



City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., April 20, 2026
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on April 20, 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 7:32 PM 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	Excused	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present:

City Manager, David Murphy
City Clerk, Meaghan Bachman
Assistant City Manager, Chris Weber
City Attorney, Beth Saarela

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

Mike Sweeney from the Emergency Preparedness Commission presented on road construction safety, emphasizing patience during the orange barrel season and warning about distracted driving dangers.

James Aaron, 22814 Brookdale, proposed organizing a Porch Fest event for August 8th, citing similar successful events in other cities and requesting city support for this musical event.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Parkins
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- A. City of Farmington Minutes
- B. Farmington Monthly Payments Report
- C. Farmington Public Safety Monthly Report
- D. Special Events:
 - Farmington Schools Back to School Picnic
 - Memorial Day Parade
- E. Building Department Quarterly Report
- F. Purchase of Public Safety Firearms

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

5. Approval of the Regular Agenda

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the regular agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

6. Presentation/Public Hearing**6-A Pathways Committee**

Heather Davies, Chair of the Pathways Committee, presented comprehensive accomplishments for 2025 including identifying 16 potential Grand River Avenue crossing locations, conducting community surveys with 529 respondents, and coordinating safety improvements at various locations. It was reported that the committee worked with MDOT on pedestrian crossing proposals and collaborated with city departments to resolve 10-15 sidewalk hazard areas throughout the community. The Pathways Committee contributed to securing a \$480,000 grant for Drake Road sidewalk installation and safety upgrades at key intersections.

7. New Business**7-A Bellacino's Redevelopment Liquor License**

Assistant City Manager Chris Weber presented a redevelopment liquor license application for Wayne Gate LLC (Bellacino's) at 22424 Orchard Lake Road, with attorney Chris Tower explaining the \$75,000 investment requirement and plans for adding a hot dog stand operation.

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

RESOLVED, move to approve a Redevelopment Liquor License Application Resolution for Landgate, LLC (dba Bellacino's Pizza & Grinders), 22424 Orchard Lake Road.

Roll Call Vote:
Yeas: Balk, LaRussa, Parkins, Taylor
Nays: None
Motion carried unanimously 4-0

8. Public Comment

No members of the public spoke.

9. Council Comment

Mayor Pro Tem Balk congratulated Farmington on winning the 2026 Great American Main Street award. She thanked everyone who contributed to this achievement.

Mayor LaRussa also congratulated Farmington on winning the 2026 Great American Main Street award. He thanked everyone who volunteered their time and commitments to make Farmington successful.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Joe LaRussa, Mayor

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk