

MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 21, 2022 – 7:30 PM

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Barnett at 7:36pm.

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

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Mekjian, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Valentine, Directors Mondora, Monico and Schnackel, Fire Chief Unruh and City Attorney Joppich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Barnett led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARCH 20-26, 2022 AS SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

The following Proclamation was read by Council Member Knol and accepted by Fire Fighter, Jamie Neufeld:

**PROCLAMATION
Severe Weather Awareness Week
March 20 – 26, 2022**

WHEREAS, Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Oakland County Executive David Coulter have declared the week of March 20 – 26, 2022 as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland County Homeland Security Division will engage in public education efforts during Severe Weather Awareness Week to help minimize the loss of life, destruction of property, and disruption of daily activities that can result from severe weather including tornadoes, flooding, high winds, and other weather patterns; and

WHEREAS, to further raise the awareness level of severe weather safety and to promote tornado safety preparedness, Oakland County will conduct a special test of its Outdoor Warning System sirens on **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

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 March 20 – 26, 2022 as **Severe Weather Awareness Week** in Farmington Hills and encourage all residents, schools, and businesses to test their severe weather action plans to ensure the safety of everyone in our community.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2022 AS NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

The following Proclamation was read by Council Member Bruce and accepted by Clinical Dietitian Jill Bruce:

**PROCLAMATION
National Nutrition Month®
Celebrate a World of Flavors
March 2022**

WHEREAS, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics celebrates National Nutrition Month each year to focus attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating habits; and

WHEREAS, food is the substance by which life is sustained, and eating a healthy and well-balanced diet is essential for growth and development and plays a vital role in a person's overall health and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, a proper diet in childhood can prevent health problems such as obesity, tooth decay, and iron deficiency anemia; and

WHEREAS, the medical and health care community continue to make strides in understanding the crucial role that nutrition plays in overall wellness, and research has shown that a higher quality of nourishment helps prevent cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and other factors leading to premature death; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for continuing nutrition education and a wide-scale effort to enhance healthy eating practices, and expand food access for underserved communities to improve nutrition and lower costs related to obesity and diet-related diseases; and

WHEREAS, proper nutrition is key to a healthy, long, and productive life and Registered Dietitian Nutritionists are the experts who can translate the science of nutrition into practical solutions for healthy living.

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 March 2022 as **National Nutrition Month®** and encourage our citizens to join the campaign and become concerned about their nutrition and the nutrition of others to help achieve optimum health now and in the future.

PRESENTATION ON WATER POLLUTION FROM NORTH FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUB.

The following students and members from the North Farmington High School American Red Cross Club provided a presentation on water pollution:

Tejaswini Sivalokanathan, President and Founder
Ilakiya Rajaguru, Vice President
Angelina Sun, Executive Board Secretary

CORRESPONDENCE

Councilmembers acknowledged the following correspondence received:

- Complaint regarding trash at a home. This was forwarded to the City Manager
- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) School opening in Farmington Hills and asking for the Council's support
- Concerns of flooding in Heritage Hills
- Marijuana licenses in the city. The Mayor mentioned to those concerned there would be upcoming community conversations held on this issue
- Construction zone at 14 Mile/Orchard Lake Road. It was noted that alternate directional information was on the city's website

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, to approve consent agenda items #9 – 15, as read.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Massey, to approve consent agenda item #16, as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BARNETT, BRUCE, KNOL, MASSEY, AND NEWLIN

Nays: NONE

Absent: NONE

Abstentions: BOLEWARE AND BRIDGES

MOTION CARRIED 5-2.

PROCLAMATION THAT THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE SOVEREIGN NATION OF UKRAINE

The following Proclamation was read by Council Member Massey and accepted by Dr. Olena Danylyuk.

**PROCLAMATION
Farmington Hills Stands in Solidarity with the
Sovereign Nation of Ukraine
March 2022**

WHEREAS, there are about 45,000 Ukrainian Americans in the metro Detroit area, all watching in shock and horror as their homeland is attacked by Russia; and

WHEREAS, the City of Farmington Hills is proud to have Ukrainians among our community's diverse population and we stand in solidarity with the Sovereign Nation of Ukraine during this unprovoked declaration of war; and

WHEREAS, Michigan welcomed Ukrainian immigrants following World War I, World War II, and the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the state's Ukrainian American community has become one of the largest and most active in the United States; and

WHEREAS, our hearts go out to those with relatives and loved ones in Ukraine who now face the loss of their homes and their lives during this time of unimaginable violence; and

WHEREAS, we support efforts to provide humanitarian aid to the millions of people who are fleeing conflict in Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, the City Council denounces this unjustified aggression and reaffirms our commitment to promoting the values of freedom and democracy throughout the world.

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 that the City **Stands in Solidarity with the Sovereign Nation of Ukraine** and we encourage our citizens to show their support for all Ukrainian Americans in our community.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

There were no public questions or comments.

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Council Member comments or announcements.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Mekjian made the following comments:

- Marijuana information gathering sessions and noted that similar sessions would be held for the public on this topic
- Spring yard waste pickup resumes April 11th
- Trash complaint mentioned has been followed up on by the zoning department
- The construction at 14 Mile Rd and Orchard Lake Road was planned due to future construction of I-696 and that federal funding was available now for the project

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

MOTION by Massey, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby confirms the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Taranji Grant to the Planning Commission with a term ending February 1, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND LOCATION OF AN ESCROWED 2021 CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE WITH SUNDAY SALES AND CATERING PERMIT LOCATED AT 32555 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY.

Clerk Smith explained that the request was for the transfer of an escrowed license to be used for a catering business, which is a different use than what the city would typically see. She explained that the city attorney was consulted regarding the language of the city ordinance and the attorney opinion was included in council's meeting information. The applicant and attorney were present for any questions.

Attorney Kelly Allen, representing Zach Sklar owner of Cutting Edge Cuisine, explained that a Class C license is required for the proposed catering business that would focus on large events such as weddings. There is no standard menu as the menu is selected for each event. She introduced Mr. Sklar to speak about his business.

Mr. Sklar stated that he was a North Farmington High School graduate that grew up in Farmington Hills. He has 14 restaurants around the country and this would be his first business in Farmington Hills. He caters to high-end clients and businesses and is happy to be coming back to Farmington Hills to open up a business. He mentioned that the location was formerly Anna's House.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby adopts the resolution for APPROVAL to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for the request from Cutting Edge Cuisine LLC for the transfer of ownership of an escrowed 2021 Class C Liquor License with Sunday Sales (AM & PM) and Catering Permits located at 32555 Northwestern Highway.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF CONSENT TO CONVEYANCE AND TRANSFER OF THE PROPERTY AND BUSINESS LOCATED AT 25911 MIDDLEBELT ROAD. CMR 3-22-22

Councilmember Bruce recused himself from the discussion and vote on this item and left the meeting during the discussion due to a conflict of interest.

City Attorney Joppich stated that this was a unique situation as this is a private transaction for the sale or property, but because there is an existing consent judgement on the property that included terms of how the property could be used, the Judge is requiring consent of the sale to the new proposed owners. He noted that the use will not change and that City Council approval cannot be unreasonably withheld. Attorney Joppich added that the city has included required financial security for cleaning out the detention ponds to which the parties have agreed and the check has already been submitted.

Council inquired about if the use should change in the future. Attorney Joppich responded that any change in use of the property would require an amendment to the consent judgment.

MOTION by Massey, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the request for and consent to conveyance and transfer of the property and business located at 25911 Middlebelt Road, City of Farmington Hills, pursuant to Fifth Amendment to Consent Judgment, and the agreement to provide financial guarantee & complete maintenance of detention ponds.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE ROCK RIDGE LANE IMPROVEMENTS TO FLORENCE CEMENT COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$950,069.11. CMR 3-22-23

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby awards the Rock Ridge Lane Improvements Project to Florence Cement Company, in the amount of \$950,069.11.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Manager and the City Clerk are authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the City.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE 2022 LOCAL ROADS HMA REHABILITATION PROJECT FOR VINEWOOD/MACWOOD SUBDIVISION, GRAND RIVER ACRES SUBDIVISION AND KENSINGTON GARDENS SUBDIVISION TO NAGLE PAVING COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,153,191.83. CMR 3-22-24

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby awards the 2022 Local Roads HMA Rehabilitation Project for Vinewood/Macwood, Grand River Acres and Kensington Gardens Subdivision to the lowest competent bidder, Nagle Paving Company, in the amount of \$1,153,191.83, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Manager and the City Clerk are authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the City.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID TO S&H TRUCKING ENTERPRISES FOR SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD REPLACEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$660,000 AND TO STAR TRAC ENTERPRISES FOR TRACK REPAIR AND SURFACE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$130,000. CMR 3-22-25

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into an agreement with S & H Trucking Enterprises for \$660,000 (\$645,000 + \$15,000 contingency) for the synthetic turf field replacement and with Star Trac Enterprises for \$130,000 (\$125,000 + \$5,000 contingency) for track repair & surface.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL SERVICES FACILITIES AND PROGRAM CONSULTANT TO SPORTS FACILITIES COMPANIES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$78,500. CMR 3-22-26

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve a contract for the Special Services Facilities & Program Consultant with Sports Facilities Companies in the amount of \$78,500.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF PROPOSAL FOR REPAIR/REFURBISHMENT OF VILTER AMMONIA COMPRESSOR TO DELTA TEMP, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$16,000. CMR 3-22-27

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase for repair/refurbishment of a Vilter Ammonia Compressor to Delta Temp, Inc in an amount not to exceed \$16,000.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF PROPOSAL TO FURNISH AND INSTALL COLD FLOOR PUMPS TO SERV-ICE REFRIGERATION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000. CMR 3-22-28

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order for furnishing and installing cold floor pumps to Serv-Ice Refrigeration in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER SECTION 10.01A OF THE CITY CHARTER FOR A HAWK'S NEST LEADER.

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the request for employment under Section 10.01A of the City Charter for Terry Lawrence as a Hawk's Nest Leader in the Special Services Department. Terry is the mother of Fermon Tate, who is a Healthy Living Coach in the Special Services Department.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2022.

MOTION by Bruce, support by Massey, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the City Council regular session meeting minutes of February 28, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 5-2.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

ATTORNEY REPORT

The attorney report was received by Council.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Massey, support by Bruce, to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:31pm.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk