

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014 – 7:30 PM
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER

The regular meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Brickner at 7:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: Brickner, Bridges, Bruce, Knol, Lerner, Massey and Steckloff

Council Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Brock, City Clerk Smith, Assistant City Manager Boyer, Directors Gajda, Lasley, Mekjian, Randle, Schnackel and City Attorney Joppich

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

American Legion Post #346 led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11, 2014 AS PATRIOT DAY AND THE PATRIOT DAY CEREMONY AT THE WALTER SUNDQUIST PAVILION IN RILEY PARK AT 6:00 P.M.

**PROCLAMATION
Patriot Day Ceremony
September 11, 2014
Read by: Councilmember Bridges**

WHEREAS, Patriot Day occurs annually on September 11 to commemorate the nearly three thousand people who died in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion Groves-Walker Post #346 of Farmington, along with the Cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington, present the annual Patriot Day event to honor those who currently serve our country or have served in the past; and

WHEREAS, this year, the Patriot Day Ceremony will be held on Thursday, September 11 at 6 p.m. at the Walter Sundquist Pavilion at Riley Park in downtown Farmington; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion will recognize local citizens who currently serve our country or who have served in the past and will also honor Police Officers and Fire Fighters from Farmington Hills and Farmington; and

WHEREAS, City officials will take part in the ceremony along with representatives from police, fire, clergy, active and reserve military units, veterans, and youth groups as the community comes together to honor and respect those who dedicate their lives to the service of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Barry Brickner, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby recognize **Patriot Day 2014** and urge all residents to pause and reflect on those who gave their lives in service to others and to express gratitude to those who make daily sacrifices to ensure the safety of our community.

Members of the American Legion Post #346 accepted the proclamation and thanked City Council.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER AS SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

The proclamation was read and accepted by Councilmember Massey.

**PROCLAMATION
Suicide Prevention Awareness Month
September 2014**

“You are not alone – there is no stigma to getting help.”

WHEREAS, more than 38,000 lives are lost annually to suicide and it is estimated that for every suicide, there are as many as 25 suicide attempts; and

WHEREAS, the recent loss of actor Robin Williams exemplifies the fact that depression and suicide span all demographics and levels of success and income; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the third leading cause of death among young people ages 10 to 24, the second leading cause for those 25 to 34, and the tenth leading cause of all deaths in the United States; and

WHEREAS, suicides have increased in Oakland County by 21% since 2008 and 20% of us will have a suicide within our immediate family; and

WHEREAS, we can reduce these disturbing numbers through public awareness, education, and treatment, which are all crucial to preventing this tragic problem that causes loss of life and terrible suffering for the families and loved ones left behind; and

WHEREAS, Farmington S.A.F.E. (Suicide Awareness for Everyone) is dedicated to making a difference by empowering community members, bringing the topics of depression and suicide out into the open for discussion, and connecting those who need assistance to the many resources available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Barry Brickner, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim September 2014 as **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** in the City of Farmington Hills and encourage community members to “Talk About It” in order to help raise awareness of depression and suicide and work together to prevent this tragic loss, which greatly impacts families and communities.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION “TIP OF THE MONTH”

**City of Farmington Hills
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION
Tip of the Month – Read by Councilmember Massey
September 2014**

The common thread in national events such as 9/11, Katrina, or those more local, such as the flooding situation in August, Dundee tornado in 2010, or the power outage in August 2003 is that there are certain steps we must take to protect our families for the known and unknown threats that may confront us. These, and similar events, resulted in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security organizing an awareness campaign that includes designating the month of September as National Preparedness Month. Americans nationwide are encouraged to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. Families, neighborhoods and local communities can improve their safety by working together with emergency managers, law enforcement, and local school administration staff. We all have a responsibility to be ready.

Join your fellow citizens as individuals this month as they prepare themselves and their families for emergencies by taking simple steps such as organizing an emergency supply kit, making a personal preparedness plan, becoming informed about different threats, and getting involved in preparing their community. These activities create a culture of preparedness and can help save lives.

That is where your Emergency Preparedness Commission comes in, the sharing of information. The mission of the Emergency Preparedness Commission is to support and enhance the efforts of local safety organizations in helping ensure that residents and business owners have the information, education and skills necessary to protect themselves, their families, homes and businesses in the event of a local emergency. Your EPC supports National Preparedness Month activities and encourages all residents to make preparedness a part of daily life.

The Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Commission meets on the first Monday of every month at 5:15pm at Farmington Hills City Hall. The public is welcome to attend the meetings and join in the group's emergency preparedness events. For more information, visit the EPC website at www.fhready.org.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was acknowledged regarding the following:

- Emails regarding the “Bully Project”
- Correspondence from Beaumont Hospital
- Correspondence from the PTA
- Correspondence from the U.S. Conference of Mayor’s
- Email regarding the Fairview School property

Mayor Brenda Lawrence, City of Southfield, stated that bullying is an issue in America and Mayors across the country are taking the roll of leadership to start a platform of awareness. She stated that the proclamation that was just read talked about suicide rates and we know that bullying can lead to this type of action. She is asking Mayors and elected officials to take the time to explore the “anti-bullying” platform which urges parents, teachers and schools to have a strong policy against bullying.

Councilmember Steckloff stated that the Commission on Children, Youth and Families is putting together a program regarding anti-bullying, which hopefully it will be ready in the spring.

Councilmember Massey added that Farmington S.A.F.E. is having a community conversation to address the bullying issue and in a previous conversation they did talk about the social media concerns.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, to approve the Consent Agenda as published.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas:	BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND STECKLOFF
Nays:	NONE
Absent:	NONE
Abstentions:	NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Oakland County Commissioner Gershenson stated that in the upcoming Oakland County budget the commissioners are going to be reinstituting an anti-bullying program in the schools in Oakland County, which had been cut due to funding.

She discussed a new cyber security assessment tool created by the Oakland County Information Technology Department that is being offered free to local governments. She stated that this program was a collaborative effort between 5 counties and the State of Michigan and will be available on September 15, 2014.

Mayor Lawrence, City of Southfield, acknowledged the past August 5th Election that included the Office of the 14th Congressional District of which both the City of Southfield and the City of Farmington Hills are now a part of. She thanked everyone who came out and voted and commented on how important it is to have your voice heard. She stated that there will be another election November 4th and she is very excited about the 14th Congressional District. She believes this District is a true representation of America as it spans from the Grosse Pointes all the way to Pontiac and has one of the largest urban cores and the most diverse cultures. She stated that the District includes an international boarder and fresh water and all of the things that potentially would be discussed in the Halls of Congress. She is excited to be the Democratic nominee for this District and feels that we are very blessed to have so much diversity in this District.

Mayor Brickner thanked Mayor Lawrence for her comments.

Councilmember Bridges thanked Mayor Lawrence for her leadership in the City of Southfield and commented on the great relationship the City has with Southfield and thanked her for attending this evening.

Councilmember Massey mentioned to Mayor Lawrence that there is a "sister" S.A.F.E. in Royal Oak, and he has had a couple of Southfield residents approach him saying that they would love to get involved. He stated that he suggested to the residents that they reach out to Mayor Lawrence on this issue. Dr. Massey stated that he would love to meet with her or one of the City Council members in Southfield to discuss

this endeavor the possibility of joint activities to step up the dialogue and let residents know that there is help.

Mayor Lawrence accepted Dr. Massey's invitation to meet on this issue.

Mr. Girish Nair, Kalakshetra the Temple of Arts, 30687 Grand River, stated that his organization has been trying to impart education and community of Indian Performing Arts. The institution was started in 2009 and they have since purchased this building on Grand River. He stated that there are three other buildings in the area, all of which are empty; and due to the depressed look of the area they have been having issues with attracting more students to the academy. He commented that the academy is run not only by tuition but also through facility rentals. He stated that in the last year they have struggled to maintain the property and to make their payments. He requested City Council to review this issue to determine if there is some type of relief from the taxes moving forward.

City Manager Brock stated that he will talk to Mr. Nair to discuss any type of assistance the City might be able to provide.

Councilmember Knol informed Mr. Nair that his area is a part of a new Corridor Improvement Authority and it might be a good idea to become active in those meetings as the intent is to improve the overall area.

Councilmember Knol also asked if Council could discuss the issue of blighted buildings at a future Study Session.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- The Farmington YMCA is celebrating their 50th Anniversary in April 2015. The Farmington YMCA raised \$130,000 last year and that money supports youth in the community and neighboring communities
- The North Farmington Raiders Football Team has new player this year. Lynn Lerner, who is in 9th grade is the team's kicker and daughter of Councilmember Richard Lerner.
- Battle of the Badges Blood Drive was held last week, and was successful with 48 people donating blood.

CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Brock provided the following update:

- DTE has reported that Farmington Hills had 17,000 residents without power, which is now under 4,000. DTE is working hard and patience is appreciated.
- Farmington Road is almost completely paved, with one exception where there is still some utility work being done under ground.
- 14 Mile between Orchard Lake and Middlebelt is closed and will be for a couple of months
- SMART has a new representative for the area and her name is Madonna VanFossen. If residents have questions regarding SMART service or the connector services she is the person to contact.
- September 27, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the Police Department will hold a one day Prescription Drug Take-Back Program. This program is to help eliminate drugs getting into the water system by people flushing them in the toilet or dumping them down the sink.
- There will be a Road Millage on the November 2014 ballot. Staff will be happy to attend any meetings of neighborhood associations, service groups, etc to discuss the facts of the millage.

Kevin McCarthy, DPW Director, provided an update on the current storm regarding fallen trees and street lights that were out.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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:

Economic Development Corporation

Norman E. Johnson

Term Expiration: February 1, 2016

Commission for Energy and Environmental Sustainability

Mark Zachos

Term Expiration: February 1, 2016

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AN UPDATED EMPLOYEE DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

Human Resources Director Randle explained that the City receives federal money from MDOT for the Senior Transportation Program and MDOT requires that those employees that operate transportation vehicles abide by the policy and that the policy is approved and supported by Council. In the past the policy has been updated and approved as part of the union contracts that include "safety sensitive" positions. He stated that the policy is being updated now after approval of the contracts so that is why he is before Council this evening requesting approval of the policy as a separate matter. He reviewed the proposed updates and commented that this policy reinforces the City's position as a "drug free workplace".

There was discussion held on procedures for enforcing the policy. Mr. Randle explained that staff would conduct the proper review on a case-by case basis and employees are not necessarily immediately released from their position.

MOTION by Massey, support by Bruce, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the updated Drug and Alcohol Policy. Once adopted, a Memorandum of Understanding will be added to both the AFSCME and Teamster contracts.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING SAFETY AND SECURITY MONITORING SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE TO VARIOUS VENDORS WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS CMR 9-14-88

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve all budgeted purchase orders to Tyco Simplex-Grinell for Fire Alarm and Fire

Suppression Inspection and Maintenance for \$10,180 per year and to Vigilante Security for as needed purchase, installation and maintenance of the DSX Card Access System, CCTV System and Intrusion Alarm Systems for a period of two (2) years with optional renewal for three (3) additional years, under the same terms and conditions, through mutual consent by the City of Farmington Hills and each awarded vendor.

FURTHER RESOLVE, that City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to approve a purchase order to Vigilante Security for updating and integrating the DSX Card Access System, in the amount of \$12,380.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas:	BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND STECKLOFF
Nays:	NONE
Absent:	NONE
Abstentions:	NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD PROPOSAL FOR SMALL ENGINE MECHANIC SERVICES TO WEINGARTZ SUPPLY COMPANY, INC. IN AN ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$90,000.00 FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS WITH POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS CMR 9-14-89

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into a contract and issue purchase orders to Weingartz Supply Company, Inc. in the estimated annual amount of \$90,000.00 (\$72,000 labor/\$18,000 parts) for mechanic services and parts/consumables for a period of two (2) years with optional renewal for three (3) additional one year terms at 4% per year increases beginning at year three (3), under the same terms and conditions, through mutual consent by the City of Farmington Hills and Weingartz Supply Company.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas:	BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND STECKLOFF
Nays:	NONE
Absent:	NONE
Abstentions:	NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION OF A MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MDOT) STATE TRUNKLINE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT CMR 9-14-90

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to designate the Director of Public Services as the authorized City

Representative with regard to the Michigan Department of Transportation's State Trunkline Maintenance Contract #2014-0314.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND
STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FOR DUBIN CLEANERS & LAUNDRY TO HOLD A MICHIGAN ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE PET ADOPTION EVENT ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2014

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves a Special Event Permit for Dubin Cleaners & Laundry located at 29975 Orchard Lake Road, to hold a Michigan Animal Rescue League Pet Adoption on Sunday, September 14, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m., subject to the following:

- No cash sales will be made in the outside area
- Ample on-site parking will be available for attendees of the event
- The location will be free of obstacles that would inhibit emergency Police or Fire response
- Fire Lanes will not be blocked or restricted
- Acknowledgement that no Police assistance was requested for the event

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND
STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER SECTION 10.01A OF THE CITY CODE

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the request for employment under Section 10.01A of the City Code for Sara West as a Part-Time Account Clerk 1 in the Treasury Division of the Finance Department. Sara is the wife of Nicholas West, who is a Police Officer for the City.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND
STECKLOFF
Nays: NONE
Absent: NONE
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2014**

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, that the City of Farmington Hills City Council hereby approve the City Council Study Session Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2014.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas:	BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND STECKLOFF
Nays:	NONE
Absent:	NONE
Abstentions:	NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF
AUGUST 25, 2014**

MOTION by Lerner, support by Steckloff, that the City of Farmington Hills City Council hereby approve the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2014.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas:	BRICKNER, BRIDGES, BRUCE, KNOL, LERNER, MASSEY, AND STECKLOFF
Nays:	NONE
Absent:	NONE
Abstentions:	NONE

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

APPROVAL OF CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

The City Attorney Report was approved as submitted.

TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Brickner mentioned potential topics for the next regular City Council meeting of September 22, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Brickner adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela B. Smith, City Clerk