



FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on August 17, 2015, in 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, MI. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor William Galvin.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Greg Cowley	Councilmember	Present	
William Galvin	Mayor	Present	
JoAnne McShane	Councilmember	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Jeff Scott	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

Director Christiansen
Director Demers
Superintendent Eudy
City Clerk Halberstadt
City Manager Murphy
Attorney Schultz
Treasurer Weber

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sara Bowman, Planning Commission Chairperson and candidate for City Council, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Goss, former Public Safety Director, spoke on behalf of Public Safety retirees, in recognition of the upcoming retirement of Councilmember McShane and the contributions she has made to the community.

Councilmember McShane thanked the retirees for their recognition and their contribution to the Public Safety Department.

4. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the items on the consent agenda as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeff Scott, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

- A. Consideration to Accept and File the Financial Reports for the City of Farmington Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for the TCF Project**
- B. Consideration to Accept Michael Kish's Resignation from the Construction Board of Appeals**
- C. Consideration to Re-Appoint Paul Bertin to the Zoning Board of Appeals**
- D. Special Event Request-American Legion Groves-Walker Post 346, 9-11 Memorial Service**
- E. Consideration to Approve Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership**
- F. Farmington Monthly Payments Report**
- G. Public Safety Monthly Report**
- H. Approval of Minutes**
 - 1. Minutes of the City Council - Regular - Jul 20, 2015 7:00 PM**
 - 2. Minutes of the City Council - Special - Jul 20, 2015 6:00 PM**
 - 3. Minutes of the City Council - Special - Jun 29, 2015 7:00 PM**

5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Motion to approve the regular meeting agenda as amended, adding Item 8D, Resolution Amending Resolution Authorizing 2015 Capital Improvement Bonds; and add Item 11, Closed Session for Land Acquisition, moving Adjournment to Item 12.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

6. PRESENTATION/PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Present Proclamation to Former Farmington Hills City Manager Steve Brock

Mayor Galvin presented a proclamation to former Farmington Hills City Manager Steve Brock in honor and recognition of his recent retirement and his many achievements and significant contributions to both communities.

Brock expressed his appreciation to Council for their kind words and recognition.

B. DTE Presentation

DTE Representatives Mike Palchesko, Regional Manager for Corporate and Governmental Affairs for Oakland County, Mike Witkowski, Supervising Engineer for the Southwest Region, and Caitlin Pendergast, Distribution Planning Engineer provided a presentation on DTE's infrastructure investment strategy and upgrades for Farmington and Farmington Hills, protocol for trimming trees and plans for two circuits out of the Farmington sub-station.

Witkowski discussed DTE's investment strategy for upgrading over 60-70% of outages are related to tree events

Palchesko described the process for trimming and removing trees, emphasizing communication with customers.

Scott pointed out the number of outages has increased over the last 4-5 years. He noted frayed wires are visible outside of his office.

Witkowski advised DTE continues to update its standards. He noted the frayed wires is the result of insulation coming off. He stated it looks bad, but does not represent a serious problem.

Scott questioned how Farmington compares to other communities in terms of the number of outages outside of major storms. He stated the city is attempting to attract new businesses and dependable service is critical.

Palchesko stated DTE is always looking to be proactive in maintaining service and keeping outages to a minimum.

Discussion followed regarding DTE's procedure for trimming and removing trees.

McShane expressed concern regarding a terrible situation in the northern suburbs where trees were clear cut. She wants to make sure DTE has the tools in place to make sure that will not happen again.

Palchesko responded the tree trimming program was paused as a result of the clear cut trees. They have since rolled out a new program that has a heavy emphasis on communication with residents.

Discussion followed regarding the high cost of installing underground lines.

Schneemann asked regarding DTE's response to a resident who opposes trimming or removal of a tree.

Palchesko described their effort to work with the resident in finding a common solution. They will not remove a tree if a resident remains in opposition to its removal, however, trimming will take place where it is necessary

Cowley discussed a number of redevelopment opportunities in Farmington and questioned how DTE accommodates significant increase in usage.

Witkowski stated every fall DTE conducts an area load analysis and anything over 100% they have to do work. They also conduct an analysis when a new business comes on line. He stated currently there are no circuit overloads in Farmington.

Galvin thanked them for their presentation and requested reports on an annual basis.

C. Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce: Founders Festival Report & Request to Approve Dates for 2016: July 14 - July 16

Present: Dan Irvin, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce Director, and Kristin Curle

Irvin thanked Council and the community for their incredible support of the Founders Festival. He discussed what worked and didn't work during the Festival.

Cowley asked about moving the date of the Festival given it competes with the Ann Arbor Art Fair every year. He understands this is not a popular idea, but it needs to be discussed.

McShane requested the Chamber find a way to plan a meeting to increase citizen engagement where they can share their thoughts and ideas regarding the festival. Irvin pointed out anyone can join the festival committee.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Irvin stated the Festival was more profitable over last year.

