

MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER  
OCTOBER 14, 2024 – 7:30 PM

The regular session meeting of the Farmington Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Rich at 7:32PM.

Council Members Present: Aldred, Boleware, Bridges, Bruce, Dwyer and Rich

Council Members Absent: Knol

Others Present: City Manager Mekjian; Assistant City Manager Mondora; City Clerk Lindahl; Directors Rushlow and Schnackel, Police Chief King, and City Attorney Joppich

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Brook and Mallerie Merchant, R.C. Merchant & Company, led the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Rich noted that the R.C. Merchant Company – a family-owned electrical and electronics manufacturers’ representative company – is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The company will be naming Mallerie as its fourth-generation president, following her father, Brook.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA**

MOTION by Dwyer, support by Boleware, to approve the agenda as published.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2024 AS FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH**

The following proclamation was ready by Council Member Bruce and accepted by Lisa from Protective Parents Michigan.

**PROCLAMATION  
Family Court Awareness Month  
November 2024**

**WHEREAS,** the mission of the Family Court Awareness Month Committee (FCAMC) is to increase awareness of the importance of a family court system that prioritizes child safety and acts in the best interest of children, and;

**WHEREAS,** the mission of the FCAMC is fueled by the desire to create awareness and change in the family court system for the estimated 58,000 children ordered into unsupervised contact with physically or sexually abusive parents each year, while honoring the hundreds of children who have been reported as murdered during visitation with a dangerous parent, and;

**WHEREAS,** the mission of the FCAMC is to increase awareness of the importance of

empirically based education and training on domestic violence, child emotional and psychological abuse, childhood trauma, child sexual abuse, coercive control, and post-separation abuse for all professionals working on cases within the family court system, and;

**WHEREAS,** the mission of the FCAMC is to increase awareness of the importance of using scientifically valid, evidence-based, treatment programs and services that are proven in terms of safety, effectiveness and therapeutic value, and;

**WHEREAS,** the mission of the FCAMC is to educate judges and other family court professionals on evidence-based, peer-reviewed research, that is a critical component to making decisions that are truly in the best interest of children.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Theresa Rich, Mayor of the City of Farmington Hills, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim November 2024 to be **Family Court Awareness Month**. I encourage all residents to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the harm to children in the hands of family members, and to honor and value the lives of children.

After accepting the proclamation, Lisa made comments regarding the mission of Protective Parents Michigan. Courts often lack proper training on domestic violence, child abuse, and coercive control, resulting in custody decisions that place children at risk and increase reliance on community resources like shelters and schools. Lisa advocated for Kayden's Law, named after a 7-year-old girl killed by her father during court-ordered unsupervised parenting time. The law aims to improve judicial education on all forms of abuse and ensure that courts prioritize child safety by considering past abuse histories more thoroughly in custody decisions.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS FROM CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

None.

#### **PRESENTATION ON THE FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS MILLAGE RENEWAL**

Dr. Kelly Coffin, Interim Superintendent, introduced Jennifer Kaminsky, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance. Ms. Kaminsky explained that Michigan's Proposal A, approved 30 years ago, reduced property taxes and created a foundation allowance to fund schools more equitably. Since Farmington Public Schools historically exceeded the foundation allowance, it is classified as a "hold harmless" district, allowing it to request operating millages from residents. Farmington schools receive \$11,484 per student, with \$1,875 coming from homestead taxes, \$3,402 from non-homestead/business taxes, and the remainder of \$6,206 from state funds.

#### **Millage Calculation and Use of Funds**

As explained in the ballot millage renewal language: "This proposal would renew the authority of the School District, which expires with the 2025 tax levy, to levy up to 18.00 mills for general school district operating purposes on taxable property in the School District to the extent that such property is not exempt from such levy, restrict the levy on principal residences (owner-occupied homes) to no more than 12.5955 mills and protect against the impact of future Headlee rollbacks of up to 3.0 mills, This authorization would allow the School District to continue to levy the statutory limit of 18.00 mills on non-homestead property (principally industrial and commercial real property and residential rental

property) and to continue to levy on principal residence property (owner occupied homes) only that portion of the mills necessary to allow the School District to receive the full revenue per pupil foundation allowance permitted by the State. In 2024 the School District levied only 5.2029 mills on personal residences (owner-occupied homes).” 27% of the district’s revenue comes from this millage, which differs from bond measures that fund infrastructure, busses, and technology. Without the renewal, the district would lose over \$49 million annually, with no compensation from the state.

The current millage expires in December 2025, and the district is requesting a 10-year renewal to ensure stable funding. Ms. Kaminsky noted that holding the election in November 2024 saves costs, and if the measure does not pass, there will still be another opportunity in August or November 2025. She reminded residents of the November 5th ballot date and encouraged residents to visit the District’s website for more information. Flyers with additional details were also distributed at the meeting.

### **PRESENTATION ON THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS 2024 ROAD MILLAGE RENEWAL**

City Manager Mekjian said that the City has two ballot proposals for the November election.

#### **Amending the City Charter**

The first proposal involves amending the City Charter to align with recent changes in election laws, ensuring elected officials can take office without conflicts caused by delayed election certifications.

#### **Road Millage Renewal**

Public Services Director Rushlow provided details of the Road Millage Renewal.

Farmington Hills maintains over 300 miles of roads, including major roads, neighborhood streets, industrial routes, and gravel roads. Funding for road maintenance comes from multiple sources, including state revenues from gas taxes and registration fees, as well as federal and state grants. The 2014 road millage, which is up for renewal, provides 2.0 mills dedicated to major road improvements, generating approximately \$9 million annually.

The renewal will maintain the same rate and help continue progress made over the past decade in repairing roads, with a focus on improving safety and curb appeal, reducing vehicle wear, and preserving property values. Director Rushlow noted that even with the work completed so far, 106 miles of roads are still classified as being in poor condition under the PASER (Pavement Surface and Evaluation Rating) rating system.

Residents can expect to pay approximately \$240 annually under the renewed millage, based on a \$360,000 home value.

#### **Council Discussion and Road Maintenance Issues**

- Council raised concerns about road deterioration in the Heritage Hills neighborhood and requested an update on negotiations with the contractor responsible for a defective concrete project.

Director Rushlow explained that new environmental regulations affecting Portland cement have caused surface issues in some concrete roads. Although the defects are aesthetic rather than structural, the City is exploring solutions with the Michigan Concrete Association and MDOT

(Michigan Department of Transportation), and other agencies and communities. The City is in discussion with the contractor and the Attorney's Office to address warranty issues.

- Following up on an email from a resident, City Manager Mekjian clarified that funds from the road millage renewal will be used exclusively for public roads and streets, which can be identified by their green street signs. Private roads, such as those within site condominiums, will not receive funding from this millage.
- Council asked the total number of miles repaired since the original millage was passed and inquired whether information about the renewal is available on the city's website. Director Rushlow confirmed that the data is accessible online and that he will follow up with the specific road mileage figure.

#### **PRESENTATION ON THE OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION MILLAGE**

Chris Ward, Director of Oakland County Parks and Recreation, explained the need for a millage increase to fund improvements and new initiatives. Oakland County Parks and Recreation, established in 1966, is 100% self-funded. The property tax millage provides about 70% of the funding and the remaining amount is mostly user fees.

The current 0.35 mills will expire in 2029, and the proposed increase to 0.65 mills will allow the Department to issue bonds totaling \$100M backed by the County's AAA rating, generating \$24 million annually. Half of these funds will be allocated to upgrade outdated facilities, such as the Waterford Oaks Water Park, which has seen attendance drop 80% due to removed features. The other half will be invested in partnerships with local governments, focusing on developing countywide trail systems, river access, and green space preservation and green stormwater infrastructure, particularly in areas of the County that are currently underserved. The County has seen through use of American Rescue Act funds that even small investments can have big impacts.

Mr. Ward emphasized the need for equitable investment, noting that 94% of park acreage is located where 20% of the people in the County live. It is important to address this imbalance by increasing support to south and southeast Oakland County to provide better benefit to communities like Farmington Hills. Mr. Ward highlighted the importance of the 20-year millage for sustainability, enabling the county to finance long-term projects and maintain momentum beyond one-time funding, such as the American Rescue Plan.

Mr. Ward noted that Glen Oaks Golf Club in Farmington Hills is a County facility.

#### **Council Questions and Discussion**

- Council raised concerns about the historic underfunding of South Oakland County and asked for project plans specific to the Farmington Hills area. Mr. Ward acknowledged that the budget allocation is unbalanced and noted recent efforts made possible by ARPA, such as new playgrounds in Hazel Park and Royal Oak Township, to address the disparity. He discussed potential partnerships with Farmington Hills, explaining that the City is unlikely to receive a new county park but could benefit from investments in existing facilities like Heritage Park or the Hawk.
- Council questioned the nearly 90% increase in the millage rate and sought assurances that the funds would benefit Farmington Hills residents. Ward pointed out that the impact would be about

\$45/year for a \$300,000 home, with a return commitment of about \$4 million for Farmington Hills. He stressed that even a modest percentage of the millage would generate substantial funds. He emphasized his commitment to ensuring that Farmington Hills receives tangible returns on its tax contributions.

### **PRESENTATION OF THE 2024 FARMINGTON AREA ARTS AWARDS**

Director of Special Services Schnackel announced the winners of the 2024 Farmington Area Arts Awards, presented on September 28th at The Hawk Black Box Theater. These awards recognize individuals, businesses, and organizations for their contributions to the arts in the Farmington area. Awards included:

- Debbie Lim, a multi-disciplinary artist, was selected as the 2024-2025 Farmington Area Artist-in-Residence (this award dates back to 1976). As the Artist-in-Residence, Lim will work with the City of Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division to showcase work throughout the year.
- Craig Nowak was selected as the recipient of the Nancy Coumoundouros Distinguished Service to the Arts Award. As the manager of Geshner Human Services' Creative Expressions Program, Nowak provides meaningful arts experiences to community members with developmental disabilities and mental illness.
- Peter Brandal, a senior at Farmington High School, was recognized as the winner of the new Youth Art Award. Mr. Brandal has been painting since 3rd grade and has been a featured artist in Kids Art Alley at ART on the GRAND for the past four years.
- Richard Adams was selected as Arts Volunteer of the Year for generously donating his time and creativity to the community, as a member of the Farmington Art Foundation and a dedicated supporter of arts programming in Farmington Public Schools.

A number of local organizations and businesses were also recognized for their efforts to encourage creativity in the community, including KickstArt Farmington, Artpack Services, Skep Space, and Apothecary Espresso and Coffee.

Council Member Boleware, Council liaison for the Arts Commission, highlighted the importance of art in the community and congratulated the winners. She noted that over time many council members, including the mayor, have served on the Arts Commission, reflecting the city's deep commitment to the arts. Boleware encouraged residents to submit nominations for the 2025 awards, emphasizing the role of artists and art supporters in strengthening the fabric of the community. Nomination applications are available on the city's website.

Molly McNeese, representing Skep Space, shared that the gallery, called the Honeycomb Gallery, features over 50 local artists working in various media, from painting to glassblowing. She highlighted the gallery's community involvement, including projects with special needs students from Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Debbie Lim, the new Artist in Residence, spoke about her plans for the year, focusing on connecting the community with nature through photography and art. She specializes in feng shui and wildlife photography and expressed her desire to help residents see their surroundings with new perspectives.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, to approve consent agenda as read.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER, AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

There were no items removed for discussion.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council Member Aldred provided an update on the Innovation, Energy, and Environmental Sustainability Ad Hoc Subcommittee, created to assess future actions following the expiration of the former committee at the end of 2023. The subcommittee has met three times, including meeting with a representative from the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Community Engagement regarding grant opportunities. A final meeting is scheduled for November, after which recommendations will be presented to Council.

Council Member Boleware expressed gratitude to Police Chief King and his team for their professionalism during an active shooter event on September 15th in the 12 Mile and Middlebelt area. Boleware described the incident, where multiple gunshots were fired including at police officers and vehicles, with several officers being grazed by bullets. The police successfully resolved the situation without injuries or fatalities, including rescuing two children trapped in the home. Chief King later held a forum to address community concerns and provide reassurance to residents.

Council Member Boleware noted two areas for improvement: enhancing the city's alert system and developing post-crisis services. These issues will be brought to the Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Community Health Commission to establish best practices for future emergencies.

Council Member Bruce congratulated city staff on the successful city open house event on October 5, highlighting the engaging demonstrations by various city departments, including police and fire services. The City's canine officers delighted residents. Council Member Bruce expressed appreciation for the hard work that made the event a success.

Mayor Rich echoed the positive feedback about the open house event and invited residents to mark their calendars for next October's event. She extended congratulations to the Kirk Gibson Center for Parkinson's on its soft opening on Northwestern Highway, noting that the facility selected Farmington Hills due to the high population density within 30 minutes of the center. Additionally, Mayor Rich mentioned the opening at MIND on Orchard Lake Road of a new headache-specific facility, reflecting the city's growing appeal as a medical hub. Mayor Rich also congratulated the My India organization on its 25th anniversary event at the Meridian, commending its efforts to unite various Indian cultural groups within the community. She concluded with an invitation to residents to join the "Walk the Hawk" event

at noon tomorrow, offering an opportunity for informal conversations with the Mayor and council members on the track at the Hawk.

### **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**

City Manager Mekjian provided the following update:

- **Veterans Day Luncheon Invitation**  
The public is invited to the annual Veterans Day luncheon, scheduled for November 11th at 11 a.m. at the Costick Center. Registration is available via email by contacting Marcia Koet at [MKoet@fhgov.com](mailto:MKoet@fhgov.com).
- **City Hall Closure and Election Information**  
City Hall will be closed for regular business on November 4th and 5th, with operations limited to election-related activities. He reminded the public that they can still visit City Hall to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and cast their vote in person by placing it directly in the drop slot.
- **Update on Active Shooter Incident Investigation**  
City Manager Mekjian provided an update on the police investigation following the active shooter incident. Further investigations by the Farmington Hills Police Department resulted in the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office approving an additional six-count felony warrant against the suspect, including three counts of assault with intent to murder Farmington Hills Police Officers and three counts of felony firearm charges.
- **City Manager Mekjian extended his appreciation to Chief King and the Farmington Hills Police Department for their thorough investigation and professionalism in handling the incident. He acknowledged the psychological impact on officers involved in the event, noting that the department is working to address post-traumatic stress issues. Mekjian expressed pride in the department for successfully resolving the situation without physical harm to officers or civilians.**

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION TO VACATE RIGHT-OF-WAY ON REXWOOD STREET FROM GREENING STREET TO HIGHVIEW AVENUE, AND THE PORTION OF FORDSON ROAD, EAST OF GREENING STREET, IN SECTION 2. CMR 10-24-99**

Tammy Gushard, Senior Engineer from the Department of Public Services, presented a request to vacate Rexwood Street from Greening Street to Highview Avenue, Mulfordton Street from Greening Street to Highview Avenue, and a portion of Fordson Road, east of Greening Street, in Section 2. These areas are located south of Northwestern Highway and east of Orchard Lake Road. The vacation is part of the Planned Unit Development (PUD) agreement approved in February 2024 for the Emerson development.

The property owner requesting the vacation owns all the parcels adjacent to these rights-of-way, as required by the PUD agreement. In accordance with City Code, the public hearing was being held to gather input from nearby property owners, all of whom were notified. City staff also contacted relevant public and private agencies. While some agencies have existing infrastructure within the rights-of-way, they expressed no objection to the vacation, and provided a full-width utility easement is retained to allow for future infrastructure maintenance.

Mayor Rich opened the floor for public comments. No members of the public came forward to speak, and Mayor Rich brought the matter back to the Commission.

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
RIGHT-OF-WAY VACATION  
RESOLUTION NO. R-202-24**

At a session of the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, State of Michigan, held in the City Hall on the 14th day of October, 2024, at 7:30 o'clock P.M.

PRESENT: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER, AND RICH  
ABSENT: KNOL

The following resolution was offered by Councilmember Bruce and supported by Councilmember Boleware:

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Farmington Hills did on the 14th day of October, 2024, determine that it is advisable to vacate, discontinue or abolish the following rights-of-way, located in the City of Farmington Hills, subject to the jurisdiction of the City of Farmington Hills:

Legal Description - See EXHIBIT A Attached

WHEREAS, the Council has met and heard any and all objections to such vacation, discontinuance or abolition and having determined to proceed in accordance with the Farmington Hills City Code, Chapter 26, Article I, Section 26.4.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the above captioned public rights-of-way are hereby vacated, discontinued or abolished.
2. That there is hereby reserved along, across and upon such vacated rights-of-way, an easement for public or private utility purposes, including water supply systems and sanitary sewer systems, the use and termination of which shall be subject to the approval of the Council of the City of Farmington Hills.
3. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to file certified copies of this resolution with the Oakland County Register of Deeds and the Director of the State of Michigan, Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth, as required by statute.

AYES: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER, AND RICH  
NAYS: NONE  
ABSTENTIONS: NONE

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE OF THE ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE C-8-2024 TO AMEND THE FARMINGTON HILLS CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND CHAPTER 19, "PARKS AND RECREATION," ARTICLE III "RULES AND REGULATIONS," SECTION 19-51, "ANIMALS PROHIBITED," FOR PURPOSES OF ALLOWING DOGS IN PIONEER PARK AND THE CITY'S DOG PARK, AND ADDING AN EXCEPTION FOR SERVICE ANIMALS; AND APPROVAL OF SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION. CMR 10-24-100**

MOTION by Aldred, support by Bruce, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the ENACTMENT of Ordinance C-8-2024 to amend the Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances to amend Chapter 19, "Parks and Recreation," Article III "Rules and Regulations," Section 19-51,



“Animals Prohibited,” for purposes of allowing dogs in Pioneer Park and the City’s Dog Park, and adding an exception for service animals; and approval of summary for publication.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE

Absent: KNOL

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING FROM THE INSTITUTE FOR RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT’S NONPARTISAN “A MORE RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT 2024 GRANT PROGRAM” IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000, AND AUTHORIZATION OF THE CITY CLERK TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the grant from the nonpartisan A More Responsive Government 2024 Grant Program and authorizes the City Clerk to sign the agreement and accept the grant funding in the amount of \$60,000 on behalf of the City of Farmington Hills.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE

Absent: KNOL

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NFBASKETBALL AS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OPERATING IN THE COMMUNITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING A CHARITABLE GAMING LICENSE.**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the Local Governing Body Resolution for Gaming Licenses Issued by the Bureau of State Lottery, recognizing NFBASKETBALL as a non-profit organization operating in the community for the purpose of obtaining a Charitable Gaming License.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE

Absent: KNOL

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FOR THE NORTH FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024.**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby a Special Event Permit for the North Farmington High School Homecoming Parade to be held on October 25, 2024, from 5:30pm to 6:50pm, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Police Department assistance will be needed for the Farmington Road route
- The parade will begin at Forest Elementary and proceed through the subdivision
- Once the parade reaches Walnut Lane and Farmington Road, it will pause briefly until all participants have reached Farmington Road. Farmington Road will be closed just north of Walnut Lane and just north of 13 Mile Road
- The applicant has requested six police officers to help with the road closure and has requested this be done via an overtime posting that will be paid for by the school

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE

Absent: KNOL

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A REQUEST FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER SECTION 10.01A OF THE CITY CHARTER FOR A YOUTH CENTER SITE SUPERVISOR. CMR 10-24-101**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves an employment request per Section 10.01A of the City Charter for Mia Gonzales as a Youth Center Site Supervisor for the Special Services Department. Mia is related to Emily Gonzales, who is a Youth Center Site Supervisor in the Special Services Department.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE

Absent: KNOL

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF A 2024 GRADALL XL3100 SERIES V RUBBER TIRE EXCAVATOR WITH ATTACHMENTS TO AIS CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$514,542.12. CMR 10-24-102**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order to AIS Construction Equipment located in New Hudson, Michigan in the amount of \$514,542.12 for the purchase of a 2024 Gradall XL3100Series V Rubber Tire Excavator with attachments.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR PRINTING AND MAILING OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES GUIDE TO INDIANA PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,906.52 ANNUALLY FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM WITH OPTIONAL RENEWALS. CMR 10-24-103**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to award the bid for the Printing & Mailing of the Special Services Activities Guide to Indiana Printing & Publishing Co., Inc. for a two (2) year term in the amount of \$83,906.52 annually with three (3) additional one (1) year renewal options at a 4% increase per year, beginning in year three (3), upon mutual consent of the City and vendor.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR THE HAWK GOLF SIMULATOR PROJECT FOR TWO SIMULATORS WITH SERVICE WARRANTY TO SOUNDHECK INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$114,400. CMR 10-24-104**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to award the bid for The Hawk Golf Simulators to Soundcheck Inc. for two (2) simulators with a five (5) year service warranty in an amount not to exceed \$114,400 (\$104,000.00 + \$10,400 contingency).

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF WATER HEATERS, PUMPS AND PLUMBING MATERIALS FOR THE ICE ARENA AND FIRE STATION HEADQUARTERS TO THOMAS LANE PLUMBING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,184. CMR 10-24-105**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order with Thomas Lane Plumbing, Livonia, MI in the amount of \$52,184.00 (\$47,440.00 bid + 10% contingency for unforeseen

change orders) for the purchase and installation of water heaters, pumps and plumbing materials for the Ice Arena and Fire Station Headquarters.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF TWO REPLACEMENT VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO LUNGHAMER FORD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$103,136. CMR 10-24-106**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby authorizes the City Manager to issue a purchase order to Lunghamer Ford for two 2024 Ford Police Responders in the amount of \$103,136.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL JOINT STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2024.**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the city council and planning commission special joint study session meeting minutes of September 16, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2024.**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves the city council special study session meeting minutes of September 9, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2024.**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approve the city council regular meeting minutes of September 9, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH  
Nays: NONE  
Absent: KNOL  
Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Rich reviewed the process and rules relative to public comment.

**Public Comments**

- Email received from Julie Lipson regarding the importance of the swim program at the Costick Center.
- M. Kahn expressed concern about recent flyers thrown onto residential driveways during the Jewish High Holy Days of Atonement containing anti-Semitic tropes. He asked City Council to make a statement condemning this action and assuring the Jewish residents that they are safe and are an important and integral member of the Farmington Hills community. He emphasized the need for transparency about the investigation into the incident.
- Patricia Hanson shared her thoughts on the Costick Center. She urged Council to consider a thorough process to understand the community's needs, suggesting smaller, focused sessions on services such as food and recreation. Hanson expressed concerns about relocating senior programs to the Hawk, emphasizing the importance of keeping services in an accessible, one-level building.
- Angie Smith thanked Mayor Rich and Council Members Bruce, Boleware, and Bridges for their support when she received the African American Leadership Award event at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) last Sunday. She also thanked past mayor Vickie Barnett and State Representative Sam Steckloff. She discussed efforts to foster collaboration with Farmington Public Schools and highlighted the need for local markets to support the area's ethnic food diversity.
- PG expressed gratitude to the city manager and police chief for their response to the recent active shooter incident. She stressed the importance of not allowing misinformation or disparagement of public and safety officers and highlighted the challenges police face in their duties. She urged the

community to educate young people on proper behavior during police stops to prevent misunderstandings and conflicts.

- Robert Lacoste, a long-time resident, shared his involvement with the Costick Center and his concerns about the potential relocation of senior programs to the Hawk. He reflected on the importance of maintaining accessible services for older residents and urged Council to prioritize the needs of the senior community when making decisions about the future of the Costick Center.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

The City Attorney report was received by Council.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS ATTORNEY CLIENT WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY UNDER SECTION 8(1)(H) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND SETTLEMENT STRATEGY IN CONNECTION WITH PENDING LITIGATION UNDER SECTION 8(1)(E) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND RELATING TO THE CASE OF *OLSON V FARMINGTON HILLS GOLF CLUB, ET AL.* (OAKLAND COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT; CASE NO. 2023-202377-NO). (NOTE: COUNCIL WILL RETURN TO OPEN SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CLOSED SESSION TO TAKE ACTION IF NEEDED AND TO CLOSE THE MEETING).**

MOTION by Boleware, support by Aldred, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby Approves entering into a closed session to consider and discuss attorney client written communications from the City Attorney under Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act and settlement strategy in connection with pending litigation under Section 8(1)(e) of the Open Meetings Act and relating to the case of *Olson v Farmington Hills Golf club, et al.* (Oakland County Circuit Court; Case No. 2023-202377-NO).

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: ALDRED, BOLEWARE, BRIDGES, BRUCE, DWYER AND RICH

Nays: NONE

Absent: KNOL

Abstentions: NONE

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

**Council entered closed session at 9:05pm and entered back into regular session immediately following the closed session at 9:20pm.**

MOTION by Bridges, support by Dwyer, that the City Council of Farmington Hills hereby approves and authorizes the City Manager and City Attorneys to proceed with settlement of the Oakland County Circuit Court case of *Olson v Farmington Hills* in the manner recommended and discussed in closed session.

MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular session of City Council meeting adjourned at 9:21PM.

**APPROVED 10/28/2024**

Respectfully submitted,

Carly Lindahl, City Clerk