



Special City Council Meeting
7:00 PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015
City Council Chambers
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A Special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, September 8, 2015, in City Council Chambers, 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 p.m. by Mayor William Galvin.

1. ROLL CALL

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
- City Manager Murphy
- Director Eudy
- Director Demers
- Attorney Schultz
- Clerk Halberstadt

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

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4. NEW BUSINESS

A. PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2015

Consideration to Adopt a Proclamation for Recognition of September 2015 as National Recovery Month

City Manager Murphy stated that Christy Nichols from the Office of Substance Abuse Services formally submitted a request to Farmington, as well as other Oakland County communities to approve a proclamation designating September as National Recovery Month to promote awareness about substance abuse and recovery.

McShane inquired if Call to Action Coalition was still active and Demers replied in the affirmative with a meeting set up for the second week in September and then their annual kick-off breakfast in October. He stated the Coalition's purpose is to provide a media to the community for those who need help who are struggling with substance use/abuse as well as family members of people who are struggling with substance abuse. They provide a hotline for people to call to get help and point them in the direction of resources and are essentially a community resource for people struggling with addiction and abuse.

Schneemann stated he had read that heroin use had spiked recently and Demers confirmed it and stated they had seen more cases within the last couple years. He indicated that the drug is readily available and costs about \$10 a gram and that there seemed to be an increase in the utilization of it as a form of a pain killer as it is cheaper than prescription drugs.

McShane commented that oftentimes people get hooked on prescription drugs and turn to illicit drugs to feed their addiction.

Galvin suggested that the proclamation be issued in the form of a press release and McShane stated a copy should be sent to the Call To Action Coalition.

Motion to adopt a proclamation recognizing September 2015 as National Recovery Month in the City of Farmington.

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

B. Consideration to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement with SMART for Municipal Credits and Community Credits on behalf of the City for Fiscal Year 2016

Murphy stated each year the City enters into an agreement with the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) to receive municipal and community credits for local transportation programs. The credit amount remains at \$10,184.00 and the community credits provides \$13,136.00. He provided a history of the Dial-A-Ride Program within the communities of Farmington/Farmington Hills.

Motion to authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with SMART for Municipal Credits and Community Credits on behalf of the City for Fiscal Year 2016. [SEE ATTACHED CONTRACT].

Galvin informed Murphy that the Dial-A-Ride Program was expanded several years ago and that he may want to take a look at its components.

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

C. CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF ELIZABETH TURTON FROM THE DOWNTOWN FARMINGTON PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Murphy stated Turton resigned from her position on the Parking Advisory Committee due to her move to Farmington Hills. He noted she held a resident position on the committee and also served as chairperson.

Cowley praised her input on the committee and requested Council consider either retaining her on the committee until her 2-year term expires; or allow

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Farmington Hills residents to participate on Farmington Boards and Commissions.

Schneemann stated he would support retaining her on the committee to complete her term. He would also support allowing Farmington Hills residents to serve on Boards and Commissions.

McShane expressed opposition to Farmington Hills residents serving on Farmington Boards and Commissions. She raised a concern regarding a pattern of changing the rules to meet individual needs.

Scott concurred with McShane and noted historically residents have always served on the boards and commissions given they are the stakeholders of the city. He questioned what other alternatives may be available.

Galvin asked Attorney Schultz what the next steps would be if Council did not accept Turton's resignation.

Schultz advised that if Council wished her to remain on the committee, Council would need to adopt a resolution accordingly and an amendment must be made to the Parking Committee bylaws. He noted more formal boards like the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission would have far different ramifications. He said in order to keep a non-resident on the committee to complete her term, Council would need to direct City Administration to amend the committee bylaws and pass a resolution allowing her to fulfill her term.

Cowley spoke regarding the qualities and insight Turton brings to the committee. He confirmed she would be open to staying on the committee.

Responding to a question from McShane, Cowley indicated there are two resident positions on the committee.

McShane expressed concern over changing the rules. She indicated Council has not had enough time to carefully consider this issue.

Schneemann was comfortable making a decision because the Parking Committee is only an Ad Hoc Committee as indicated by Schultz.

Motion by Cowley to accept the resignation of Elizabeth Turton from the Downtown Farmington Parking Advisory Committee.

Motion failed for lack of support.

Motion by Cowley to allow Elizabeth Turton to fulfill her term on the Downtown Farmington Parking Advisory Committee; and direct City Administration to amend the bylaws and adopt a resolution accordingly.

Motion failed for lack of support.

Scott stated he would like to know the definitive length of her remaining term before voting.

Motion to table the agenda item until the length of Turton's unexpired term on the Downtown Farmington Parking Advisory Committee is determined.

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

D. Consideration to renew Farmington Road Maintenance Agreement with the Road Commission for Oakland County

City Administration recommended City Council approval to renew the Farmington Road Maintenance Agreement with the Road Commission for Oakland County. The annual agreement would be effective October 1, 2015. The City provides ordinary maintenance on Farmington Road between Eight Mile and Grand River.

Responding to a question from McShane, Eudy stated the city has not requested an increase in funding in the last three years. He stated his predecessor had made a request for additional funds and was denied.

Schneemann stated he would support a motion that included a request to Oakland County for more funds.

Discussion followed regarding opportunities to reduce road maintenance costs.

Motion to renew a Road Maintenance Agreement with the Road Commission for Oakland County with the provision that City Administration requests an increase in compensation.

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

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Motion to take Item 4C, Consideration to Accept the Resignation of Elizabeth Turton from the Downtown Farmington Parking Advisory Committee, off the table.

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

Schultz clarified the terms and makeup of the Parking Advisory Committee, confirming that Turton’s term is for two years.

Motion to allow Elizabeth Turton to fulfill her term on the Downtown Farmington Parking Advisory Committee; and direct City Administration to amend the bylaws and adopt a resolution accordingly.

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

E. Consideration to approve a resolution to execute the Interlocal Agreement with the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team

City Administration provided background on the Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET) stating that the Farmington Public Safety Department assigns one officer to the team who works alongside others from agencies throughout Oakland County to investigate drug trafficking throughout the County and Southeastern Michigan. The Agreement is required from all participating NET agencies.

Motion to approve a resolution executing an Interlocal Agreement with the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team. [SEE ATTACHED AGREEMENT].

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

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F. Consideration to Approve Traffic Control Order- Additional 15 Minute Loading Zone on Thomas Street East of Farmington Road

City Administration stated that in an effort to alleviate congestion caused by delivery vehicles on Thomas Street, east of Farmington Road, the Parking Committee recommends the addition of a 15 minute loading zone to be located in an area behind the businesses at 23704 Farmington Road and 33338 Grand River Avenue. The Order will not be enforced until the sign is installed.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Demers stated the affected businesses are Cowley's and Farmington Shoe Repair.

McShane expressed concern that the loading zone would block traffic. Cowley stated the loading zone is needed to alleviate congestion and facilitate more deliveries in the right spot.

Motion to approve a resolution to amend Traffic Control Orders allowing an additional 15 minute loading zone on Thomas Street, east of Farmington Road. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

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

G. Consideration to Approve Traffic Control Order-Loading Zone on Thomas Street

City Administration advised that in an effort to alleviate congestion caused by delivery vehicles on Thomas Street west of Warner, and to allow for more efficient use of the north municipal parking lot, the parking committee is recommending an addition of a 15-minute loading zone to be located on the south side of Thomas Street along the north curb of the island located in the municipal lot behind 33316 Grand River Avenue. The committee requests Council approval of a resolution to amend Traffic Control Orders accordingly. The order will not be enforced until signage is installed.

Demers identified the site as being an island in the north parking lot directly north of the Basement Burger Bar. The committee is asking to replace the "no parking" sign along the island and making it a 15-minute loading zone. He stated this is another area where there has been bottleneaking of delivery trucks.

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Scott expressed concern that cars will be blocked if this loading zone is approved.

Demers noted there is no established loading zone in the north lot. He stated drivers create their own way to make deliveries and this Traffic Order will establish one.

Scott indicated he needed more information before voting on this matter.

Christiansen stated the alternatives are to make no change and continue traffic congestion caused by the deliveries; or identify a loading area providing consistency in deliveries.

McShane suggested a trial period of six months for the Traffic Order and re-evaluate it at the end of that period.

Motion to approve a resolution to amend Traffic Control Orders, establishing a loading zone in the municipal lot behind 33316 Grand River Avenue for a six month period. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

RESULT:	APPROVED [4-1]
MOVER:	Steve Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Greg Cowley, Councilmember
AYES:	Galvin, McShane, Schneeman, Cowley
NAYS:	Scott

H. Consideration to Amend Traffic Control Order-Time Limited Parking Behind 33200 Grand River Avenue

City Administration advised that in an effort to better manage the available parking in downtown Farmington, the Parking Committee is recommending the addition of three-hour time-limited parking in the municipal lot behind 33200 Grand River Avenue. The Committee recommends approval of the proposed Traffic Control Amendment which will take effect when new signage is installed.

Galvin asked what business was located at 33200 Grand River and Demers responded Los Tres Amigos.

McShane asked regarding when signs would be posted informing people of the location of untimed parking.

Cowley responded the Committee will recommend location of signage at their September 23rd meeting. He stated no budget has been established. He advised a map will be included in the Main Street Messenger regarding

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changes in downtown parking. He noted signage will be installed within 30-45 days. He went on to state this proposal has been presented to the DDA.

Galvin summarized the issues addressed by the Parking Committee are employee parking problems first and all else second; and Cowley agreed.

Cowley stated there are over 500 parking spots in the four untimed parking locations in which employees can park, including Masonic Temple, Farmington Library, Maxwell Training Center, and TJ Maxx. He stated TJ Maxx is allowing use of their lot for employee parking.

Motion to approve a resolution to amend Traffic Control Orders to establish time-limited parking behind 33200 Grand River Avenue.
[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION].

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

I. Consideration to Amend Traffic Control Order-Time Limited Parking on Grand River Avenue

City Administration advised that in an effort to better manage available parking in downtown Farmington, the Parking Committee is recommending that two-hour time limited parking currently on the north and south sides of Grand River Avenue be amended to one-hour time limited parking. The Committee recommends Council approval of a resolution formally approving the proposed traffic control order amendment which will take effect upon installation of signage.

Responding to a question from Galvin, Demers stated the Committee held significant discussion on this issue and determined that one-hour timed parking would create sufficient turnover for the street side parking spots.

Cowley stated they are trying to create turnover and this is not achieved with the current two hour timed parking.

Further discussion was held on the subject of educating the public on the time limits.

Schneemann stated he was uncertain that the change is needed on the Grand River parking.

Galvin asked why two hours is not working and Cowley cited the Walker Study that showed 90 minutes is optimum. He noted the Committee had

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strong support for 30-minute parking for the sixteen spots along Grand River.

Scott noted the City's efforts in promoting foot traffic and that two-hour parking accommodated shoppers. He does not believe a change is needed at this time.

McShane discussed the hours of enforcement and who they impacted.

Murphy noted that most of the Committee endorsed 30-minute parking and City Administration struggled to increase it to an hour.

Galvin advised that more metrics should be supplied before a decision can be made on this item.

No motion was offered.

J. Consideration to Authorize the Lease of 4 Multipurpose Printer/Copier/Scanner/Fax Machines and 1 Color Printer

City Administration recommended the lease of four multipurpose printer/copier/scan/fax machines and one color printer for a period of five years, where at the end of the lease the City will have the opportunity to continue leasing the equipment on a month-to-month basis, purchase the equipment at fair market value or return the equipment. This equipment will replace all devices in the City Hall and the DPW Building.

Discussion was held on the topic concerning costs and features.

Motion to Authorize the Lease of 4 Multipurpose Printer/Copier/Scanner/Fax Machines and 1 Color Printer

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

(Break in proceedings at 8:55 p.m.)
(Reconvene at 9:04 p.m.)

5. Other Business

A. Discuss MDOT Road Scoping Project – Jon Kramer, OHM

Christiansen provided background on the road scoping project that began with the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA). Farmington engaged City

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engineers in 2014 to prepare a traffic analysis which included evaluation of existing conditions on Grand River from Shiawassee through downtown east to Orchard Lake Road. The evaluation included a review of the physical condition of the road, assessing capacity and taking traffic counts to determine volumes. The evaluation report was shared with the CIA as well as City Council.

Christiansen stated following the evaluation report, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) was engaged and a scoping project followed. MDOT issued a report that separated Grand River into three segments for project purposes. MDOT also gathered information from both cities as to what changes they would like to see made. He detailed some of the other findings in the report briefly.

Eudy explained MDOT's position on doing a full restoration.

Jon Kramer, from OHM, explained the scoping study process. He stated the project is in its early stages and it would probably be 2020 before the city sees any changes.

Eudy stated the study did touch on establishing bike lanes on Grand River from Farmington Road to Shiawassee area by changing the 10' lanes to 12'.

Scott summarized the report by stating that MDOT is focused on interchanges at Halstead and the area by Target and M-5. He stated the report does not address walkability issues and that "complete streets" needs to be addressed.

Further discussion was held on the project.

Kramer explained the criteria needed for MDOT.

Christiansen stated that the question is whether the city is willing to put in the funds to redo Grand River and what the city would be required to pay, i.e. for the study and resulting upgrades.

Eudy stated there are no funds provided in the MDOT report for Farmington to improve its water main or sanitary sewer. However, MDOT would freshen up the storm sewer, but not replace pipes.

Schneemann asked regarding the city's financial responsibility for the project. Murphy responded the city would be responsible for the study and for the upgrades to the water sewer mains.

Further discussion was held regarding projected costs.

Schneemann stated he was under the impression that if Farmington and Farmington Hills can reach an agreement regarding their goals for Grand

River, MDOT would be willing to go to proceed with a full reconstruction and takeback. Christiansen responded that possibility was discussed. Schneemann stated that that seems like an amazing opportunity for the city.

Scott stated that the city needs MDOT to incur the costs for the design stage.

Kramer stated the incentive for MDOT to perform the work on Grand River is the opportunity to turn it back over to the cities.

Further discussion was held regarding study costs.

Christiansen stated it is a positive move that MDOT met with both cities and is considering the request for turnover. They agreed to do the scoping study and incur the costs.

Galvin asked what two changes Council would like to make on Grand River in going through this process.

McShane stated a road diet, with walking/biking lane, and entertain the takeback of Grand River when costs are known.

Schneemann agreed with McShane that a road diet is critical and wants to see Grand River become more multi-modal and friendly.

Cowley was in agreement with McShane and Schneemann, but expressed concern regarding the unknown costs.

Scott stated road diet is number one and the ability to start the diet in the interim. He would like to start to move multi-modal and complete streets forward.

Galvin indicated he would like to see walkability west of Drake.

7. Council Comment

McShane noted DTE is doing tree trimming in Royal Oak and Birmingham without following protocol. She asked how Farmington will prevent that from happening here.

McShane heard that a hydroponic store is planned for the Drakeshire Plaza. She questioned whether that is the type of business the city wants there.

Schneemann stated the importance of continuing to press our case with Farmington Hills and compel MDOT to move forward with changes to Grand River. He would like a clear understanding of the next steps that need to be taken.

Cowley indicated the Grand River project is similar to the steps taken with the Streetscape Project. He stated it is a combination of negotiation and metrics with the same challenge of how to cover the costs. He thanked Council for the strategy utilized in resolving the reappointment of Turton to the Parking Committee.

Galvin asked if the Mayor should serve on the Board of Directors for Chamber of Commerce or does the city want to maintain a seat, but not necessarily filled by the Mayor. He updated Council on the Farmington Hills City Manager search.

Murphy requested feedback on the draft of the Parks and Recreation Policy that was distributed to Council.

9. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 p.m.

William E. Galvin, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: November 16, 2015

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