Motion to approve the dates of Thursday, July 14 through Sunday, July 17, 2016 for the Farmington Founders Festival.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to Approve Detroit Water and Sewer Contracts

City Administration advised that on June 12, 2015 an agreement to lease the assets of the Detroit water supply and sewage disposal systems was reached between the Detroit Water and Sewer Department and the Great Lakes Water Authority. Under the terms of the agreement with Detroit, Article 13 requires the City of Farmington to give written consent to assign the contract over to the Great Lakes Water Authority.

McShane stated she has studied this issue and listened to various proponents who are well-informed regarding the contract before Council. She has to trust the intelligent folks from the three counties who analyzed the current water and sewer structure and developed the best plan going forward.

McShane expressed disappointment that there are no alternatives to this plan. She doesn't want to always engage in rate increases. She expressed hope that the counties will have more influence over the infrastructure and rates going forward.

Cowley expressed concern over ever-increasing water rates. He stated double digit increases year over year are not sustainable. He noted there is an opt-out clause in the agreement. He stated locally we need to mind our own store and figure out if we are purchasing correctly.

Galvin stated that for the first time in history residents of Farmington and the three counties will have a voice through the Great Lakes Water Authority in the operations of

the Detroit water and sewer system and the rates. He noted it is important for citizens to understand that this is a component of the Detroit Bankruptcy agreement.

Motion to adopt resolutions regarding assignment agreements with the City of Detroit and the Great Lakes Water Authority for water and sewer contracts.
[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTIONS].

The votes were taken in the following order: Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott, Cowley.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeff Scott, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

B. Consideration for Special Event Permission for Swift Night Out at 31505 Grand River Avenue (The Old Winery)

City Administration requested Council approval of a special event request for Swift Night Out at the old winery.

David White, owner of the winery, was present to discuss the event.

Motion to approve a special event request for Swift Night Out at 31505 Grand River Avenue (the old winery), on September 12 & 13, 6-9 pm both days, to raise awareness for the chimney Swifts and raise funds to preserve the chimney.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Jeff Scott, Councilmember
AYES:	Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

C. 1976 : Consideration to Appoint Delegate for Annual MML Meeting September 16-18, 2015 in Traverse City, Mich

City Administration requested Council appoint a delegate to the annual Michigan Municipal League meeting.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Murphy advised Council approval of this event is required because of the request to serve alcohol.

Motion to appoint Mayor Bill Galvin as Farmington's delegate to the annual Michigan Municipal League meeting scheduled for September 16-18, 2015 and Mayor Pro Tem Steve Schneemann as the alternate.

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Jeff Scott, Councilmember
SECONDER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

D. Resolution Amending Resolution Authorizing 2015 Capital Improvement Bonds

1. Motion to adopt a resolution amending Resolution Authorizing 2015 Capital Improvement Bonds.

Motion to adopt a resolution amending resolution authorizing 2015 Capital Improvement Bonds. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
SECONDER: Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

9. DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Eudy advised that the concrete has been replaced at the pavilion.

Demers stated he issued a press release indicating Safewise.com has identified Farmington as the 27th safest city in Michigan. He stated 2013 data was used for this recognition and crime has continued to go down since then. They are moving forward on field training program with their newest hire, Chris Saunders. He is hoping to bring the 23rd and final officer on in September.

Christiansen provided an update on redevelopment projects in the city. He stated a meeting with business owners will be held the following day regarding the Fresh Thyme project. He stated that project is scheduled for completion next Spring.

Halberstadt provided an update on Mansion events.

10. COUNCIL COMMENT

Cowley advised the Parking Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday, August 19th. He reminded citizens there will be disruption in the downtown parking lot during the Fresh Thyme construction. He stated the Committee is migrating towards four un-timed parking locations in the downtown. He advised City Council approved 3-hour parking limit in all public spots in the downtown. He stated the Department of Public Safety is enforcing the time limited parking and noted that it is working.

Galvin noted this has been a year of transition for the city including adding a new City Manager and increased redevelopment. He stated in the last four months there has not been enough time given to economic development and as a result has called for a third meeting on the fourth Monday of the month for August, September and October.

11. CLOSED SESSION

1. Motion to enter closed session to discuss land acquisition.

Council entered closed session at 8:55 PM.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
SECONDER: Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

2. Motion to exit closed session.

Council exited closed session at 9:35 PM.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
SECONDER: Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

12. CLOSED SESSION DIRECTIVE

1. Motion to direct City Administration to move forward with land acquisition as discussed in closed session.

The votes were taken in the following order: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER: Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

13. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: JoAnne McShane, Councilmember
SECONDER: Jeff Scott, Councilmember
AYES: Cowley, Galvin, McShane, Schneemann, Scott

William E. Galvin, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: _____