

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
JANUARY 9, 2017 – 7:30 PM
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER

The regular meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Massey at 7:32 p.m.

Council Members Present: Bridges, Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey, Rich and Steckloff

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Boyer, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Mekjian, Directors Mondora, Monico, Randle and Schnackel and City Attorney Joppich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Police Chief Nebus and Fire Chief Unruh, led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, to approve the agenda as published.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC ART EXHIBIT BY RACHEL TIMLIN, CULTURAL ARTS SUPERVISOR

Rachel Timlin stated that the Farmington Hills Public Arts Program was initiated in 2010 and every two years the Cultural Arts Division coordinates a new exhibit. She stated that this year they had over 450 art works submitted and for the first time since the program was initiated, the Farmington Hills Arts Program gained international interest from artists as far as Brazil, India and Morocco. During 2015/16 a new rotating art exhibit component was added and will continue this year and for the 2017/18 program there are plans to introduce literary arts into the program. She thanked the city leaders for their continued support and thanked staff and the Farmington Area Arts Commission for their support and assistance with this year's program. Ms. Timlin requested all artists involved to stand and be recognized.

PRESENTATION FROM RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVE TRUDY SMITH REGARDING THE UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE AT THE WILLIAM COSTICK CENTER ON JANUARY 12, 2017

Trudy Smith, Red Cross Representative, mentioned the annual blood drives that are held each year in January, June and September. She noted that the result of the blood drives held at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills generated 177 units of blood that helped 531 patients in 48 hospitals in 5 counties. She stated that the 3 area high schools also contributed enough units of blood to assist 294 more patients for a total of 825 patients being assisted in 2016 in the area. She mentioned the upcoming blood drive at the Costick Center on Thursday, January 12, 2017 and discussed how to register for an appointment.

Mayor Massey stated that he has been donating blood since he was 16 years old and said the process is very easy and to donate double-reds as he does is just as easy, it just takes a little longer.

Ms. Smith commented on the friendly competition for donations between the Police and Fire Departments that has held each September. She spoke of the pre-registration process available through rapid pass and encouraged all to donate blood as every donation helps 3 people.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION “TIP OF THE MONTH”

The following Tip of the Month was read by Kerry Jackson, Emergency Preparedness Commission Chair:

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION
TIP OF THE MONTH
JANUARY 2017**

One reason we present a “Tip of the Month” is that in the event of a widespread disaster, our community's first responders, such as Fire and Police, cannot be everywhere at the same time. This month's tip is about the need for emergency kits. These have been called, “ready kits”, “72 hour kits” and “go-packs”. There may be a time when Farmington Hills residents will need to take care of their own needs, for a few days or even weeks, after a major disaster. A core element of the ability to care for one's own needs are Emergency Supply Kits. Individual residents should prepare kits for the Home and Car for exactly this purpose.

Your home emergency supply kit should contain enough food, water, medicines, clothes and other supplies to sustain you and your family for three days, or 72 hours. It should be packed and easy to carry should you need to evacuate your home or in the event of a widespread community emergency.

Your car emergency supply kit should contain first aid supplies, a flashlight, emergency blankets, and high-energy snack food.

Note that these kits must be updated periodically. Our weather changes and clothing packed in a kit in the Summer may not be appropriate for Winter. Likewise, some supplies may have to be replaced due to expiration dates.

The Emergency Preparedness Commission strongly encourages all families to take the initiative to put together emergency kits for their home and car. Our entire civilian preparedness effort is founded on the idea that people can be prepared to take care of themselves for up to three days, or until help arrives, and this preparation will significantly reduce fear and suffering should a widespread disaster occur.

For more information regarding what your preparedness kit should contain, visit the EPC webpage, www.FHReady.com.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence acknowledged.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bruce, support by Bridges, to approve Consent Agenda items #5 through #9 and item #12.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, to approve Consent Agenda items #10 and #11.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: BRIDGES

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Charise Fulton, Barrington Green Subdivision, expressed concern with the snow plowing in her subdivision this last large snow fall. She felt that in the many years she has been in Farmington Hills, she has never seen the road conditions this poor and many vehicles were stuck in the subdivision and people unable to get to work. She understand the city's policy to only plow the subdivision roads when there is 4 inches of snow or more, but she feels that is too much for cars to get through. She requested that the city please figure out a better plan.

Mayor Massey stated that the Director of DPW is at the meeting this evening and will take note of the concerns. He commented that since this is the first issue Ms. Fulton has had in many years, it was most likely an isolated case but he is sorry that she had that experience. He explained the city's current policy of rotating the subdivisions in which they plow first for each snow fall.

Justin and Melanie Williams, Greencastle Subdivision, mentioned that they had submitted e-mails of continued concern about their water that they read into the record. (e-mails included below)

Dan McRoberts, Greencastle Subdivision, stated that he also submitted an e-mail regarding a slightly different concern, which was with the traffic flow on Middlebelt Road. He asked for that to also be included for the record. (e-mail included below)

Mr. Mayor and City Council,

The more things change, the more they seem to stay the same. We have a resolution from the City of Farmington Hills directing the WRC to mitigate all water quality issues and provide permanent solutions, we have promises from the WRC that all of our issues would be addressed prior to Christmas, and we have County hired contractors telling us the equipment they install in our home will resolve all of our water quality issues.

Only this is not the case. I won't spend your time belaboring all of the details of the issues we have experienced in the last few weeks, but I can tell you we are not in a state of resolution. On December 9th I came home to a flood in our home, in our equipment room, caused by sediment built up in our hot water tank. On December 24th, Christmas Eve, we woke up to no hot water, an issue once again caused by sediment in our hot water tank. These sediment problems that are a result of the WRC tampering with our aquifer during the Middlebelt tunnel project.

Mind you both of these issues occurred after having an iron filter installed by contractors hired by WRC to resolve our sediment issue 3 days prior to our flood. We were insured that the iron filter we resolve any and all water quality issues we were having, clearly this was not the case. I ended up replacing the hot water tank myself, which was installed new just 2 years ago, on my own dime because the WRC failed to do so in an expedient manner. I am still waiting on them for reimbursement.

Mr. Mayor and City Council, on the 29th of November you passed a resolution as it pertains to the WRC and their lack of action mitigating our issues. Myself and the residents of the Greencastle subdivision greatly appreciate this resolution. It shows us that the City of Farmington Hills stands firmly with us, it demonstrates a clear understanding of the problems we are facing and gives direction. This resolution states; "Now, therefore, it is resolved that City Council, by adoption of this resolution, calls upon and strongly urges the WRC to address the residents' drinking water issues in a timely manner by providing them with a permanent, reliable, clean and safe drinking water supply."

It is our position that the WRC continues to fail to do those things. This is evident not only by the issues I have experienced personally in my home, but also by the numerous temporary water tanks that still exist in our neighborhood. Mr. Mayor and City Council, I request that you take legal action against the WRC for failing to adhere to your resolution. I ask that you take legal action to provide everyone in our subdivision with the option for municipal water. A clean, safe, permanent, and reliable water source. I ask that you continue to stand behind your residents into the new year while we continue our fight for safe drinking water.

*Thank you,
Justin Williams*

* * * * *

Hello everyone,

Well the WRC Middlebelt project has done it yet again. I am sad to report that it has managed to ruin yet another holiday for my family. First we had to cook Thanksgiving dinner with bottled water, and now for Christmas Eve we had no hot water with a house full of relatives on their way, no way to take a shower or wash dishes. With it being a holiday weekend we also had no hot water today on Christmas, so again no way to take a warm shower. Definitely not a great way to spend the holidays.

Upon troubleshooting and contacting the manufacturer of our water heater we learned that the gas control valve had gone bad, which we were told happens when sediment builds up on the probe. They asked when was the last time our water heater had been flushed, unfortunately we just had to have a plumber out 2 weeks ago to flush it after coming home to a flood in our utility room. At that time the water heater was filled with so much foul smelling black sludge & sediment that no water could get through and the tank had to be flushed out. The manufacturer said they would send us a new valve, but the soonest it could be here would be Tuesday.

We then contacted Joel Brown since the problem was once again caused by a sediment problem. Thankfully he was able to send out a plumber on Christmas Eve, who arrived during dinner time. Unfortunately the plumber did not have a replacement valve with him and was unable to do any temporary fixes. He said that he would talk to Joel about the next step. A little while later Joel Brown called to tell us that they would be replacing our water heater hopefully on Tuesday. In the meantime he offered to reimburse us for a hotel, but that doesn't work for us since we have a dog and my mother in-law who is disabled lives with us.

I just can't believe that we are still dealing with ongoing water issues. We are still drinking bottled water because although the new iron filter has helped with our water odor, after seeing and smelling what came out of our water heater, we have no assurance that our water is clean and safe for consumption. As I have stated before the filter is just serving as a band aid for a

bigger overall problem. Our well itself and piping were not treated to get rid of the iron bacteria. Which means that we still have an iron bacteria problem.

I am very hopeful that one day soon we will have a permanent and reliable water source. I would also like to point out that there are still homes on temporary tanks. These homes have not been restored by Christmas as promised at the town hall meeting.

In closing I would like to wish all of you a very Happy Holiday!! Thank you again for your continued support.

*Sincerely,
Melanie Williams
Greencastle HOA Secretary*

* * * * *

Dear Mayor Massey, Council members and WRC officers,

Middlebelt Road is now open but there are issues. Northbound shares the left turn with traffic going north and there is a right turn lane. Southbound on the other hand only has one lane for all three procedures. With the traffic lights out of normal sequence, limiting time for each direction, traffic quickly backs up. Northbound has backed up to 696 and southbound has backed up north of International School, taking 5-10 sequences of the signal for vehicles to make it through the intersection. Another issue that is occurring is some traffic going southbound that's making a left turn onto 12 Mile moves into the northbound lane, blocking northbound traffic and potentially could cause an accident.

There is plenty of room north of 12 Mile for lanes to be opened up and relieving traffic congestion before the construction area. If all lanes are opened up with the right lane blocked up to 200 feet before the intersection and designated right turn only, traffic should flow smoother.

There is limited room south of 12 Mile for lanes to be opened but if there were separate lanes for left, straight and right turn lanes, this too should allow traffic to flow. There's no room to expand a second southbound lane.

At that time, the traffic signal should return to normal sequence and traffic should be less congested.

*Sincerely,
Dan McRoberts*

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following comments and announcements were made:

- Inquiry as to the snowplowing efforts of the city
- Condolences to the family of Joanne Smith who recently passed away
- Update and thank you to all who participated in the Goodfellows delivery or donated or collected goods

- Acknowledgement of the following events:
Technical Career Night sponsored by the Children, Youth and Families Commission
Express Yourself Art Exhibit to be held February 1, 2017 in West Bloomfield
Martin Luther King Day event is scheduled for Monday, January 16, 2017
- The Children, Youth and Families Commission is accepting nominations for its annual Volunteer Recognition event.
- Farmington SAFE is having its next Community Awareness Meeting on February 8th at City Hall

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Boyer provided the following update:

- The Martin Luther King Day walk will begin at 10:30am at the Library on January 16, 2017
- City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2017 in honor of the holiday
- A joint meeting with the Farmington Council and School Board has been scheduled for February 7, 2017 and will be hosted by the schools with the time and location to be determined.

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO VACATE TWO WATER MAIN EASEMENTS ON THE BEAUMONT HOSPITAL PROPERTY, LOCATED AT 28050 GRAND RIVER AVENUE. CMR 1-17-01

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
EASEMENT VACATIONS
RESOLUTION NO. R-1-17**

At a session of the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, State of Michigan, held in the City Hall on the 9th day of January, 2017, at 7:30 o'clock P.M.

PRESENT: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
ABSENT: NONE

The following resolution was offered by Councilmember Bruce and supported by Councilmember Bridges:

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Farmington Hills did on the 9th day of January, 2017, determine that it is advisable to vacate, discontinue or abolish the following easements, located in the City of Farmington Hills, subject to the jurisdiction of the City of Farmington Hills:

Legal Description: Water Main Easement 1 - See Attached Exhibit A.

Legal Description: Water Main Easement 2 - See Attached Exhibit B.

WHEREAS, the Council has met and heard any and all objections to such vacation, discontinuance or abolition and having determined to proceed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the above captioned easements are hereby vacated, discontinued or abolished pursuant to the establishment of new Water Main Easements as part of the engineering plan approval process, which Water Main Easements have been provided and approved.
2. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to file certified copies of this resolution with the Oakland County

Register of Deeds and the Secretary of State of the State of Michigan, as required by statute.

AYES: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
NAYS: NONE
ABSTENTIONS: NONE

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR DPW JANITORIAL SERVICES TO ANGEL CLEANING COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,060.00; WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS. CMR 1-17-02

MOTION by Bruce, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager and the City Clerk to sign a contract with Angel Cleaning Company in the amount of \$13,060.00; with possible extensions.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID TO NYE UNIFORMS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT UNIFORMS AND RELATED ACCESSORIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,000 ANNUALLY AND TO ALLIE BROS. UNIFORMS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT UNIFORMS AND RELATED ACCESSORIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000 ANNUALLY; BOTH WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS. CMR 1-17-03

MOTION by Bruce, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the award of bid to NYE Uniforms for Fire Department uniforms and related accessories for a three (3) year period in an estimated amount of \$18,000.00 annually and for an additional three (3) year period under the same terms and conditions upon mutual consent of the City and vendor; and further approves the award of bid to Allie Bros. Uniforms for Police Department uniforms and related accessories for the three (3) year period in an estimated amount of \$40,000.00 annually and for an additional three (3) year period under the same terms and conditions upon mutual consent of the City and vendor.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR AS-NEEDED TRANSIT MIX CONCRETE FOR DPW ROAD MAINTENANCE TO PIEDMONT CONCRETE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00; WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS. CMR 1-17-04

MOTION by Bruce, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve a purchase order to Piedmont Concrete for an amount not

to exceed the budget of \$20,000.00 for the as-needed purchase and delivery of transit mix concrete products; with possible extensions.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS, SIRENS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FOR THREE FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES TO PRIORITY ONE EMERGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,546.00. CMR 1-17-05

MOTION by Bruce, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order for the purchase and installation of lights, sirens and related equipment to Priority One Emergency in the amount of \$15,546.00.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2016.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the study session meeting minutes of December 12, 2016 as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: BRIDGES

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2016.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Lerner, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the regular meeting minutes of December 12, 2016 as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: BRIDGES

MOTION CARRIED 6-0-0-1.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF ENTERING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE REGULAR MEETING TO DISCUSS PENDING WORKERS COMPENSATION CLAIM.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves entering into an executive session immediately following the regular meeting in order to discuss pending workers compensation claim.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, RICH AND STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The City Attorney's report was received by Council and there were no questions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Massey adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk