

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2019 – 7:30 PM  
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Barnett at 7:34 p.m.

Council Members Present: Barnett, Boleware, Bridges, Knol, Massey, Newlin and Steckloff

Council Members Absent: None

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Connor Osborn of the Chamber of Commerce led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA**

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, to approve the regular session meeting agenda as published.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM AND OATH OF OFFICE**

MOTION by Steckloff, support by Massey, to select Councilmember Knol as Mayor Pro-Tem.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**SUSTAINABLE FARMINGTON HILLS TIP OF THE MONTH**

The following Tip of the Month was read by Councilmember Massey:

Sustainable Farmington Hills  
Tip of the Month  
November 2019

“Each year, an estimated 1/3 of all food produced ends up rotting in the bins of consumers and retailers, or spoiling due to poor transportation and harvesting practice.(UN sustainability)” Here are a few tips to help you be more sustainable when it comes to food consumption and waste:

1. Keep a large bag of veggie scraps in your freezer that you can use for broth. Onion and garlic ends, carrot and celery ends, vegetable peelings, mushroom stems, leftover herbs, zucchini ends – save and use it all for soup to keep you warm this fall.
2. A lot of veggies and fruits don’t need to be peeled – this reduces food waste and also saves you the trouble of peeling! Your carrots, potatoes, apples, delicate squash, cucumbers, etc do not need to be peeled. If you’re eating the peel, it is recommended that you buy organic as many peels can have **pesticide** residues.

3. If you can, try to avoid throwing out the seeds of pumpkins and squash. Instead rinse the seeds and either dehydrate or roast them with spices for a tasty, homemade snack. There are tons of delicious and fun recipes online.

For more tips and information please visit [www.sustainablefh.com](http://www.sustainablefh.com)

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 30, 2019 AS SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Boleware and accepted by Connor Osborn of the Chamber of Commerce:

**PROCLAMATION  
Small Business Saturday  
November 30, 2019**

- WHEREAS,** the City of Farmington Hills celebrates small businesses and the critical contribution they make to our community, the local economy, and the overall economic health of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, currently there are over 30.2 million small businesses in our country, which represents over 99 percent of all businesses with employees in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** small businesses added 1.9 million net new jobs in the past year, and they employ 48 percent of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs, generating tax revenues, and boosting the local economy; and
- WHEREAS,** Small Business Saturday encourages consumers in the U.S. to shop at local businesses, support community merchants, and dine at independently-owned restaurants every year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that I, Vicki Barnett, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim November 30, 2019 as **Small Business Saturday** and urge all residents to support small businesses annually on the Saturday after Thanksgiving and also throughout the entire year.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THERESA RICH FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO FARMINGTON HILLS**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Steckloff and accepted by Theresa Rich:

**PROCLAMATION  
City Council Member Theresa Rich  
*In Recognition of Exemplary Service to Farmington Hills***

- WHEREAS,** in 2015, Theresa Rich successfully ran for Farmington Hills City Council, having previously served on the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families, and having been an active member of the Heritage Hills Homeowners Association; and

**WHEREAS,** Theresa Rich served as the Council liaison to the Retirement Board, and served on the Committee to Increase Voter Participation, the Arts Commission, and the Commission on Children, Youth and Families; and

**WHEREAS,** she served on the National League of Cities Community and Economic Development Council, and on the SEMCOG Policy Committee; and

**WHEREAS,** Theresa was the Vice President of the Michigan Women in Municipal Government, was elected to the Oakland Schools Board of Education, and served on the Board of Directors for the Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired, while working as an estate planning and elder law attorney following a successful 30-year career with General Motors; and

**WHEREAS,** during her time on Council, Theresa Rich hosted regular coffee hours and provided a forum for residents as a way to increase outreach and strengthen the community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Vicki Barnett, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize and honor **Theresa Rich** for her dedication to the community and thank her for her commitment to the City of Farmington Hills as she goes forward to use her talents in achieving future successes.

Dr. Theresa Rich expressed her appreciation for the citizen support and that of city staff and her family. She encouraged Council to lead strongly and include the community and be the voice for everyone.

Mayor and Council thanked Theresa Rich for her service and support.

Mayor Barnett announced that former Councilmember Richard Lerner was unable to attend the meeting but that a proclamation recognizing his service will be issued and sent to his home. She thanked Mr. Lerner for his time on Council and service provided.

**PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE CITY'S FY 2018/19 AUDITED COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

Steve Barr, Finance Director, provided the following highlights for the City from last year:

- Received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for the 35<sup>th</sup> year in a row. The award has only been in existence for 35 years and Farmington Hills has received this award more times than any other municipality in Michigan
- Received the Certificate of Achievement for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 21 years in a row
- Received the highest bond rating through Standard & Poor's
- Stable retirement and post-retirement health care system
- Very low debt burden
- Received an unmodified opinion, the highest opinion possible, from Yeo & Yeo
- Financially sound general fund with an unassigned fund balance of 25%

Director Barr expressed appreciation to the Finance Department staff for the work they provide to the City.

Jamie Rivette, CPA of Yeo & Yeo, explained that the purpose of the audit is to have an Independent CPA firm audit the information provided and issue an opinion. The City was issued an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level opinion possible. She reviewed the city's revenues, expenses and fund balance and added that the audit allows for their company to gain an understanding of internal controls. No material weaknesses or deficiencies were noted. She mentioned future challenges including the economic outlook of state shared revenues, future capital needs, cost of infrastructure, federal and state mandates as well as increased health care costs, which are common amongst all Michigan municipalities.

MOTION by Massey, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby accepts the City's FY 2018/19 Audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence acknowledged at this time.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A question was raised on the cost to the homeowner for the 13 Mile Sanitary Sewer Payback and if those homeowners were notified of the project and potential costs.

Tammy Gushard, Deputy Public Services Director, explained that several meetings were held on the project in which all affected residents were invited to attend. If the payback is approved, the residents will be notified again of their options to connect. She explained that there is no requirement for residents to connect unless their septic system should fail; however, residents that chose to connect within that first year would have a period of 10 years to pay off the cost. She noted that the total cost would remain the same no matter when a resident chose to connect and would not increase in the future.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, to approve Consent Agenda as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Michelle Kreager, Scott Drive, and a fellow neighbor expressed concern in the general decline of their neighborhood due to not having an active homeowner's association and residents not complying with city ordinances. Mrs. Kreager also inquired if the city was addressing the deer population in the community.

City Manager Boyer asked that residents to contact him to set up a time to come in and discuss their concerns.

Mayor Barnett suggested contacting the Council of Homeowners Associations regarding her neighborhood association and mentioned that the topic on deer population was planned to be discussed at the City Council's goals session in January, 2020.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following comments/announcements were made:

- Happy Thanksgiving to all
- A successful Narcan training was held at City Hall on November 21<sup>st</sup>

**CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

City Manager Boyer provided the following update:

- Garbage pick-up will be delayed one day due to the Thanksgiving holiday
- The City's Holiday lighting is being held December 3, 2019 at 6:30pm on the City Hall campus
- Yard Waste pick up ends the week of December 9, 2019

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 13 MILE ROAD SANITARY SEWER PAYBACK DISTRICT (DRAKE ROAD TO MARVIN ROAD) AND THE FINAL PAYBACK COSTS. CMR 11-19-116**

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION R-199-19**

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, held at in the Council Chambers at City Hall on the 25th day of November, 2019, at 7:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

PRESENT: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF

ABSENT: NONE

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

**13 MILE ROAD SANITARY SEWER PAYBACK DISTRICT (DRAKE TO MARVIN)  
SECTION 9**

WHEREAS the City Code Section 33-201 authorizes the City to establish connection charges for benefited properties to contribute to the cost of sanitary sewer construction, and

WHEREAS a sanitary sewer and a service lead was installed by the City of Farmington Hills to provide sanitary sewer service to the properties listed below, and

WHEREAS if a property is subdivided or split into more units than defined below, as outlined in City Code Section 27, each resulting connection would be responsible for one estimated unit of cost, as directed by the City Assessor, prior to the approval of the subdivision or split, and

WHEREAS if a property opts to pay for its proportionate share of the improvement costs within one (1) calendar year of the approval of this resolution and that property is not being subdivided or split, that property shall have the option of amortizing the payback cost over ten years, with interest, through the City. The interest rate to be charged will be

based on the rate of 10-year Treasury Bonds plus 1%, following the approval of the payback district. Any property who opts to finance the payback over ten years through the City will be required to sign a payback agreement, which will be prepared by the City Attorney, and

WHEREAS the properties benefited by the construction of the sanitary sewer are as follows:

23-09-101-001	35361 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 1		
23-09-101-002	35339 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 2		
23-09-101-003	35315 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 3		
23-09-101-004	35297 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 4		
23-09-101-005	35285 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 5		
23-09-101-006	35245 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 6		
23-09-101-007	35227 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 7		
23-09-101-008	35219 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 8		
23-09-101-009	35209 13 MILE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 9		
23-09-102-011	35209 EDYTHE	1
Unit/\$31,487.91		
T1N, R9E, SEC 9 DRAKE FARM SUB LOT 32		

23-09-102-037 Unit/\$31,487.91 T1N, R9E, SEC 9 PART OF NW 1/4 BEG AT PT DIST E 1320.74 FT FROM NW SEC COR, TH E 100 FT, TH S 00-15-30 E 292.86 FT, TH S 89-58-30 W 100 FT, TH N 00- 15-30 W 292.90 FT TO BEG 0.67 A5-12-89 FR 031	35115 13 MILE	1
23-04-352-015 Unit/\$31,487.91 T1N, R9E, SEC 4 MUER COVE ESTATES LOT 67	35230 13 MILE	1
23-04-352-016 Unit/\$31,487.91 T1N, R9E, SEC 4 MUER COVE ESTATES LOT 66	35220 13 MILE	1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 33-201 of the City Code, no connection, subdivision of land or lot split shall be permitted to the above-described properties until such time as the payback amount established above for each given property has been collected from the benefited property owners, such sum being the proportionate share of the construction of the sanitary sewer in addition to all other costs, charges, fees or other payment required by any code, ordinance or resolution of the City. The payback amount shall be collected in order to reimburse the City of Farmington Hills Sewer Reserve Fund for costs incurred for the construction of the improvement.

AYES: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF  
NAYS: NONE  
ABSTENTION: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

The resolution was adopted.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED ACCEPTANCE OF THE "GOOD FAITH WRITTEN OFFER TO PURCHASE" FOR HIGHWAY EASEMENTS AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE ORCHARD LAKE ROAD PROJECT FROM 13 MILE ROAD TO 14 MILE ROAD. CMR 11-19-117**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to accept the "Good Faith Written Offer to Purchase," the Highway and Temporary Easements for all Parcel Numbers 1, 2 and 3 for RCOC Project Number 50641.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR POLICE VEHICLE EQUIPMENT TO WINDER POLICE EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,642. CMR 11-19-118**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order to Winder Police Equipment for Police Vehicle Equipment in the amount of \$43,642.00.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 11, 2019.**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the regular session meeting minutes of November 11, 2019, as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STECKLOFF  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Massey, support by Steckloff to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:40pm.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk