

MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING (VIA TELECONFERENCE)
MAY 11, 2020 – 7:30 PM
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Barnett via teleconference at 7:30pm.

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 Mondora, Monico and Schnackel, Police Chief King and City Attorney Joppich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Barnett led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA

MOTION by Steckloff, support by Bridges to approve the agenda as published.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 17-23, 2020 AS NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Newlin:

PROCLAMATION
National Public Works Week
May 17 – 23, 2020
“The Rhythm of Public Works”

WHEREAS, National Public Works Week recognizes the men and women who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works, which are an integral part of the health, safety, and comfort in the everyday lives of Farmington Hills residents during both times of crisis and times of calm; and

WHEREAS, the support of an understanding and informed citizenry is vital to the efficient operation of public works systems and programs such as water supply, sanitary sewers, roadways, public buildings and properties, signage, traffic control, and solid waste collection and recycling; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, and comfort of this community all depend upon the effectiveness of public works programs and the vital contributions and daily

service of the dedicated and hard-working professionals of the Public Services Department; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme, "The Rhythm of Public Works," challenges all public works professionals and local citizens to think about their communities as a symphony of essential services, working in concert to create a great place to live; and

WHEREAS, National Public Works Week was instituted by the American Public Works Association as a public education campaign designed to call attention to the importance of public works in the lives of present and future generations.

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 May 17 - 23, 2020 as **National Public Works Week** in the City of Farmington Hills and call upon all citizens to recognize and acknowledge the vital services provided daily by the City's public works professionals to maintain the high quality of life in Farmington Hills.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JUNE 2, 2020 AS NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Steckloff and accepted by Jenn Garland:

PROCLAMATION
National Gun Violence Awareness Day
June 2, 2020
Recognizing Gun Safety Initiatives in Farmington Hills

WHEREAS, National Gun Violence Awareness Day honors and remembers the victims and survivors of gun violence and brings attention to the need to stop the gun violence in our country; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence daily and there are more than 1,000 gun deaths annually in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, citizens are encouraged to wear orange, the color worn by hunters and also by gun violence safety activists, on Gun Violence Awareness Day to bring attention to gun deaths, which take many forms including suicide, domestic violence, unintentional shootings, and homicide; and

WHEREAS, gun safety and firearms security are issues of great concern in our City and the Farmington Hills Police Department encourages all gun owners to properly secure their firearms and store them in areas not accessible to children; and

WHEREAS, any adult resident of Farmington Hills may obtain a free gun lock from the Police Department's front lobby Command Desk, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year through the City and County-Wide Gun Safety Lock Give-Away Programs; and

WHEREAS, the City encourages responsible gun ownership and complies with State legislation, which requires all handguns to be registered with a Police Department; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety also includes acknowledging that mental illness is a strong component of gun violence and those with violent or suicidal thoughts are encouraged to seek help and find support through resources such as Farmington SAFE (Suicide Awareness For Everyone).

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 June 2, 2020 as **National Gun Violence Awareness Day** in the City of Farmington Hills and call upon our citizens to take steps to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence in order to save lives, and to encourage people to seek help rather than turn to violence and harm innocent members of society.

Jenn Garland, Mom’s Demand Action, read the following statement into the record:

“The Farmington Hills resident members of the Moms Demand Action – South Oakland Chapter thank Mayor Barnett and the entire Farmington Hills City Council for your ongoing support of Gun Violence Awareness and Gun Safety, Farmington Hills had issued such a proclamation every year for the past four years, and each year more cities in South Oakland County joint he list. We are proud to have our city set such a positive precedent. We are thrilled to accept this proof of our city’s continuing concern for sustaining a safe community.”

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MAY 2020 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Massey:

**PROCLAMATION
Mental Health Awareness Month
May 2020**

WHEREAS, one in five Americans will experience a mental health illness that requires treatment at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, one in 10 children has a serious emotional disturbance that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance use, jail or even suicide; and

WHEREAS, stigma and stereotypes associated with mental illness often keep people from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life and help them manage the illness effectively; and

WHEREAS, mental illness is a biologically-based brain disorder that cannot be overcome through willpower and is not related to a person’s character or intelligence; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Community Health Network, and its service provider agencies, are committed to inspiring hope, empowering people, and strengthening communities; and

WHEREAS, mental health recovery not only benefits individuals by focusing on their ability to participate and contribute to society, it also enriches the culture of our community life.

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 May 2020 as **Mental Health Awareness Month** in the City of Farmington Hills and call upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to help increase awareness and understanding of mental illness and recognize the need for appropriate and accessible services to be available for all people in order to promote recovery.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was acknowledged:

- E-mails inquiring what the city is going to do to help area businesses re-open
- E-mail regarding Special Assessment District (SAD) refunds
- E-mail from a resident who received a message from a City Council member and wanting to confirm it was legitimate
- Request for City Council to support the Fair and Equal Michigan ballot initiative

Mayor Barnett acknowledged a letter from the Michigan Municipal League (MML) asking members to express support for Direct, Flexible Federal Funding for all Local Governments for COVID-19 Response Related Expenses. Mayor Barnett asked City Council for authorization for her to sign the letter in support on behalf of City Council.

