



Special/Study Session Meeting  
6:00 p.m., Monday, June 19, 2017 6 p.m.  
Conference Room  
23600 Liberty Street  
Farmington, MI 48335

**FINAL**

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## **SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on June 19, 2017, in Farmington City Hall, 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 Mayor William Galvin.

### **1. ROLL CALL**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Sara Bowman	Councilmember	Present	
Greg Cowley	Councilmember	Present	
William Galvin	Mayor	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Jeff Scott	Councilmember	Present	

#### **City Administration Present**

Director Demers  
City Clerk Halberstadt  
City Manager Murphy  
Attorney Saarela

### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem Schneemann
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Cowley
<b>AYES:</b>	Bowman, Cowley, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott

### **3. Public Comment**

No public comment was heard.

### **4. Discuss Proposed Addition to Parking Ordinance:**

- **Moving vehicles in same lot for the purpose of extending parking time-  
Civil Infraction**
- **Removing or altering a parking enforcement officer's tire mark-  
Civil Infraction**

Public Safety Director Demers provided information about the recurring issues of car shuffling and the removal of tire marks in the North and South parking lots. The matter

was brought before Council in February, but no action was taken at that time due to concerns expressed at that meeting.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Demers stated those concerns were shared with the Parking Advisory Committee. He stated the Committee discussed targeting business owners and employees specifically, as opposed to creating an ordinance. He informed them that Parking Enforcement Officers made attempts to gain cooperation from business owners, but failed. The consensus of the Committee is that an ordinance is the best tool to solve the issue.

Schneemann recalled that car shuffling from one timed lot to another was previously discussed and was a concern for Council.

Demers advised that moving from a timed lot to an untimed lot would be allowed under the proposed ordinance. However, parking in a timed lot and then moving to another timed lot would be a violation.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Demers stated that members of the public moving from one parking lot to another are not the targeted offenders. It is likely that employees of businesses are the ones doing the shuffling.

Schneemann stated that the removal of chalk marking on tires is cut and dry, but not the shuffling.

Demers stated that additional signage will be needed to make the public aware of the rules.

Schneemann asked if there is any mechanism to track the offenders. Demers stated yes.

Scott believes that cars should be able to move from one timed lot to another and be in compliance with the ordinance. The issue would be moving within the same lot.

Demers stated it would be difficult for the Parking Enforcement Officer to track drivers moving from one lot to another. He would support Scott's suggestion.

Discussion followed regarding tracking warnings.

Cowley stated that parking data can be found in the Walker study. He believes the City needs to send a message to businesses who are thumbing their noses at the parking issues. He doesn't believe that customers are the offenders, but employees not adhering to the 3-hour parking limit. He stated the next step, coming from the Parking Committee, is meters.

Bowman does not support the proposed ordinance change. She is not ready to add another ordinance. She would like to address the offending businesses/employees. She would rather discuss installing meters than creating another ordinance.

Responding to a question by Schneemann, Demers stated no data is available that shows tickets issued to employees versus customers.

Demers stated that based on observations from Parking Enforcement Officers the known offenders are employees.

Schneemann confirmed that Demers would like an ordinance that prevents vehicles from shuffling within a timed lot.

Galvin supports an ordinance regarding removing chalk marks from an offender's tires. He does not believe there is enough data to make an informed decision to support an ordinance on shuffling. He thinks more options are needed for long term parking. He is concerned about bringing new businesses into the Downtown and the parking implications that are preventing growth. He believes it is Council's job to promote all of the businesses, even the businesses who are violating the parking rules. He wants to focus on the long term economic development. He wants Council to start representing the entire city of Farmington and not just the Downtown businesses.

Discussion followed regarding the Parking Committee and employee parking.

Galvin stated the Parking Committee had four months to collect and provide data and did not. He will not support an ordinance without hard numbers.

Responding to a question from Schneemann, Demers stated there is no data on capacity in untimed lots during peak times.

Galvin feels that the Parking Advisory Committee needs to gather data and determine where employees can park. He feels that new businesses will not come to Farmington if there is not enough parking for both employees and customers.

Cowley believes the conversation at hand is about looking to save 25 spaces for customers now.

Galvin suggested breaking the motion up into two parts.

**Motion to split the proposed addition to the Farmington City Code, Chapter 31, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, Division 3, Section 31-70 – Time Limited Parking Zone into two separate actions.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem Schneemann
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Cowley
<b>AYES:</b>	Bowman, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott
<b>NAYS:</b>	Cowley

**Motion to approve moving forward with an ordinance amendment to Chapter 31, Division 3, of the Farmington City Code of Ordinances, to add language to prohibit removing or altering a parking enforcement officer's tire mark.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Councilmember Scott
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Bowman
<b>AYES:</b>	Bowman, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott
<b>NAYS:</b>	Cowley

Galvin asked for second motion regarding approval to move forward with an ordinance to amend Chapter 31, Division 3 of the Farmington City Code, to add language to prohibit moving vehicles in time limited lot for the purpose of extending parking time.

No motion was made.

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was heard.

## **6. COUNCIL COMMENT**

Scott expressed concern regarding Council's indecision on parking. He believes that the DDA Board is absent in the conversation. The City needs to plan ahead and find funding for parking.

Bowman commented on electric skateboards in our community. She believes the City should review the ordinance regarding skateboards, hover board, etc.

Demers reached out to other communities regarding this issue and received no responses.

Cowley stated that he sees 3500 people a week and has not seen one of his customers ticketed. He wants to make sure that parking is available to customers first, not employees. He is discouraged by Council's previous conversation regarding this issue.

He suggested that Galvin formally address the Parking Committee and specifically explain what data is needed to make a decision.

Galvin would like the Parking Committee to identify a “landing pad” for employee parking.

Responding to a question by Schneemann, Galvin stated that he is looking for an area designated for long term parking. He would leave it up to the discretion of the Parking Committee whether there should be designated “employee” parking lots/spaces.

Discussion followed regarding using private parking and untimed parking for employees and other long term parkers.

Scott suggested using cameras on lots to develop parking data. Demers said he could facilitate that.

Scott believes there needs to be synergy between the Parking Committee and the DDA. He is hoping to see this now that there is new leadership.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

**Move to adjourn the meeting.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem Schneemann
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Councilmember Bowman
<b>AYES:</b>	Bowman, Cowley, Galvin, Schneemann, Scott

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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William E. Galvin, Mayor

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Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

Approval Date: July 17, 2017