

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2021 – 7:30 PM

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was held electronically and called to order by Mayor Barnett at 7:37pm.

During roll call, Council Members were asked to state their location from where they are attending the meeting remotely.

Council Members Present: Vicki Barnett, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Jackie Boleware, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Michael Bridges, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Valerie Knol, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Ken Massey, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Mary Newlin, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Matthew Strickfaden, Farmington Hills, Michigan

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Mekjian, City Clerk Smith, Directors Mondora, Monico, Schnackel and Skrobola, 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 Massey, support by Bridges, to approve the agenda as published.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**PROCLAMATION HONORING FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTINE GREIG**

The following Proclamation was read by Council Member Bridges and accepted by Christine Greig:

**PROCLAMATION**  
**Former State Representative Christine Greig**  
*In Recognition of Exemplary Service to the Citizens of Farmington Hills*

**WHEREAS,** Christine Greig served this City and its residents with honor and distinction as the State Representative for the 37<sup>th</sup> District comprised of Farmington Hills and Farmington for three terms in the Michigan State House of Representatives from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2020; and

**WHEREAS,** she served as the Minority Floor Leader in her second term, the Democratic Leader in her third term, and served on the Communications and Technology, Education, Workforce and Talent Development, Legislative, Government Operations, and House Fiscal Agency Governing Committees, plus served as the Vice Chair of the Progressive Women’s Caucus; and

**WHEREAS,** prior to her election to the Michigan Legislature, she was the Executive Director of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Education Foundation and also served the community in numerous volunteer capacities; and

**WHEREAS,** Christine Greig earned a Bachelor’s Degree in American Studies and Computer Applications from the University of Notre Dame, subsequently worked as a software expert, and became the co-owner of Farmington Hills-based Fulcrum Computer Services; and

**WHEREAS,** she has lived in Farmington Hills for over 28 years and her three children are all graduates of Farmington Public Schools; and

**WHEREAS,** throughout her distinguished political career, Christine Greig has used her considerable strength and determination to enhance the quality of life for all people in our community and throughout the State of Michigan.

**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 thank **Christine Greig** for her loyal service to the people of our City and encourage everyone in Farmington Hills to take the opportunity to respect and recognize the work of this highly dedicated individual.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was acknowledged:

- Correspondence from a resident regarding being stalked that will be forwarded to Police Chief King and Clerk Smith
- Email regarding the condition of the ice arena locker rooms
- E-mail communication from Tom Deward that has been forwarded to the City Manager and City Attorney

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, to approve consent agenda as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, KNOL, MASSEY, NEWLIN AND STRICKFADEN

Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

Clerk Smith read the following comments into the record from Oakland County Commissioner Marcia Gershenson:

*The Oakland County Health Division is partnering with nursing care company **Ready Nursing Solutions** to help administer the COVID-19 vaccine to long-term care facilities and homebound seniors. Please call 810-331-0902 to make an appointment directly with Ready Nursing Solutions*

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*A reminder about the Veterans Relief Grant for Oakland County Veterans. If you know of any Veteran in Oakland County that's in need please let them know there is a link ton our website for them to o sign up and fill out the application to receive up to \$2,500.*

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*OCC is providing its annual Chancellor's Scholarship to qualifying high school seniors, graduates of qualified adult and alternative education programs.  
The \$3,500 award covers full tuition and fees for the first academic year.*

*The deadline to apply is April 15, 2021. Eligibility criteria and applications are available online at Chancellor's Scholarships.  
Please call me with any questions.*

*Thank you  
Marcia Gershenson*

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following comments and announcements were made:

- Acknowledgement of International Women's Day
- Mentioned that there was some trash in parking lots and Obamacare signage posed on telephone poles that should be cleaned up on the north end of the city at Halsted and 14 Mile Road area.

### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

Acting City Manager Mekjian provided the following update:

- Yard waste collection will begin the week of April 12<sup>th</sup> and guidelines can be found on the city website

Mayor Barnett mentioned that Daylight Savings Time is March 14, 2021 and a good time to check the batteries in smoke detectors and make sure carbon monoxide detectors are operating correctly.

Councilmember Knol asked for an update on Simple Recycling that had collected clothes and other items curbside and when their operations may resume. Acting City Manager Mekjian said he would find out and update City Council.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS.**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby confirms the Mayor's recommendation to appoint the following individuals to various City Boards and Commissions:

**Planning Commission**

Marisa Varga

**Length of Term:**

Unexpired term

**Term ending:**

February 1, 2023

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Dan Irvin

**Length of Term:**

Unexpired term

**Term ending:**

February 1, 2022

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF GARY MEKJIAN TO THE POSITION OF FARMINGTON HILLS CITY MANAGER.**

Councilmember Bridges commented on the open communication of Mr. Mekjian with City Council.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Manager Agreement with Gary Mekjian, as presented, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement on behalf of the City.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF REPAIRS TO THE FUEL SYSTEMS AT THE DPW FACILITY AND THE PARKS AND GOLF FACILITY WITH OSCAR W. LARSON COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,898. CMR 3-21-24**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby confirms the issuance of an emergency purchase order to Oscar W. Larson Company in the amount of \$4,898 for repairs to the fuels systems at the DPW Facility and the Parks and Golf Facility.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR MISCELLANEOUS TOOLS FOR THE MAKER SPACE FOR THE FARMINGTON HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER (THE HAWK) TO JEM INDUSTRIES, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,767. CMR 3-21-25**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order for Miscellaneous Tools for the Maker Space for the Farmington Hills Community Center (HAWK) to JEM Industries, Inc. for \$47,767.00.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FISCAL YEAR 2020/21 SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT.**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby acknowledges the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Second Quarter Financial Summary Report.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2021.**

MOTION by Massey, support by Newlin, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council regular session meeting minutes of February 22, 2021.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None.

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

City Council received the Attorney Report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Massey, support by Strickfaden, to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:06pm.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk