

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, July 16, 2007 in Council Chambers, 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 8:12 p.m. by Mayor McShane.

PRESENT: Buck, Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright.

ABSENT: None.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: Director Gushman, City Clerk Halberstadt, Director Nebus, City Manager Pastue, Assistant City Manager Richards, Attorney Schultz, Treasurer Weber.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION 07-07-131 MOTION by Knol, seconded by Buck, to approve the following items on the consent agenda amended to add items G. and H.:

- A. Joint meeting minutes of May 3, 2007
- B. Special meeting minutes of May 7, 2007
- C. Special and regular meeting minutes of June 18, 2007
- D. Monthly Public Safety Report – June 2007
- E. City of Farmington Monthly Payments Report – June 2007
- F. Fourth Quarter Report: Building Department – April 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007
- G. Michigan Municipal League Workers Compensation Trustee Election
- H. Authorization to establish a brokerage account with Comerica to receive stock donations

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

07-07-132 MOTION by Wiggins, seconded by Buck, to approve the agenda as amended, adding item 7E., Charter Amendments. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

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MISS OAKLAND COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Francesca Tuzzolino, representing the Miss Oakland County Scholarship Program, was present to introduce Miss Oakland County 2007, Samantha Steckloff and Miss Oakland County Outstanding Teen 2007, Carleigh Rowley. Miss Steckloff and Miss Rowley discussed their participation in the Miss Oakland County pageant event.

DOWNTOWN WALKABILITY COMMITTEE – DAVE CORNWELL AND STEVE SCHNEEMANN

Steve Schneemann and Dave Cornwell, members of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), were present to discuss the goals of a new committee to address walkability in the downtown. Mr. Schneemann provided an historical background and issues related to walkability in the downtown.

Mr. Cornwell, chairman of the committee on walkability, discussed their short and long term goals. He noted the significant impact of a walkable downtown. He distributed to Council a list of goals of the committee. He stated his purpose for appearing before Council is twofold: to gain a declaration from Council in support of a highly walkable Downtown and a commitment to achieve the short term objectives identified by the walkability committee. He stated the timeframe set for achieving these objectives is within 3-4 months.

Councilmember Knol thanked Mr. Schneemann and Mr. Cornwell for their efforts to achieve a walkable downtown. She expressed the importance of a walking map that would provide a number of walking routes throughout the City and identify points of interest. She discussed maps that can be easily modified to include specific events such as the Harvest Moon Festival.

Councilmember Buck recognized the number of challenges the committee faces in implementing its objectives. He commended Mr. Cornwell and Mr. Schneemann for providing the leadership necessary to achieve a walkable downtown. He noted the objectives are specific and are exactly what is needed for change to occur.

Councilmember Wright noted the objective of making Downtown Farmington walkable is brilliant in its simplicity. He stated walkability provides a simple way to differentiate Farmington from other communities.

Councilmember Wiggins commended the walkability committee for concisely stating objectives that have been discussed over a long period of time. He further commended the committee for not only identifying the problems in achieving walkability, but also providing solutions.

Mr. Cornwell expressed gratitude to Director Nebus and DDA Director Knowles for their support.

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Mayor McShane commended Mr. Cornwell and his committee for their initiative and hard work. She recommended greater use of the word "historic" in the objectives for a walkable downtown. She questioned how these objectives will correlate with the parking study. She questioned whether the short term objectives are doable within three months.

City Manager Pastue noted some of the objectives could be met without requiring traffic control orders. Responding to a question, he stated the objectives could be met with available staff and volunteers.

Pastue stated implementation of the streetscape plan would have the greatest impact on a walkable downtown. In response to a question, he stated none of the objectives are cost prohibitive.

Hank Borgman, 34011 Grand River, expressed concern regarding plans to reduce Grand River to two lanes in the downtown and he expressed skepticism that the proposed changes for a walkable downtown would have a positive impact.

Betty Borgman, 34011 Grand River, stated she would like to be informed of the time and date of the meeting with Dan Burden of Walkable Communities Inc.

07-07-133 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Knol, to support the goals of the walkability committee, an ad hoc committee of the Main Street Program, in an endeavor to make downtown Farmington a more walkable community; and to direct the City Manager to develop a formal resolution of said support. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MARTHA DAVIS WARNER AND ODESSA WARNER STATUE – DICK CARVELL

Dick Carvell presented a statuette of Martha Davis Warner and her daughter Odessa sculpted by Bernadette Zachara-Marcos. He expressed his hope that the statuette would be made into a life size bronze statue for placement in the gardens of the Warner Mansion. He stated he is currently seeking donations to cover the approximate \$30,000 cost of the statue.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH TDS METROCOM

Responding to a question from Mayor McShane, Assistant City Manager Richards indicated TDS Metrocom currently provides service to the City of Westland where they have experienced no service difficulties that have not been addressed in a timely manner.

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Mayor McShane referred to a recent report that indicated that this type of service has caused many complications.

Richards discussed the rising costs and lack of service experienced by the City's current provider, AT&T.

Discussion followed regarding the cost containment and service provisions of the TDS Metrocom agreement.

RESOLUTION 07-07-134 Motion by Wright, seconded by Knol, to approve a five-year telecommunications service agreement with TDS Metrocom subject to review by the City Attorney, and authorize the City Manager to sign the service agreement on behalf of the City. [\[SEE ATTACHED AGREEMENT\]](#).

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright, Buck.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE #3 FOR THE SHIAWASSEE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

RESOLUTION 07-07-135 Motion by Wiggins, seconded by Wright, to approve payment of construction estimate No. 3 to Peter A. Basile Sons in the amount of \$44,981.69 for the Shiawassee Road Reconstruction and Water Main Improvement Project.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: McShane, Wiggins, Wright, Buck, Knol.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE SMART AGREEMENT FOR TRANSFER OF MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY CREDITS

RESOLUTION 07-07-136 Motion by Knol, seconded by Wiggins, to approve and authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) to receive municipal credits in the amount of \$9,796.00 for FY 2007-08; to provide funding for the senior and handicapped transportation system operated through the City of Farmington Hills; and to receive community credit funds of \$ 13,742.00 to be transferred to the City of Farmington Hills transportation program for expanded community transportation services. [\[SEE ATTACHED AGREEMENT\]](#).

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ROLL CALL

Ayes: Wiggins, Wright, Buck, Knol, McShane.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

- i. **Planning Commission**
- ii. **Historical Commission**
- iii. **Community Library Board of Directors**

07-07-137 MOTION by Buck, seconded by Wiggins, to reappoint William Ingalls to the Planning Commission for a three-year term expiring June 15, 2010; to reappoint Robert Baessler, Keith Grattan, Jane Gundlach, William Lindblad and Donald Munter to the Farmington Historical Commission for three-year terms expiring March 31, 2010; and appoint Gerald Bosler to the Farmington Community Library Board for a four-year term expiring June 30, 2011. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS

City Manager Pastue advised that at the earlier special meeting Council reviewed proposed charter amendment recommendations from the Charter Review Committee and at the conclusion of the meeting concurred to move forward with four of the proposed amendments.

RESOLUTION 07-07-138 MOTION by Knol, seconded by Buck, to direct the City Attorney to amend resolutions approving submission of ballot proposals to electors by changing amendment proposals 3, 5, 7, & 8 to read amendment proposals 1, 2, 3 & 4, remove the remaining four amendment proposals; and to adopt the *amended* resolution to place proposed language on the November 6, 2007 ballot to amend the City Charter. **[SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION]**. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Kenely, 23101 Lakeway, requested an update on the Shiawassee Road project. City Manager Pastue advised the project is on schedule and he committed to send a letter to affected residents regarding the status of the project.

Mr. Kenely expressed concern regarding traffic moving through the construction area who do not live on Shiawassee. City Manager Pastue stated he would address the situation with Director Nebus and Director Gushman.

Mr. Kenely asked if there were any other road construction projects planned for the future. City Manager Pastue responded future construction is planned for Power Road.

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COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember Buck announced CNN and Money Magazine ranked the City of Farmington as the 55th best small City in the U.S.

Assistant City Manager Richards noted that at the City's request Ron Baker of Marketing Solutions provided the information on Farmington to Money Magazine.

Mayor McShane announced a classical brunch will once again be held at the Warner Mansion on September 8th from 11:00 - 2:00 pm. She noted an item in the Public Safety Director's report concerning the rescue of a squirrel from inside a home and remarked how wonderful it is that the City can provide such personal attention to residents.

ADJOURNMENT

07-07-139 Motion by Knol, seconded by Wiggins, to adjourn the meeting.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

JoAnne M. McShane, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

APPROVED: August 20, 2007