



Regular City Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday, June 5, 2023
Council Chambers
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335

FINAL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on June 5, 2023 at Farmington City Hall, 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 Bowman.

1. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Johnna Balk	Councilmember	Present	
Sara Bowman	Mayor	Present	
Joe LaRussa	Mayor Pro Tem	Present	
Steve Schneemann	Councilmember	Present	
Maria Taylor	Councilmember	Present	

City Administration Present

Director Christiansen
Superintendent Eudy
Deputy Clerk Hilton
Director Houhanisin
City Attorney Saarela

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Balk, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Schneemann, Councilmember

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Phillip Bowden, 21900 Farmington Road Apt 123, expressed his liking for the Farmington Road Streetscape.

Bradley Kabert, 20824 Gill, talked about the Pride flag and community petition and encouraged Council to think about flying the pride flag.

4. PUBLIC SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR BOB HOUHANISIN

Public Safety Director Bob Houhanisin gave the Public Safety annual report for 2022. He gave an overview of employees who retired, were hired, promoted, or were given awards. He also spoke on equipment acquired to help Public Safety out in the field, and departmental accomplishments. Houhanisin shared some departmental statistics including phone calls for service, traffic accidents, and arrests. Houhanisin talked about the Fire resources, programs offered, statistics related to fires, and about the training for Public Safety—police and fire.

LaRussa thanked Public Safety for their high level of service and all they do. Bowman thanked the officers for their behind-the-scenes work on Memorial Day and Art on the Grand.

5. EMS UPDATE

Houhanisin prefaced the update by saying that since Farmington is a smaller community, it is harder to get the EMS organizations to return calls but some good progress has been made. There have been 0 complaints made about delays in service and only 1 complaint was made about dispatch—the dispatch complaint was not with the City of Farmington. Houhanisin said the City is getting ready to go live with 800MHz radios on July 1 which means communicating directly to ambulances better. Houhanisin stressed to Council that this is a priority and hopes to come back soon with better options. He mentioned having consistent conversations with the City Manager regarding the EMS topic.

6. WASTE MANAGEMENT SOLID WASTE COLLECTION ONE YEAR EXTENSION

Eudy spoke on the contract one-year extension from last year with the option of a second year and that this is now the second year. He added that the Cart or Cart Plus System is less labor intensive for employees. Waste Management (WM) would like a 5-year contract but might consider a 3-year contract.

Bowman talked about the current service working well and understood that moving to the Cart System would require a longer contract, but that tonight's discussion was for the one-year contract, and further discussions would be for the longer-term contracts. Schneemann asked about the arrangement of picking up former trash cans if switching to the cart systems. Chantell LaForest of Waste Management mentioned there would be a grace period where Waste Management could build that into the contract, and Doug Reams of Waste Management voiced that the cans are typically recyclable.

LaRussa asked about the difference between the current level of service and the proposed 5 bag, 2 bulk item service. LaForest answered that currently, service is unlimited, but the Cart/Cart Plus system aims to get households thinking about how much waste they put out and giving limits that are still reasonable. LaRussa also asked if there was community outreach to educate on the 5 bag and 2 bulk item limits, and LaForest said that WM would partner with the

City but would also prepare a letter detailing the changes. LaRussa wanted to know if the calendar of service would remain the same, and LaForest said yes.

Taylor wondered about wintertime storms, storm debris and the ability to call out WM to help pick up those storm debris. LaForest answered that there is an hourly rate attached, but that communities did call them out to help with picking up the winter storm debris and Farmington could as well. She did explain that WM does not have wood chipping abilities. Balk asked about the 5-bag limit of trash and how many households might be affected by going over the limit. Eudy responded that it's a rarity and usually seen in the household cleanouts, but that it's a simple call to WM for a special pickup.

LaRussa wanted to know if an unlimited level of service was looked at or if an offer was prepared. LaForest responded that WM did not because they are switching to the automated services for the reason Eudy had pointed out, but also because of employee safety. LaRussa then asked what level of service would result in no rate increase to which LaForest said that was something WM could not provide—there would be a rate increase regardless.

Move to approve a one (1) year solid waste collection extension with Waste Management for solid waste collection including trash, yard waste, and recycling.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Balk, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Schneemann, Councilmember
AYES:	Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, Bowman, LaRussa

7. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR USE AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY FOR OUTDOOR SEATING, PAVING IMPROVEMENTS, AND LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS

Christiansen presented a license agreement for Right of Way use and explained that the incoming Cannelle bakery would like to utilize an area for outdoor seating.

Schneemann asked which version of the plan is final. Christiansen replied that the second version, in black and white, marked revised, is the one Council will be deciding on. Schneemann mentioned fenced in areas to which Christiansen said that there would be large urns adhered to the streetscape and not moveable, but they can be adjusted as necessary. There is a small element of fencing around the kiosk/planting area and a charcoal-colored concrete that Schneemann recommended.

LaRussa asked if fencing was not approved if the agreement needed to be revised. Christiansen explained that the outdoor seating would transition with new owners. Saarela also explained that license agreements are revokable at any time and can be adjusted or terminated. Christiansen added that Cannelle has done a great job with the remodel.

Move to approve license agreement for use and maintenance of public right of way for outdoor seating, paving improvements, and landscape elements with subject to minor amendments as may be deemed necessary by the city attorney or city administration .**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	Taylor, Balk, Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann

8. RESOLUTION TO REVIEW BICENTENNIAL STEERING COMMITTEE

Bowman explained that this was brought up at the last meeting and Council voted to move it forward and have the city attorney prepare a resolution. LaRussa stated that the resolution captures the spirit he intended to communicate and he is appreciative for the support by the city attorney and the city administration to put this together.

Move to approve a resolution establishing the Farmington Bicentennial Steering Committee, further move that Maria Taylor be assigned to the committee as council liaison, further move that the following residents and community residents of the City of Farmington be appointed to the Committee in the following order: Sean Murphy, Pam Green, Agnes Skrzycki, Chris Hallas, Jill Keller, and Melissa Andrade; in the first instance for a period of time from June 19, 2023 to July 31, 2024.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	LaRussa, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Balk, Councilmember
AYES:	Balk, Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Last month, Council interviewed five candidates for multiple boards and commissions.

Stefanie Messina expressed interest in a position on Library Board, and since the seat just became available, Bowman shared that it would be best to hold off on appointment so that they could post the position, and Council agreed.

Move to appoint Brandon Potterfield to the Farmington Historical Commission for a term ending March 31, 2026, appoint Mike DeMott to serve a term on the Farmington Beautification Committee ending June 30, 2025, appoint Cassandra Williams to the Farmington/Farmington Hills Emergency Preparedness Committee for a term ending February 1, 2025, appoint Dr. Harrison Igwe to the Farmington/Farmington Hills Emergency Preparedness Committee as an alternate for a term ending February 1, 2025.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bowman, Mayor
SECONDER:	Schneemann, Councilmember

10. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 19, NUISANCES, ARTICLE III-LITTERING AND DISTRIBUTION OF HANDBILLS, SECTION 19-65 DISTRIBUTING ON HANDBILLS

Houhanisin explained the ordinance and the second reading.

Schneemann raised question on no soliciting signs on a house. Houhanisin stated that a handbill tied to a house with a no soliciting sign isn't in violation of the ordinance but doesn't respect the wishes of the sign. Schneemann then asked if it would be considered trespassing if there was a no trespassing sign Houhanisin said that the trespass must be in the presence of an officer, at which point they would be asked to leave, and if the person did not leave, they could be arrested for trespassing. LaRussa asked for clarification about the term "securely" in the ordinance, and Houhanisin explained that if flyers were blown away in the wind and littering sidewalks that they would not be considered secure.

Move to approve an ordinance to amend the City of Farmington City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 19 Nuisances, Article III-Littering and Distribution of Handbills, Section 19-65 Distributing on Handbills, to add language to permit handbills containing political, charitable, religious, or other ideology.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Balk, Councilmember
AYES:	Bowman, LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk

11. SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 22 SOLICITORS

Houhanisin introduced the second reading of the proposed amendment to an ordinance on solicitors and explained that the change clarifies requirements for solicitors, peddlers, and canvassers in a manner that does not unlawfully interfere with the First Amendment or constitutional rights.

Move to approve an ordinance to amend the City of Farmington City Code of Ordinances, Chapter 22 Solicitors to clarify the requirements for solicitors, peddlers and canvassers in a manner that does not interfere with or burden the exercise of constitutional rights.**

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Balk, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Taylor, Councilmember
AYES:	LaRussa, Schneemann, Taylor, Balk, Bowman

12. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was heard.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Della Reese James, 33250 Freedom Rd Apt 14 conveyed enthusiasm for the Farmington Road Streetscape and thanked Council for the clarification on the Solicitors ordinance.

14. CITY COUNCIL COMMENT

No council comment was heard.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Move to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS PRESENTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Taylor, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Schneemann, Councilmember

Meeting adjourned 8:26 p.m.

Sara Bowman, Mayor

Halley Hilton, Deputy Clerk

Approval Date: June 19, 2023

******To view approved documents, please see the Agenda Packet link that is relevant to this meeting at <http://farmgov.com/City-Services/Government/Agendas-and-Minutes/City-Council.aspx> or contact the City Clerk.