

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Tuesday, July 5, 2005 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 Campbell.

PRESENT: Bush, Campbell, Knol, McShane, Mitchell.

ABSENT: None.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, Director Gushman, Deputy Clerk Halberstadt, Director Nebus, City Manager Pastue, Assistant City Manager Richards, Deputy Director Schulz, Attorney Schultz.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

07-05-163 MOTION by Knol, seconded by McShane, to approve the agenda as submitted. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

07-05-164 MOTION by Bush, seconded by Mitchell, to approve the special and regular meeting minutes of June 20, 2005. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

PUBLIC HEARING – GALA LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER

Administration advised that the Liquor Control Commission (LLC) received application from Natives LLC (Gala) to transfer the DDA license issued to Mrs. Lovill's Tea Cozy. Administration further advised that as part of the process for a DDA license transfer, the LLC requires that the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and City Council hold public hearings. Administration advised that the DDA public hearing had already been held.

Mayor Campbell opened the hearing and invited public comment.

State Representative Aldo Vagnozzi expressed his support for the Gala Restaurant and the liquor license transfer. He thanked Councilmember Knol for her efforts in moving the transfer forward and requested a copy of any subsequent communication relative to the transfer.

Upon hearing no further comment, Mayor Campbell requested a motion to close the public hearing.

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07-05-165 MOTION by Mitchell, seconded by Bush, to close the public hearing. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION – WIRELESS TOYZ

Administration advised that a special event application was received from Wireless Toyz to hold a grand opening on Saturday, July 16, 2005. Administration further advised that the event would not require Public Services or Public Safety assistance nor would it interfere with the Founders Festival. Administration further discussed the location of the activities on the event site and indicated that Director Nebus would ensure that there would be no sight line obstructions. Administration advised that staff has expressed no concern regarding this event.

Responding to a question from Councilmember McShane, Administration stated the hours of the event would be from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

07-05-166 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Knol, to approve a special event application from Wireless Toyz, 30780 Grand River, to hold a grand opening celebration on July 16, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Wireless Toyz parking lot. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DDA LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER

RESOLUTION 07-05-167 Motion by Bush, seconded by Mitchell, to adopt a resolution supporting the transfer of the Downtown Development Authority special liquor license from Mrs. Lovill's Tea Cozy to Natives LLC (Gala). **[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION]**. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Administration advised that annually the City enters into an agreement with the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) to receive municipal and community credits for local transportation.

RESOLUTION 07-05-168 Motion by Mitchell, seconded by Knol, 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 2005-06; to provide funding for the senior and handicapped transportation system operated through the City of Farmington Hills; and to receive community credit funds of \$ 12,718.00 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: Campbell, Knol, McShane, Mitchell, Bush.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE BIDS FOR FLEET VEHICLE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Administration advised that the FY 2005-06 budget includes an allocation for replacement of a pickup truck for the Department of Public Services.

Responding to a question, Director Gushman confirmed that vehicles are auctioned off once they are replaced.

RESOLUTION 07-05-169 Motion by McShane, seconded by Bush, to approve the purchase of a 2006 GMC pickup truck from Red Holman GMC of Westland, through the Oakland County Cooperative Purchasing Program, in the amount of \$28,989.00; funds provided in FY 2005-06 budget.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Knol, McShane, Mitchell, Bush, Campbell.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. C-709-2005 TO AMEND CITY TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDERS

Administration advised that Public Safety Director Nebus received a petition signed by sixty-three residents requesting additional stop signs along Flanders Street in Farmington Meadows Subdivision. In response to this request, Director Nebus and Traffic Engineer DeCorte developed a plan that has been approved by both the Traffic and Safety Board and residents with one modification. City Manager Pastue requested that Director Nebus review the proposed changes.

Responding to a question from McShane, Nebus stated that historically speeding has not been a problem along Flanders Street.

McShane recommended monitoring traffic on that street to determine actual speeds and expressed concern regarding children's safety. She asked that Nebus report back to Council in six months regarding the success of the new traffic order.

Mayor Campbell recommended effectively communicating these changes to residents to help avoid confusion. He expressed concern regarding speeding with the proposed removal of stop signs on Flanders.

Jill Carbone, Farmington Meadows Subdivision resident, expressed support for the proposed plan.

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Candy Desjarlais, Farmington Meadows Subdivision resident, also expressed her support for the plan.

Bush thanked the residents for bringing their traffic concerns to the Traffic and Safety Board and Council.

Mayor Campbell expressed concern that even though the proposed changes encourage school children to walk along only the north or south sides of Flanders, it is likely they will cross over to walk with friends. Nebus responded that they would attempt to educate residents through the school newsletter.

Responding to a question, Nebus stated that the changes would be implemented prior to the start of the school year.

07-05-170 MOTION by Bush, seconded by Mitchell, to introduce Ordinance C-709-2005 to amend the City of Farmington Traffic Control Orders in order to implement changes along Flanders Street. [SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE]. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO CHANGE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY RESERVE OFFICERS

Administration advised that the Public Safety Department has requested a change in the qualifications for Public Safety Reserve Officers by establishing a Fire Reserve Officer position. Administration further advised that this proposed change is due to the difficulty in recruiting reservists who are cross trained in both police and fire.

Administration expressed concurrence with the proposed change and noted that reference to qualifications for reserve officers is somewhat ambiguous in the City Charter and Code.

McShane questioned why the City is unable to recruit both fire and police reserve officers. Nebus responded that the proposed change provides for retaining current reserve officers who are already cross-trained and due to the difficulty in finding such experience, only Fire Reserve Officers would be recruited in the future. He further responded that currently there is no need for police reserves.

McShane asked about the number of reserve officers used for special events. Deputy Director Schulz responded that for both Memorial Day and Founders Festival only five reserve officers had volunteered for each event. Nebus noted that there would be sufficient staffing between the Farmington and Farmington Hills Departments, additionally the Oakland County Sheriff's Department would provide staff if needed.

RESOLUTION 07-05-171 Motion by Knol, seconded by Mitchell, to approve a change to the qualifications for Public Safety Reserve Officers by establishing a Fire Reserve Officer position that meets Firefighter I and II certifications. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH MORTON BUILDINGS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PAVILION

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Administration advised that a proposal for the pavilion had not been finalized due to a delay in finding a reasonable option for its enclosure. Administration further advised of other changes that have been incorporated in the pavilion plan including: raising it up one and one-half feet, allowances for wiring, and features associated with the restrooms and storage space.

Administration recommended that Council either grant authorization for a not-to-exceed \$260,000 contract amount or delay contract approval until the next meeting in August.

Mayor Campbell stated his support for authorizing a non-to-exceed \$260,000 contract.

Responding to a question from McShane, City Manager Pastue stated the cost of the pavilion increased from \$225,000 to approximately \$260,000. Responding to a further question, Pastue stated the storage space is limited to an 18' x 10' area. Responding to an additional question, Pastue stated that the additional cost would be covered by the pavilion fund or the contingency fund for the Downtown Project.

McShane stated her support for authorizing a not-to-exceed \$260,000 contract.

Knol also expressed her support for a not-to-exceed \$260,000 contract.

RESOLUTION 07-05-172 Motion by Bush, seconded by Mitchell, to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Morton Buildings for a not-to-exceed amount of \$260,000 for the construction of the Downtown Center Pavilion.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: McShane, Mitchell, Bush, Campbell, Knol.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MISCELLANEOUS

APPROVE MONTHLY PAYMENTS REPORT

07-05-173 MOTION by Knol, seconded by McShane, to approve the monthly payments report for June 2005. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were heard.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Responding to a question from McShane, Pastue confirmed that the Council agenda is shown on the City's cable channel.

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McShane asked about the status of timed parking in the Downtown. Pastue responded that he had met with a representative from KIMCO who acknowledged the need for some form of timed parking in front of the shopping area from Starbucks to Quizno's.

Knol inquired about the status of proposals developed by the Economic Restructuring Committee (ERC) regarding Downtown parking. She further noted that the Downtown Development Authority needs to reach a consensus regarding Downtown parking.

Pastue noted that KIMCO has a contractual interest in the Downtown Center parking lot.

City Attorney Schultz stated that parking is one of the issues on the table for discussion with KIMCO. He further stated that the proposals from the ERC could be incorporated into those discussions.

McShane asked why the dumpster near Quizno's is such a mess. Public Services Director Gushman responded that the situation had been addressed. She further asked about the planter, filled with dead plants, near Merle Norman's. She requested the total cost-to-date of maintaining the island on Farmington Road north of Grand River.

Mitchell thanked the Farmington Meadows Subdivision residents, including those attending the meeting, for bringing their traffic concerns to the Traffic and Safety Board and Council. He further thanked Director Nebus and his staff for their plan to address the issue.

Mitchell spoke about the need for blood donations and noted an article in the Red Cross Newsletter recognizing Farmington resident, Al Bennett, for donating his 100th pint of blood.

Mitchell reminded everyone of the Founders Festival the following week.

Bush noted the recent passing of Jody Sorenen who had given so much to the community and expressed how much she will be missed.

Bush discussed allowing temporary outdoor displays in the downtown area contingent upon the Code Enforcement Officer notifying these businesses that it is a temporary situation during construction.

Campbell suggested requiring businesses to follow the process for temporary outdoor display approval.

Pastue suggested a blanket approach for addressing temporary displays that would include specific restrictions. He stated that it is important to recognize the inconvenience caused by the construction to businesses and respond accordingly.

McShane recommended establishing parameters for a blanket approach.

Bush asked if the Mayor had met with Mr. Cowley. Mayor Campbell responded that a meeting had not taken place due to scheduling conflicts, but that he would follow up.

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Mayor Campbell noted the unattractiveness of an oversized sign on Farmington Road at Flanders Street in Farmington Hills and suggested sending a picture of it and/or arranging a meeting with City Manager Brock concerning this issue. Bush encouraged Administration to call Farmington Hills regarding code violation concerns.

Knol asked about the status of Frank's Nursery in the Uptown Plaza. Pastue responded that the site plan submitted by the Crossing Church for that location had been approved and as a result there would be a substantial change in appearance of both the building and parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT

07-05-174 MOTION by Bush, seconded by McShane, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Arnold T. Campbell, Mayor

Patsy K. Cantrell, City Clerk/Treasurer

Susan K. Halberstadt, Recording Secretary

APPROVED: AUGUST 1, 2005