

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Monday, March 19, 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 7:04 p.m. by Mayor McShane.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Buck.

CITY ADMINISTRATION: Director of Public Works Gushman (arrived 7:30 p.m.), City Clerk Halberstadt, City Manager Pastue (arrived 7:25 p.m.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

03-07-048 MOTION by Wiggins, seconded by Wright, to approve the agenda as submitted. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INTERVIEW PLANNING COMMISSION CANDIDATE – JEFFERY SCOTT

Council interviewed Jeffery Scott for a position on the Planning Commission.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Present: Alton Bennett, Dave Gronbach, Chairman

Dave Gronbach, Chairperson of the Planning Commission, stated everything was going well with the Commission and noted they appreciated working with city planning consultant, LSL Planning, Inc., on plan reviews and ordinance updates. He further noted that it has been helpful to have John Koncsol working with the Planning Commission.

Gronbach advised the City Master Plan, which was adopted in 1998, should be updated every 5 years. He commented that the Commission has asked for assistance from LSL in updating the Plan. He stated City Manager Pastue has talked to LSL about reviewing the Plan to see what needs to be updated. Gronbach noted that the plans for the Downtown District needed to be incorporated into the Master Plan.

Gronbach stated the Planning Commissions of Farmington and Farmington Hills have agreed to a joint meeting since Farmington Hills is updating their Master Plan. He noted Farmington's Planning Commission felt it would be a good opportunity to discuss some of the gateway areas; Orchard Lake Corridor, and the Grand River Corridor to the east;

SPECIAL MEETING -2-
March 19, 2007

and building heights. He stated the Commission recommended that LSL meet with Farmington Hills planning consultants for coordination.

City Manager Pastue noted Farmington Hills is currently updating their Master Plan and it is timely for Farmington to do the same since it had not been updated in 9 years. He stated the Master Plan needs to stay current to address challenges in rezoning. He is considering adding the cost of revising the Master Plan to the budget in the upcoming fiscal year.

Councilmember Knol suggested that LSL modify their format to list deficiencies that are not the proponent's responsibility as an addendum. Pastue replied that it would be helpful if LSL identified the context of the deficiencies for which the Commission can use discretion. Gronbach noted it would be beneficial to inform proponents of property deficiencies and what needed to be done to update. Pastue responded restrictions should not be so severe that they put a project at risk. He noted that changes in ordinances and Master Plan allow for more discretion. Commissioner Bennett stated that many details were omitted from a recent site plan causing LSL difficulty in preparing their report. Discussion followed regarding other difficult properties.

Mayor McShane stated the Council should have a copy of Farmington Hill's Master Plan. Bennett suggested Farmington Hills give a presentation to show how their plan ties in with Farmington. Discussion followed regarding the gateways and the Grand River Project.

Mayor McShane thanked Gronbach for the excellent job the Planning Commission does.

OTHER BUSINESS

Pastue informed Council a meeting has been arranged on April 19, 2007 with Mike Pelchesko of DTE to discuss problems and how they will be resolved. He stated the information would be given to the affected property owners.

Pastue provided a draft agenda of the joint meeting with Farmington Hills and the School District scheduled for March 27, 2007.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment was given.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Mayor McShane expressed the need for Council to participate in a round table discussion on cable addressing the points made in her recent State of the City Address.

SPECIAL MEETING -3-
March 19, 2007

Mayor McShane, referring to a recently commissioned Downtown parking study, suggested sending a letter to residents informing them of the intended outcome of the study.

Pastue confirmed there was a letter to the editor in the Observer concerning the purpose of the Parking Study.

Pastue concurred that a joint letter to the editor from the Downtown Development Authority and City Council would be appropriate.

Mayor McShane informed Council of two upcoming meeting opportunities, "Solutions Forum for Livable Neighborhoods" and "Place Making – Marketing Your City for Redevelopment."

ADJOURNMENT

03-07-049 MOTION by Knol, seconded by Wiggins, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

JoAnne M. McShane, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

ADOPTED: April 16, 2007