



City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., December 15, 2025
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on December 15, 2025, 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 7:23 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 | Present | |
| Maria Taylor | Councilmember | Present | |

City Administration Present:

City Manager, David Murphy
Assistant City Manager, Chris Weber
City Clerk, Meaghan Bachman
Public Safety Director, Bob Houhanisin
DDA Director, Jessica Westendorf
City Attorney, Beth Saarela
Civic Theater Manager, Clare Cooney

2. Public Comment

Mike Sweeney from the Emergency Preparedness Commission provided winter preparedness recommendations and tips.

3. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- A. City of Farmington Minutes
- B. Farmington Public Safety Monthly Report
- C. Form 5572 Submittal - Pension and OPEB
- D. Revised 2026 City Council Meeting Dates
- E. SMART Agreement

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

4. Approval of the Regular Agenda

Motion by Schneemann
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve the consent agenda as presented with the following amendment:

Add: 6-D payment for Robertson Brothers.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-A. Civic Theater Liquor License

Motion by Taylor
Supported by Balk

Clare Clooney presented a proposal for theater concession upgrades, specifically requesting a municipal civic center liquor license for the Farmington theater. She discussed that the theater would install a small bar in the upstairs lobby serving canned beer and poured wine.

Resolved, move to adopt resolution approving on-premises municipal civic center liquor license application.

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

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-B. DDA 2026 Events Calendar, Temporary Liquor License Applications, Street Closures and Designated Sidewalk Shopping

Motion by Balk
Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to Adopt Resolution Approving the 2026 DDA Community Events Calendar, Temporary Liquor License Applications, Street Closures and Designated Sidewalk Shopping dates as presented.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-C. Board and Commission Appointment: Board of Review

Motion by Balk

Supported by Parkins

Resolved, move to appoint Ula Kajtoch to the Farmington Board of Review for a term ending December 31, 2028.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

6-D. Payment to Robertson Brothers

Assistant City Manager Chris Weber presented grant payment approval for Robertson Brothers, explaining that EGLE had approved eligible costs and dispersed \$500,000 in grant funds, with \$497,000 requested for disbursement to Robertson Brothers for environmental cleanup and demolition activities.

Motion by Parkins

Supported by Taylor

Resolved, move to approve grant payment to Robertson Brothers.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: LaRussa, Parkins, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk

Nays: None

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

7. Public Comment

No members of the public spoke.

8. Council Comment

Mayor LaRussa announced that Farmington received \$481,675 in transportation alternatives program funding from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) for sidewalk and crossing improvements. The city has made the covers of multiple statewide association publications and completed the second public space project.

Mayor LaRussa noted the city has done a lot of great things and felt that it is a testament to the leadership of the City Council and the diligence and the hard work of the administration, the department chairs and the department teams as well. He noted it has been a great year and is looking forward to another great year.

9. Closed Session

Motion by Taylor
Supported by Balk

Resolved, move to convene into closed session to discuss labor negotiations and confidential correspondence from the City Attorney.

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

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

Reconvene into Regular Meeting

Motion by Balk
Supported by Schneemann

Resolved, to reconvene into the regular meeting.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

Vote on Closed Session Item

Motion by LaRussa
Supported by Taylor

Resolved, move to ratify the POAM agreement as presented, subject to final amendments or minor modifications that may be determined by our labor attorney, the city's attorney, or the City of Farmington.

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

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

10. Adjournment

Motion by Schneemann

Seconded by Taylor

Resolved, move to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0

Joe LaRussa, Mayor

Meaghan K. Bachman, City Clerk