

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING (VIA TELECONFERENCE)  
OCTOBER 26, 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 Randle and Seimer, and City Attorney Joppich

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Barnett led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA**

MOTION by Knol, support by Massey, 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 HONORING CITY MANAGER DAVE BOYER FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Massey and accepted by City Manager Boyer.

**PROCLAMATION**

**City Manager Dave Boyer**

*In Recognition of Exemplary Service to the City of Farmington Hills*

**WHEREAS,** Dave Boyer has served the City of Farmington Hills with honor and distinction for over 22 years; and

**WHEREAS,** he began his career with the City in 1998 when he was hired as the Director of Special Services, having previously served as the Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation for 14 years at the City of Southfield; and

**WHEREAS,** Dave Boyer was appointed as the Assistant City Manager in 2012, and then promoted to the position of City Manager in 2015; and

**WHEREAS,** among the many projects he spearheaded during his time with the City are the Farmington Hills Golf Club, Heritage Park Amphitheater, Longacre House,

Nature Center, Riley Skate Park, William Grace Dog Park, and Founders Sports Park Fishing Pier; and

**WHEREAS,** under Dave Boyer’s leadership, the City highlighted its commitment to families, to renewal, and to answering the future needs of the community by repurposing Harrison High School into the Farmington Hills Community Center; and

**WHEREAS,** Dave Boyer played a pivotal role in this ambitious project, which encompasses a new 245,000-square-foot community center and 45-acre park that will provide a hub for residents and guests of all ages; and

**WHEREAS,** he is a graduate of Northern Michigan University and a member of the Michigan Local Government Management Association, International City/County Management Association, South Oakland County Mayors Association, Michigan Municipal League, National League of Cities, Friends of the Park, and the Farmington-Farmington Hills Optimist Club; and

**WHEREAS,** during his career, Dave Boyer was known for his strong community-based focus and for his commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all residents.

**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 **City Manager Dave Boyer** for his many years of service to the people of our City, and wish him great success in this next phase of his life and career.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 1, 2020 AS EXTRA MILE DAY**

The following Proclamation was read by Councilmember Newlin:

**PROCLAMATION  
Extra Mile Day  
November 1, 2020**

**WHEREAS,** Farmington Hills is a city which acknowledges that a special vibrancy exists within the entire community when its individual citizens collectively “go the extra mile” in personal effort, volunteerism, and service; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Farmington Hills encourages its citizens to maximize their personal contributions to society by giving of themselves wholeheartedly and with total effort, commitment, and conviction to their individual ambitions, family, friends, and community; and

**WHEREAS,** Farmington Hills chooses to shine a light on and celebrate individuals and organizations who “go the extra mile” in order to make a difference and lift up fellow members of their community; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Farmington Hills acknowledges the mission of Extra Mile America to create more than 500 Extra Mile cities in our country and is proud to support “Extra Mile Day” on November 1, 2020.

**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 1, 2020 to be **Extra Mile Day** and urge all members of the community to not only “go the extra mile” in their own lives, but also to acknowledge those individuals who are inspirational in their efforts and commitment to make their organizations, families, communities, country or world a better place.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence acknowledged.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Boleware, 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 into the record the following comments by County Commissioner Gershenson:

*Older adults in [#OaklandCounty](#) are now eligible for in-home flu shots. This new program launched by [Public Health Oakland](#) seeks to protect the health of vulnerable, homebound [#seniors](#) and removes the barriers at-risk residents face during [#flu](#) season. An appointment can be made by calling the Health Division’s Nurse on Call at 800-848-5533.*

*Higher dose and regular [#influenza](#) vaccinations are available and payment options include several insurance coverages and a discounted/sliding fee schedule – no one will be denied service due to a lack of insurance. More information is available at <http://bit.ly/InhomeFlu>.*

*NEW Individual Microgrant program FOR RESIDENTS–Oakland County and United Way are working together on the Oakland Together COVID Relief Individual Microgrant Initiative. Eligible residents in Oakland County can apply for a \$500 microgrant to cover their personal expenses or gaps in income resulting from the economic repercussions of COVID-19. Please go to the [OAKGOV.com](http://OAKGOV.com) website to see if you can qualify.*

*We are extending the deadline for the Oakland Together Cultural Institution COVID-19 Support grant program to arts, cultural and stewardship organizations. Our goal is that each grant provides resources to help Oakland County arts, cultural and environmental organizations emerge from this difficult time so that jobs will be retained, and services and programming will be provided to Oakland County residents. This application process is designed to identify institutions that have been injured by the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*Please notify any organizations you think might qualify, the closing date is October 28.*

*Please contact me with any questions  
Marcia Gershenson  
248-808-1032*

Chayse Hurley, resident, inquired what the City Council has done in terms of reforming and moving the Police Department to be better than before and operating to the highest standard.

Mayor Barnett spoke to the training programs in place and diversified programs offered throughout the community that was in place and continues under Police Chief King.

Ms. Hurley questioned public access to training provided and accountability for officers that do not meet standards.

City Manager Boyer added that the Police Department is an accredited department and that this accreditation dictates standards for operations and accountability. He suggested a meeting with the Police Chief to directly discuss policies and procedures in place.

Councilmember Bridges noted that the Police Department has also implemented the use of body cams, which he feels is a major step forward in accountability and transparency.

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

The following comments were made:

- Same Day Registration up until Election Day at 8pm and a reminder to get out and vote

### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

City Manager Boyer provided the following update:

- Thanked the community for their support of City Council and staff over the years

### **CITY CLERK UPDATE:**

City Clerk Smith provided an update on the following:

- Polling location change from Farmington Community School to Tawheed Center on Ten Mile Road for Precinct 26 voters.
- Early voting in Michigan and what that means for voters.
- Deadlines for registering to vote and receiving an absentee ballot
- Extend hours for Election-related business
- Absentee ballot statistics to date

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF A PROPOSAL FOR EXECUTIVE SEARCH WITH MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE FOR THE POSITION OF CITY MANAGER.**

City Attorney Steve Joppich explained that the Michigan Municipal League (MML) provides various services to all communities who are members including executive searches and they are a well-known and reputable organization. He mentioned that the city manager search last time was handled in-house and it was suggested by staff that Council consider reaching out to MML to conduct the search this time. He briefly discussed the different types of service contracts and options that City Council reviewed in their study session meeting earlier this evening.

MOTION by Boleware, support by Bridges, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the enhanced proposal with background check add-on for Executive Search with Michigan Municipal League for the position of City Manager.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Absent: NONE  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 6, "ANIMALS," ARTICLE III "DANGEROUS ANIMALS," SECTIONS 6-52, 6-53, 6-54, 6-57 AND 6-60, FOR PURPOSES OF AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF "DANGEROUS ANIMAL," ADDING A RIGHT OF APPEAL TO CIRCUIT COURT, REQUIRING AFFIDAVITS TO CONFIRM DEATH OR TRANSFER OF LOCATIONS OR OWNERSHIP OF DANGEROUS ANIMALS, AND CLARIFYING OTHER DEFINITIONS AND LANGUAGE.**

City Attorney Joppich mentioned that this ordinance was discussed at City Council's study session last week. He reviewed the proposed amendments to the ordinance.

MOTION by Bridges, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves INTRODUCTION of an ordinance to amend the City of Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances Chapter 6, "Animals," Article III "Dangerous Animals," Sections 6-52, 6-53, 6-54, 6-57 and 6-60, for purposes of amending the definition of "Dangerous Animal," adding a right of appeal to circuit court, requiring affidavits to confirm death or transfer of locations or ownership of dangerous animals, and clarifying other definitions and language.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 12, "FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION," ARTICLE III "COST RECOVERY," TO ADD A DEFINITION OF "COST RECOVERY REVIEW BOARD" IN SECTION 12-49 AND TO ADD SECTION 12-56 "COST RECOVERY REVIEW BOARD: REQUEST, HEARING, AND DETERMINATION," TO PROVIDE FOR REVIEW OF COST RECOVERY BILLS.**

City Attorney Joppich mentioned that this ordinance amendment was also reviewed by City Council at last week's study session meeting and he outlined the proposed amendments.

MOTION by Massey, support by Knol, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves INTRODUCTION of an ordinance to amend the City of Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances Chapter 12, "Fire Prevention and Protection," Article III "Cost Recovery," to add a definition of "Cost Recovery Review Board" in Section 12-49 and to add Section 12-56 "Cost Recovery Review Board: Request, Hearing, and Determination," to provide for review of cost recovery bills.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LABOR COUNCIL (DISPATCHERS), INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS (IAFF) AND TEAMSTERS. CMR 10-20-107**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute new terms to the existing Agreements with Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council (Dispatchers), International Association of Firefighters, and Teamsters in accordance with the terms and conditions outlined herein, being the City Manager's Report dated October 26, 2020.

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 HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT (HAVA) CARES GRANT AGREEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL ELECTION EQUIPMENT PURCHASED.**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves entering into the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) CARES Grant Agreement for additional election equipment purchased.

Roll Call Vote:

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE CITY'S QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT.**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Boleware, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby acknowledges the City's Quarterly Investment Report.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Massey, support by Bridges, to adjourn the regular session City Council meeting at 8:28pm.

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