

FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 19, 2010

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, 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 7:05 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Wiggins.

PRESENT: Knol, McShane, Wiggins, Wright.

ABSENT: Buck.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Den 4 Longacre Elementary Webelos 1.

CONSENT AGENDA

01-10-003 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Knol, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- A. Special meeting minutes of December 21, 2009
- B. Regular meeting minutes of December 21, 2009
- C. Building Department Report for quarter ending December 31, 2009
- D. Farmington Monthly Payments Report – December 2009
- E. Farmington Monthly Public Safety Report – December 2009
- F. Renew Southeast Michigan Council of Governments Membership

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

01-10-004 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Knol, to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

PUBLIC SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

Director Nebus, representing the Emergency Preparedness Commission, reminded everyone of the need for a 72-hour emergency kit that should contain enough supplies to sustain a family for three days.

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SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST – AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE

01-10-005 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Wright, approved a request from the American Cancer Society to conduct a *Relay for Life* event in Shiawassee Park for the weekend of May 22-23, 2010. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was heard.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE C-745-2010 TO AMEND THE CITY CODE TO HAVE THE MAYOR SERVE AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER APPOINTEE TO DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

01-10-006 MOTION by Knol, seconded by Wright, to introduce Ordinance C-745-2010 to amend Chapter 11, Article II, Section 11-28 of the City Code to have the Mayor serve as the “Chief Executive Officer” appointee on the Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors. [SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE]. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION REQUESTING CLOSURE OF GRAND RIVER AVENUE FOR ART ON THE GRAND SCHEDULED JUNE 4-6, 2010

McShane recognized the cooperation shown by MDOT in working with the City on the Grand River Streetscape, crosswalk signage, and the Art on the Grand event. She further recognized the significant effort put forth by City Administration to achieve these goals.

Janet Bloom, Events Planner for the Downtown Development Authority, was present to discuss *Art on the Grand* and the *Founders Festival*.

Discussion followed regarding rerouting of traffic for the *Art on the Grand* street closure.

RESOLUTION 01-10-007 Motion by Wright, seconded by Knol, to adopt a resolution to authorize the Public Safety Department to submit an application to the Michigan Department of Transportation to close Grand River Avenue from Farmington Road to Grove Street for the Art on the Grand event scheduled for June 4-6, 2010. [SEE ATTACHED RESOLUTION]. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

01-10-008 MOTION by Knol, seconded by McShane, to reappoint Joseph Dompierre and Michael Kish to the Construction Board of Appeals for two-year terms ending February 28, 2012. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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01-10-009 MOTION by McShane, seconded by Knol, to reappoint Dan Higgins and Steven Schneeman to the Downtown Development Authority Board for four-year terms ending February 28, 2014. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

01-10-010 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Knol, to reappoint Keith Grattan, Jane Gundlach, Marilyn Weimar and Donald Munter to the Historical Commission for three-year terms ending March 31, 2013. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

01-10-011 MOTION by Wright, seconded by Knol, to reappoint Mary Bush to the Board of Review for a three-year term ending December 31, 2012. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REVIEW APPLICATIONS FOR CIVIC THEATRE AD HOC COMMITTEE

Council concurred to review applications for the Civic Theatre Ad Hoc Committee at the February 1, 2010 Special Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steven Schwartz, Oakland County Commissioner, spoke about reduced funding for the Tri-County Road Program and Farmington's allotment of \$42K. He discussed the continuing budget deficit and possible elimination of the program.

Hugh McDiarmid, 22642 Power Road, stated it is important for the City Council to allow the electorate to vote on participation in SMART on the August ballot. He stated the importance of having SMART as a transportation option for the community. He stated his daughter lives in Detroit and uses SMART to make visits back to Farmington. He noted there are probably a number of businesses that depend on SMART to transport their employees.

Mr. McDiarmid stated public transportation is an important investment in the forward looking policies that Farmington is making to keep a vibrant downtown and stay connected regionally. He noted Farmington Hills has moved to allow voters to decide on SMART participation. He stated we are looking at a future of higher energy costs and possible carbon costs that will make it even more difficult for people to afford to drive their own vehicles.

Mr. McDiarmid recognized that SMART is not a perfect solution in a region that has arguably the worst public transit system of any large metropolitan area. He stated it is basically a stop gap measure, but until the region coalesces around something better we need to keep what we have. He further recognized the budget issues Farmington is facing and the difficulty in making tough financial decisions.

COUNCIL COMMENT

McShane advised this is the last meeting for Public Safety Director Nebus. She spoke about his new opportunity as Farmington Hills Chief of Police, but

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expressed sadness at seeing him leave the City of Farmington. She recognized he is leaving the City in very good hands. She stated he is leaving the department in very good shape. He has fine tuned it, increased employee morale, and implemented a number of innovative programs. She stated the City cannot say enough about the wonderful job he has done.

Nebus stated it has been a privilege and honor to serve in a City as great as Farmington. He thanked City Manager Pastue, Council and Department Heads for their support. He praised the public safety staff and all they are able to accomplish.

Nebus briefly reviewed a number of his accomplishments over the last five years. He stated it is a terrific feeling to leave the department in such great shape. He looks forward to partnering with Farmington and staying connected in his new position.

Knol stated it has been Farmington's privilege and honor to have Chief Nebus lead the Public Safety Department over the last five years. She recognized his tireless advocacy for Farmington residents. She stated there will be a continuing relationship as a result of the number programs shared by Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Wright recognized the professionalism, manner and dignity with which Chief Nebus carried out his duties. The City has been very fortunate to have him over the past 5 years.

Wiggins recognized the exceptional leadership of Chief Nebus not only within the department and community, but in southeast Michigan. He will truly be missed in this community.

ADJOURNMENT

01-10-012 MOTION by Knol, seconded by McShane, to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

J.T. (Tom) Buck, Mayor

Susan K. Halberstadt, City Clerk

APPROVED: February 15, 2010