



**Special Organizational Meeting
6:00 p.m., November 17, 2025
Conference Room
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335**

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A special organizational meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on November 17, 2025, at 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 6:00 PM by City Manager David Murphy.

1. OATH OF OFFICE - ADMINISTERED BY MEAGHAN BACHMAN, CLERK

Clerk Bachman administered the Oath of Office to Councilmembers, Maria Taylor, Kevin Parkins and Steven Schneemann.

2. ROLL CALL

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

City Administration Present:

City Manager, David Murphy
Assistant City Manager, Chris Weber
City Clerk, Meaghan Bachman
City Treasurer/Finance Director Jaime Pohlman
City Attorney, Beth Saarela

3. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Motion by Taylor
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

4. ELECTION OF MAYOR – David Murphy, City Manager Called for Nominations

Motion by Taylor
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, Councilmember Taylor moved to appoint LaRussa to serve as the Mayor for the City of Farmington.

Roll Call Vote:
Yea: Balk, LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor
Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

Mayor LaRussa will preside over remainder of meeting

5. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Motion by LaRussa
Seconded by Parkins

Resolved, Mayor LaRussa moved to appoint Balk to serve as the Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Farmington.

Roll Call Vote:
Yea: Balk, LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor
Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION TO APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SERVE ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

- A. Farmington Retiree Health Care Board of Trustees (Mayor) LaRussa
- B. Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors (typically mayor) LaRussa
- C. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority - Schneemann
- D. Farmington Election Commission – Taylor
- E. S.E.M.C.O.G. (member plus alternate) – LaRussa and Parkins
- F. Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority - Taylor
- G. Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce - Parkins
- H. Charter Review Committee - Taylor
- I. Downtown Farmington Public Parking Committee - Parkins
- J. Commission for Children, Youth and Families - Schneemann
- K. Pathways Committee - Taylor
- L. Farmington Area Arts Commission - Balk
- M. Founders Festival Committee – Balk

N. Historical – Parkins

Motion by Schneemann
Seconded by Balk

Resolved, move to adopt the resolution reassigning Council Members to serve on various boards and commissions as noted above.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public spoke.

8. PLANTE MORAN AUDIT DISCUSSION

Audit Discussion: Representatives from Plante Moran presented the results of the financial statement audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. The city received an unmodified opinion, the highest form of assurance.

General fund assets were down about \$416,000, largely due to cash from the previous year.

Liabilities were down about \$676,000, largely due to ARPA funds that had been earned as the city spent about \$550,000.

The capital improvement millage fund assets were up about \$387,000 due to amounts due from grants related to the salt dome and fitness courts.

General fund total revenue was up about \$562,000, with \$304,000 of that from property tax increases due to increased taxable values.

The pension plan was 67.2% funded, down slightly from 67.8% last year but still above the 60% threshold that would require a state corrective action plan.

The retiree health care (OPEB) funding decreased from 114% to just under 98% due to increases in health care cost trend rates.

The general fund had an increase of about \$227,000 compared to the budgeted increase of about \$36,000.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager Murphy discussed a request from Todd Lipo, director of CARES, to post a video on the city website. City Manager Murphy recommended against it to avoid setting a precedent that would require posting content from all non-city organizations. The Council discussed the distinction between promoting city-approved events versus non-city organizations. The

consensus was to maintain a policy that limits website content to city-related entities and events.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public spoke.

11. COUNCIL COMMENT

Mayor Pro-Tem Balk congratulated all elected officials and welcomed them back.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to adjourn the special meeting at 6:51 PM.

Motion carried unanimously

Joe LaRussa, Mayor

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk