLUTION

Director Demers requested approval of a 2020 Sub-recipient Agreement to receive Federal funding for reimbursement of Task Force Officer Overtime Costs.

Move to approve the 2020 HIDTA Grant Subrecipient Agreement between Oakland County and the City of Farmington and authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to sign the agreement and proposed Resolution.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Schneemann, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	Schneemann, Taylor, Bowman, DeLind, LaRussa

6. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was heard

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

8. COUNCIL COMMENT

Schneemann expressed condolences to Ken Chiara's family. Chiara served on Farmington's Planning Commission for many years and lived in Farmington for a very long time. Schneemann also noted Ken Murray's passing and gave condolences to his family. Murray had served on the DDA Design Committee with Schneemann, bringing a unique perspective for projects such as the Grand River Streetscape. Both gentlemen will be missed.

LaRussa acknowledged and congratulated Walt Gajewski on his recovery and commitment to keeping the Farmers Market tradition in downtown Farmington.

Bowman stated that she was proud of City administration and staff for stepping up to the very difficult challenge we are all facing. She thanked the City administration for taking such good care of employees and staff, continuing to be sure that social distancing is maintained while insuring that all City services are continuing to move forward.

9. CLOSED SESSION– TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL/PRIVILEGED WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITY ATTORNEY

Move to enter Closed Session to consider confidential/privileged written correspondence from City Attorney.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	Taylor, Bowman, DeLind, LaRussa, Schneemann

Council entered closed session at 7:37 p.m.

Move to exit closed session.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	DeLind, Councilmember

Council exited closed session at 8:10 p.m.

10. Adjournment

Move to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Schneemann, Councilmember
SECONDER:	DeLind, Councilmember
AYES:	Bowman, DeLind, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Mary Mullison, City Clerk

Approval Date: April 20, 2020

******To view approved documents, please see the Agenda Packet link that is relevant to this meeting at <http://farmgov.com/City-Services/Government/Agendas-and-Minutes/City-Council.aspx> or contact the City Clerk.