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes Mayor Vicki Barnett to express support on behalf of City Council for Direct, Flexible Federal Funding for all Local Governments for COVID-19 Response Related Expenses.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, to approve the 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

Mayor Barnett read the following comments into the record at the request of County Commissioner Marcia Gershenson:

*We are adding another Covid 19 testing location at the Novi Civic Center on **Fridays** for first responders, essential business employees and any residents who have called our Nurse on Call*

line. You must have an appointment to be tested..that number is 1-800- 848-5533. Results are expected in 24-48 hours,

You do NOT need a doctors note to be tested. These tests are FREE.

*Other locations are at the Oakland County Complex, 1200 N Telegraph in Pontiac **Monday and Wednesday** 9-5 and at the South Oakland County Health Center 27725 Greenfield in Southfield **Tuesday and Thursday** 9-5. If you are experiencing any symptoms including, fever, trouble breathing, persistent dry cough or are 65 or older please call our Nurse on Call to get an appointment to be tested.*

NON COVID GOOD NEWS!

Oakland County recently received a \$219. million from the Federal CARES Act. This money is allocated to those businesses and residents who have had expenses directly related to the virus.

The Board of Commissioners approved an additional \$12 million to be added to the Small Business Stabilization Fund. Nearly 600 businesses have received assistance so far and this additional money will allow us to give more to the businesses that have applied and encourage more businesses to apply. Oakland County Parks extended free admittance until June 1. The Oakland County Farmers market is open Tuesday, Thursday and Sat 7am to 1:30 pm and are adding new Sunday hours 8am-noon.

You can drop off any personal protection items you may have and shop with our local farmers for fruits, vegetables and plants. Please don't hesitate to call or email me if I can be of any assistance...

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following City Council comments and announcements were made:

- Recognition of nurses in the community, particularly Beaumont Farmington Hills and Henry Ford West Bloomfield, as part of Nationals Nurses Week and others serving on the front line during this pandemic
- Antibody and COVID-19 testing is being offered at Beaumont Farmington Hills and Beaumont urgent care facilities in the community
- Encouraging those that can to support local restaurants and small businesses by stopping by for carry-out or curbside service
- Acknowledged a first grader in the community who is making bracelets for patients and health care workers to brighten their day

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Boyer provided the following update:

- The Governor extended the stay home-stay safe executive order to May 28th so city hall and other public facilities will remain closed until at least June 1, 2020
- City re-opening plans are underway and staff are slowly starting back as construction and more things continue to be open by the Governor
- Bulk item pick-up has resumed today, Monday, May 11th

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE CITY HALL CAMPUS PARKING LOT REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO THE LOWEST COMPETENT BIDDER, HUTCH PAVING, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$298,362.00. CMR 4-20-53. (Postponed from April 27, 2020 regular City Council meeting)

Councilmember Massey stated that he is comfortable with moving forward with the project following the budget sessions and the fact this project was already included in the budget figures and in an effort to get people back to work.

MOTION by Massey, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Hall Campus Parking Lot Replacement Project be awarded to the lowest competent bidder, Hutch Paving, Inc., in the amount of \$298,362.00; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the contract of behalf of the City.

Discussion was held on postponing the project given the economic uncertainty and uncertainty of future revenue sharing coming to the city.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION FAILED 1-6.

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR HERITAGE PARK SPLASH PAD RESURFACING TO MICHIGAN PLAYGROUNDS DBA MIDSTATES RECREATION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000. CMR 5-20-59

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to sign a contract and issue a purchase order for Heritage Park Splash Pad Resurfacing to Michigan Playgrounds dba Midstates Recreation in an amount not to exceed \$90,000.

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 A ZERO TURN ROTARY MOWER TO MARK'S SMALL ENGINE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,265.00. CMR 5-20-60

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order for a Toro Model 47960 Mower, including all specified options, to Mark's Small Engine in the amount of \$10,265.00.

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 2020 HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (HIDTA) SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH OAKLAND COUNTY. CMR 5-20-61

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Oakland County Subrecipient Agreement and any associated documents or agreements.

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 CANCELING THE MAY 25, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby cancels the regular City Council Meeting of May 25, 2020 in recognition of the Memorial Day Holiday.

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 APRIL 27, 2020.

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council regular session meeting minutes of April 27, 2020.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None

ATTORNEY REPORT

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby acknowledges receipt of the Attorney Report.

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 Bridges, support by Massey, to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:12pm

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk